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THE
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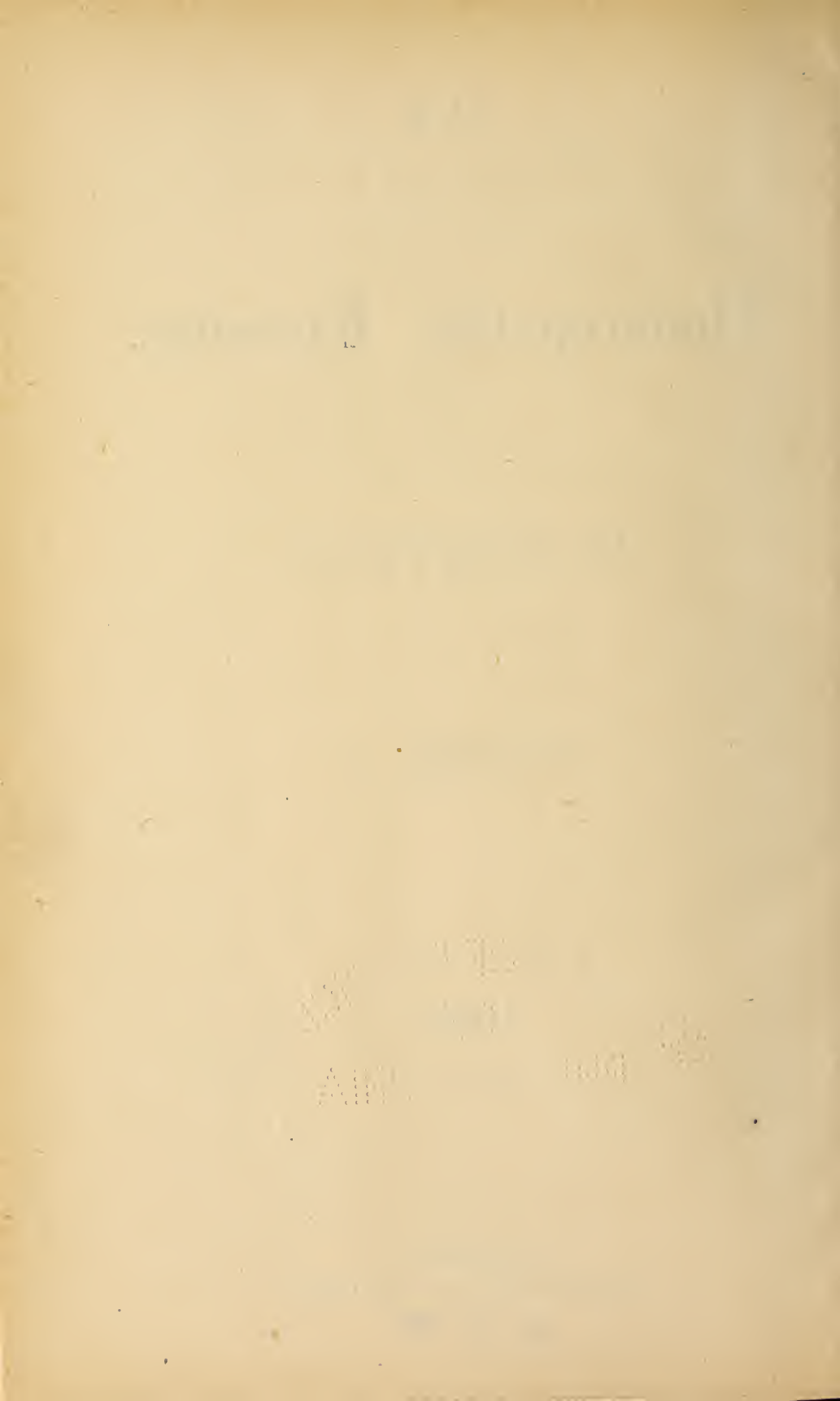
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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

VOL. V.

PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1890.

No. 1.

A STUDY OF IPECACUANHA.

WM. E. LEONARD, A.B., M.D., PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA AND
THERAPEUTICS, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS.

THE every-day drugs are those the student and practitioner should know the most about. The symptomatology of at least twenty-five drugs should be as familiar to the homœopathist as his A B C's. This accomplished, the host of others, both new and old, can be more easily compared, understood, and made of practical value. Let each one choose his twenty-five, according to the needs of his climate and practice, and become therewith a thorough master. No one respects a mechanic who cannot handle at least a few essential tools skilfully. So it should be with the therapist.

Ipecac. is one of these every-day tools. The *Ipecac.* of commercial medicine is the dried root of *Cephælis ipecacuanha*, a small shrub growing in Brazil. The common German name, *beechwurzel* (vomit-root) tells best its primary effect, which is due to its alkaloid *emetin*. But its peculiar odor also excites, in some, sneezing and asthma, this again being probably due to a fetid volatile oil contained in the plant. These primary effects outline its most marked spheres of action, viz., the gastro-intestinal tract and the respiratory organs. But its detailed symptomatology will disclose a much broader field of application, especially in the manifold reflex condition of nervous and rheumatic patients.

Almost everywhere when *Ipecac.* is indicated there is *distressing, intense nausea and inclination to vomit, or after vomiting there is immediate inclination to do so again. Constant nausea, generally with a clean tongue,* is a key-note to the use of *Ipecac.*

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Head.—With this nausea, rheumatic patients will often present the characteristic sensation of bruising or crushing in the head or bones of the head, which pierces through all the cranial bones down into the teeth and roots of the tongue. (*Cocculus* has a similar headache, but, with the same intense nausea, more vertigo, confusion and stupefaction, the sensation in the brain being as though it were rolled up or compressed into a smaller bulk.)

In nervous sick headaches, unilateral, commonly over one eye, accompanied by *deathly nausea*, *Ipecac.* has a wonderful curative record; blue rings encircle the eyes upon a very pale face, and the muscles about the mouth betray the intense nausea. If *Ipecac.*, in potencies of the 30th and upward, is at hand for immediate use at short intervals when the attack begins, and is taken occasionally for premonitions of returns, it will entirely cure such cases.

Stomach.—The nausea of *Ipecac.* is manifested, especially in children, by a drawn line from the *alæ nasi* to the corners of the mouth, as in *Antim. tart.* and *Aethusa*, and, in such patients, and likewise under these remedies, vomiting is followed by sleepiness and exhaustion, such exhaustion being the most sudden and intense under *Aethusa*. The nausea of *Ipecac.* is worse stooping, accompanied by sweat, foul breath, sometimes thirst, and always seems to come from the stomach; there is often a sensation as if the abdomen were hanging down relaxed (as under *Tabac.* and *Sepia*), and aversion to all food. Nausea accompanies all the hæmorrhages of *Ipecac.*, viz., the epistaxis, hæmatemesis, hæmoptysis, metrorrhagia, etc.

In children this nausea is often followed by convulsions, especially when such indigestible substances as lemon-peel, etc., are the cause, or the same from the reappearance of a suppressed eruption; with rigid muscles, or jerking of the arms towards each other, cold sweat, paleness, etc. (Dr. R. Hearn, of Toronto, Ont., describes a typical cure with *Ipecac.* upon page 423 of the December *Medical Advance*.)

Abdomen.—With the stools of *Ipecac.* there is generally a cutting about the umbilicus, < every motion, *nausea* and *vomiting*, the stools being frequent, *greenish* or bloody mucus, or *fermented*, *looking like frothy molasses*; or in dysentery, dark, pitch-like. *Ipecac.* best suits fat, chubby, pale children, and cures their summer diarrhœas and beginnings of cholera infantum.

Respiratory Tract.—In the children just described, *Ipecac.* will cure the beginnings of a coryza, when the nose is stuffed, with loss of smell, and especially when accompanied with hard breathing, cough, threatened suffocation and nausea. (*Arsenic* often completes the cure of such cases.)

Later, in the bronchial catarrh of infants, the cough of *Ipecac.* is dry, tickling, spasmodic, and ends in *choking* and *gagging*. If old

enough to describe this tickling, they will say that it extends from the larynx to the very lowest extremity of the bronchi.

Still later, Ipecac. is indicated when auscultation shows loud, *coarse* mucus râles over the chest, with violent paroxysms of coughing, vomiting and retching, which dislodges some of the mucus and affords temporary relief. Before such paroxysms the child has a pale face and blue surface, and suffers extreme dyspnœa. (It is necessary to distinguish *Antim. tart.* carefully in such conditions. In the latter the child is more prostrated and cold, there are more extensive and *finer* râles over the chest, and the cough has lessened, or almost ceased, with increased dyspnœa and drowsiness. Altogether it is a more alarming and serious condition than that of Ipecac.) *Chelid.*, *Sulph.*, *Lycop.* and *Phos.* have to be compared in like conditions, they being suited to parallel cases, except *Sulphur*, which relieves after *Antim. tart.*, when atelectasis threatens, especially the left lung.

In whooping-cough Ipecac. meets the extreme spasmodic convulsive cough, which results in the child stiffening and becoming *rigid, pale or blue* and *loses its breath*; the expression of nausea is present, and relief comes with the relaxation of the spasm and vomiting of phlegm. *Cina* and *Cuprum* have very similar spasms, the latter being relieved by a drink of cold water.

In *Asthma*, Ipecac. applies, as does its complement *Arsenic*, to the spasmodic (truly nervous) variety, when the *sudden wheezing, dyspnœa, with weight and anxiety about the præcordia threaten immediate suffocation, the least motion aggravates*, and the cough is incessant, without expectoration, causing lividity, until gagging and vomiting bring relief.

The hæmoptysis of Ipecac. consists of gushes of bright-red blood, or repeated hacking of frothy, bloody sputa, always with nausea and gagging, and sometimes with sudden suffocation, or sensation of bubbling in the chest.

Female Genitals.—Ipecac. suits the pinching, sharp pain about the umbilicus, running downwards to the uterus, which may precede an abortion; later, constant nausea, and discharge in gushes of bright-red blood. The same pain about the umbilicus, shooting from left to right and down into the hypogastrium, may accompany deficient labor-pains and indicate Ipecac.

In uterine hæmorrhages, as Prof. Guernsey writes: "Where there is a *steady flow of bright-red blood* give Ipecac., and don't resort to applications, manipulations, etc." The warnings are a low pulse, nausea, heavy breathing, and this soaking hæmorrhage, which may be first recognized upon the floor at the foot of the bed.

Fever.—In intermittents that are quite mixed by drugging, especially by Quinine, do not forget Ipecac. There will be a *short chill* and

long fever, characterized by nausea and vomiting, backache, intense headache, the sweat coming last. It most resembles *Eupatorium*.

Cuprum and *Arsenic* complement Ipecac. mainly in chest troubles. Most of the cures recorded for Ipecac. were made upon women and children.

CASES FROM PRACTICE.

Hæmorrhoids.

DURING the past four years I have treated many cases, and during the last year more than usual. Some by salves, some by the ligature, others by that method which some enterprising medical genius must have conceived of while lost in the depths of Dante's *Inferno*,—I refer to the widely known *painless* injection treatment,—and others still by the use of Boericke & Tafel's suppositories. The latter method is easy for the doctor and pleasant to the patient, and where they are applicable, the case not requiring surgical means, their employment is often followed by gratifying results.

In my opinion and experience they are indicated in conditions of the rectum in which the internal hæmorrhoids do not have a tendency to suppurate, but rather to a flow of clear blood either dark or bright, and the characteristic itching, crawling, amounting sometimes to almost pain. I find these suppositories in many cases very soothing to that class of patients who desire relief, yet decline an examination.

A few cases taken from my books, treated during the summer of 1888, are given below.

CASE I.—May 15th, Mr. W., aged thirty, bookkeeper, a bad case of acute bleeding hæmorrhoids; gave Ham.^o internally and suppositories of *Aesculus Hip.* with Ham., to be inserted in the rectum morning and night, and one after each stool.

May 17th, better, continued same treatment. On the 1st of June came to my office, said he had been all right for a few days, but now an intolerable itching, with no bleeding, gave trouble. Prescribed *Aesculus Hip.* 30, internally and suppositories of *Aesculus*.

June 3d, better, continued same, which was followed by a cure and as yet no return.

CASE II.—June 14th, Mrs. E., dark complexioned, married, aged fifty, itching piles, chronic; gave *Aesculus Hip.* 30 internally, and suppositories of same. June 30th, better, continued same treatment. Patient cured.

CASE III.—June 16th, Mr. A., aged fifty-four, by trade tinner, case of acute itching hæmorrhoids, cured by a few suppositories of *Aesculus Hip.*

CASE IV.—June 17th, Mrs. W., brunette, married, aged thirty-two, acute itching piles; gave *Aesculus Hip.* 30 internally and suppositories of same. Cured in four days.

CASE V.—July 1st, Mrs. E., blonde, married, aged twenty-nine; acute bleeding hæmorrhoids, with terrible itching; could hardly remain long in one position. This case was cured by using three suppositories of *Aesculus* with Ham.

CASE VI.—July 14th, Mrs. J., dark complexioned, widow, aged thirty-seven, a very troublesome case of chronic itching piles; *Aesculus Hip.* 30 given internally three times a day, and suppositories of same, effected a cure in about three weeks.

CASE VII.—July 21st, Miss C., blonde, aged twenty-three, works in a rubber shop; a severe case of chronic bleeding hæmorrhoids, with at times considerable itching. Two dozen suppositories of *Aesculus* with Ham., cured this patient.

CASE VIII.—August 2d, Miss L., blonde, aged thirty-seven, chronic itching piles; a box of *Aesculus Hip.* suppositories did not cure this case, but greatly relieved, so much in fact, that she sent for another dozen.

CASE IX.—September 4th, Mr. W., clerk, aged twenty-six, complained of itching, crawling and burning sensation in the button-hole orifice, chronic; *Aesculus Hip.* 30 internally and suppositories of same cured in about ten days.

CASE X.—September 16th, Mr. V., clerk, aged twenty-eight, a chronic case of itching piles; cured him in about a week with suppositories of *Aesculus Hip.*, one inserted in the rectum morning and night. I might add, Mr. V. has been to me twice before during the past three years for a similar trouble, and the same treatment was used then with satisfactory results both to patient and myself.

A Case of Aconite Poisoning.

Mr. W.—, aged seventy-nine, weighing 130 pounds, in fairly good health, came here a few days ago to visit some friends. On Sunday evening, not feeling very well, he asked to be given a dose of Jamaica ginger, and by a mistake in getting the wrong bottle swallowed a dessert-spoonful of the tincture of Aconite (Boericke & Tafel's) upon an empty stomach. He immediately complained of great smarting in the mouth and fauces, with difficulty of breathing. The bottle was examined, and thus the mistake at once discovered. His brother gave him a tumbler of milk to drink, which undoubtedly retarded the action of the drug a few minutes, and sent a man after a physician. I was soon at the side of the patient, and found him excited, with the heart's action greatly increased, and difficult respiration. I at once injected in the right arm $\frac{1}{12}$ grain of Apomorphine (twenty

minutes after swallowing the Aconite), and in three minutes after easy and copious emesis took place, which continued at intervals for about half an hour. He now fainted, but soon recovered consciousness. His pulse at this time dropped to 40 beats to the minute. I then gave him *Nux vomica* θ in 4 or 5 drop doses to stimulate the heart's action, and two hours after taking the Aconite the pulse was beating good and strong, about 60. The next morning the patient walked to my office, none the worse for the unhappy experience.

I have used Apomorphine before in similar cases, where urgent and prompt vomiting was necessary, and have never seen its use followed by any bad effects. The only unpleasant thing I have noticed was that after free vomiting had taken place the contractions of the stomach still kept up (in some cases), which almost resembled a violent hiccough, and this passed off in two or three hours. Neither have the patients complained of nausea, but of some dizziness.

A Case of Asthma, with Belladonna Poisoning.

One of my best patients, a married lady, aged fifty-two years, weighing about 160 pounds, rather light complexioned, although not a well-defined blonde, is a great sufferer from asthma, a chronic case of some fifteen years' standing. One of the worst cases of bronchitic asthma I ever saw. At such times when the attacks come on she will gasp for breath, the nostrils will be dilated, eyes protruding, and muscles of anterior neck bulging in and out in the desperate effort to expel the air. Many doctors have attended this case, many quack inhalations been used, but nothing gives much relief, the patient being generally compelled to grunt out the attack. I have vainly prescribed homœopathically, pored over the pages of my materia medica with the assistance of the midnight oil, and sought information from various writers, only to fall back on small hypodermic injections of morphia and atropine, which always seemed to have power to control the distressing symptoms. I had found after many trials that the morphia and atropia acted much better together than the opium alone. Noticing the beneficial action of the atropine, I decided to use Belladonna alone internally, as a palliative remedy, in physiological doses, as an antispasmodic, to produce relaxation of the spasm in the bronchii, and gave the lady a ζ ii vial of Boericke & Tafel's pure θ , with directions to take 10 drops when a severe paroxysm of asthma should come on, to be followed by a similar dose in an hour, if relief was not obtained. The opportunity came; the first dose was taken, which partially relieved the wheezing, but did not in any way inconvenience the patient, and the second dose was taken, according to directions,

followed in a few minutes by complete relief from the asthma. Soon after the second dose she complained of great heat and dryness of the mouth and throat, which was soon increased to a feeling of burning, as if she was on fire, with nausea, faintness, could not stand without help; vomiting was present, with much thirst. Then there came on great mental excitement, partial hallucinations, and patient was decidedly hysterical. The face became red and flushed, with some headache. These unfavorable symptoms partially passed off in three or four hours, but the dilatation of pupils and impairment of vision continued marked during the next twenty-four hours. The patient was very weak and excited the next day. Face somewhat redder than usual. There was an increased desire to urinate, accompanied by scalding and burning in the urethra; could only make a few drops at a time, yet after straining somewhat a free stream would be passed.

It might be well, in this place, to add, that I have reduced the dose of Belladonna to 4 and 5 drops, repeated in an hour, and find, in this case, it controls the asthma satisfactorily to the patient, this small dose producing the characteristic dryness of the mucous membranes.

H. E. C.

FALLS VILLAGE, CONN.

CUPHEA VISCOSISSIMA.

REPLY TO DR. HALE.

"Ha, ha, boy! say'st thou so? art thou there true penny" *royal*?

"An I had but one penny (*royal*) in the world thou shouldst have it to buy gingerbread."

In a recent critique in Gross and Delbridge's *New Remedies*, edited by Dr. Hale, the doctor informs the public that "Dr. Roth reports in the RECORDER remarkable results from tincture Pennyroyal." He also vouchsafes the startling information that "Cuphea is not Hedeoma!" And in the *veni, vidi, vice versa*—yep and nope style, so much affected by sophomore and cowboy—he asserts "there are only two plants called pennyroyal, the Hedeoma and Isanthus." He also—in that jerk of the head and purse of the lips kind of style—hints that "there must be some error" running around loose, and he may have imagined that, with a few masterly strokes with the back of the pen, he had brained the error "in this" report. An error in a formula is in the nature of a damnation, hence it is important, if not imperative, that this charge of "some error" be carefully looked into. Well, who made an error? What is it?

Nous verrons. In Dr. Roth's exceedingly interesting and highly important communication to the RECORDER, vol. iii., No. 6, wherein he gives the results of his experience with *Cuphea viscosissima* as a remedial agent in cholera infantum, he says: "I was persuaded by a lady friend to use red pennyroyal tea;" she knew the plant only by its popular or common name. He then says: "I procured the fresh plant and made a tincture, as directed in the American Homœopathic Pharmacopœia, under article 'Hedeoma,'" or, in other words, the doctor finding no formula for preparing a tincture from red pennyroyal, he proceeded to make it in like form and manner as the tincture of Hedeoma is directed to be made, the only difference being that he used a like proportional quantity of *Cuphea* or red pennyroyal instead of Hedeoma or squawmint. It is at least presumable that Dr. Hale gave a similar reading to this portion of Dr. Roth's article; indeed, the most strained and distorted construction could hardly convince the average mind that Dr. Roth used any plant but *Cuphea visc.* in preparing his tincture.*

Dr. Roth also says: "This made a beautiful dark-green tincture, having an aromatic (a fragrant, agreeable) odor and a slight astringent taste." The Lythraceæ are rich in tannic acid. How does this description of C. tincture compare with H. tinctures? The last might be said to have a coarse, gross smell. However, some persons may fancy this wild-woods' odor and call it fragrant. *Ferula* and *Limburger* have many admirers. Should some doubting Thomas or smart Aleck still have a lingering hope that Dr. Roth didn't know what he was about when he made his famous tincture, and that, "partly by design and partly by mere accident," he experimented with Hedeoma, and not with *Cuphea*, his article, continuing, says: "I gave it a fair trial for two seasons . . . believing that *Cuphea* will prove a treasure." He refers to this new remedy not less than six times, calling it C. visc. or C. every time. If a scrupler lingers, he is in a bad way, and it may be that "he hath no delight in understanding." The popular, common or vulgar names by which plants are called cannot be enumerated; almost every well-known thing, animate or inanimate, has been called upon to furnish names for the different genera, species, and varieties. It is in many respects convenient for plants to have a familiar every-day name, although at times this may create some confusion, especially when two or more plants have the same common name, yet differ from each in every other particular, *i.e.*, which yellow Jasmine? Is it *Gelsemium* or *Jasminum*? Which Snake-root? The white or black, dwarf or Sampson, the button-seneca,

* Did Dr. Hale read Dr. Roth's article carefully? Or did he, in the hurry of business, get things mixed and mused up?

seneka, senega, or Virginia. Not to speak of the other four-score-and-ten of us poor old trees, bushes, weeds, roots, bark, leaves, etc., which have some kind of a snaky name.

Hedeoma pu, has at least three common names, viz., pennyroyal, wild pennyroyal, and squawmint (Darby), and it will be quite impossible for Dr. Hale not to see and appreciate the close and ardent mingling of Hedeoma, Squaw and Mint when the first is taken by the second in copious "hot infusions for producing perspiration;" regular red-hot squawmint juleps. See? To prevent any confusion which may and must arise from this commingling of names, the botanical nomenclature was adopted, by means of which the technical name of any plant is definitely fixed and established. Dr. Hale says that "Cuphea is not a pennyroyal, but a loose strife." That is to say Cuphea is not a Hedeoma, but a Lythraceæ. Right you are, but why perpetrate such a *prodigious* joke? This reminds one of some of the questions and replies occasionally found in the notes and queries column of the newspapers. For example: From the Slabtown *Ariel*: "We kindly assure a constant reader that cat-tail-grass is not a grass-tail-cat." "An old subscriber is informed that *Salix eriocephala*, or woolly-headed swamp willow is a true member of the vegetable kingdom, and has nothing to do with the genus *Ovis* or the Africans." It may be possible that Dr. Hale did not notice (it was plainly stated) in Dr. Roth's article that *Cuph.* belonged to *Lyth.*

Dr. Hale says: "There are only two plants called pennyroyal." It is not even easy to guess why this bit of information was volunteered; it would not have the least bearing upon Dr. Roth's article if there were two, or two hundred, or two thousand so-called pennyroyals. He, Dr. Roth, first definitely fixed and settled the name of the plant (see article, vol. iii., etc.) before he commenced to write about it, and *Cuph. vis.* is its name, and the whole subject of names was settled. Dr. Hale says that *Isanthus* is one of the "only two" plants called pennyroyal. Is that so? *Isanthus cœruleus* has at least two common names, one of them being blue gentian. This name might cause some persons to think that it might belong to *Gentianaceæ*, but that family and *Isanthus* are not relatives. They have not even a speaking acquaintance. It has another common name, viz., false pennyroyal (Eaton, etc.). That "ojous" prefix might cause the powerful and mighty old pennyroyal family to stick out its lips at a thing which was lipless, and false-faced besides. Hed might say to Isa: "You stuck up thing; you got into *Labiata* fraudulently, and you want folks to call you pennyroyal. What impudence!" But Dr. Hale says it is one of the "only two," and that ends the matter. This consolation remains, and it also just exactly fits the case of Dr. Roth's *red* pennyroyal: it was known

and called by that name before Dr. Hale existed, and will in all probability be called by that name after he has gone hence, to be no more seen of men. The man that knew everything "from the cedar that is in Lebanon, even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall," died nearly three thousand years ago, and his place has not yet been filled. Just here it might be well to mention that the English pennyroyal is *Menthæ pulegium* (Parr, *et al.*), and that some of its preparations—*Oleum menthæ pul.*, Oil of pennyroyal and *Aqua m. p.* pennyroyal water—are officinal in L. E. D., and *spiritus M. p. in L.* This name, pennyroyal, is a good example of many plants that have the same common name. Thus, *Hedeoma* is indifferently called pennyroyal, wild pennyroyal, and squawmint; *Isanthus* is the false and *Cuphea* the red pennyroyal; *Mentha pu.* is the English and *Cunile* the old Roman pennyroyal. As there are many precincts yet to be heard from, its majority may be increased. Dr. Hale closes his remarks, saying that "*Isanthus* is much used in domestic practice . . . in this country." In some portions of this country its curative power is an unknown quantity; persons don't dally with the *false* when they can obtain the red, and the prospects are good that the red will continue to be reproduced while time shall last. It is to be regretted that certain other persons do not investigate fully some one or more plants growing in their immediate neighborhood, and which are more or less used in domestic practice. Not every one might have the same rich reward which attended Dr. Roth in his researches, and in the successful scientific application of the facts which he arrived at, but surely such investigations should not be neglected. An art or science which is not progressing will very soon retrograde. As for Dr. Roth, his *Cuphea* is *Cuphea*, and *Viscosissima* is his profit.

J. C. ENGELBRECHT.

FREDERICK, MD.

As the botanical description in my first article was credited to Prof. Engelbrecht, it was deemed only proper that he should have the privilege of replying to Dr. Hale's uncalled for criticism. After a THIRD season's use of *Cuphea*, I can only add that I can use the remedy with increased confidence *where properly indicated*. It is not tincture pennyroyal, as erroneously stated by Dr. Hale, but tincture *Cuphea visc.*, an entirely different plant.

DR. ROTH.

SKOOKUM CHUCK.

EDITOR OF THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

Learning that you were about publishing my article on the wonderful Skookum Chuck Lake, of the new State of Washington, I wish to say that since that article was written for the *U. S. Medical*

Investigator additional cures have been made with the salts made from the water of the lake. With the first decimal attenuation, a two-grain powder mixed in half a glass of water, and a teaspoonful of this mixture given every two or three hours, I have cured two cases of eczema, one case of chronic, oft-appearing, urticaria, and one case of palmaritis of years' standing. This latter case was that of a gentleman who was so greatly and grievously affected that he could do no work on account of his hands being so raw and sore, and they looked so badly, and caused so much notice and remark, the patient was forced to wear gloves all the time. In addition to giving the remedy internally, I made some soap with the salts and had the patient wash his hands twice daily with the suds.

His hands were entirely well in three weeks. I find that beautiful soap can be made with these salts, and I am glad to learn that Messrs. Bœricke & Tafel are going to take an interest in bringing this valuable remedy to the knowledge of the profession. I hope they will also have toilet soap made from the salts so that we may all have something to recommend to take the place of the dangerous preparations, such as "Cuta Cura," which are being sold to and used by our patients. I think that a toilet soap made from the Skookum Chuck Lake water or its salts would prove more beneficial to all eruptions or diseases of the skin than any other soap or preparation now being sold by druggists or pharmacists.

Dr. Reed, editor of the *Investigator*, reports a case of chronic *Otitis Media*, of seven years standing, where there was a profuse, ichorous, cadaverously smelling discharge. Arsenicum was indicated, but failed to cure. The auricle and parts below the ear had been raw and sore for a long time on account of the discharge. *Aqua Skookum Chuck* was given internally and used locally. In two weeks the ear was well. Dr. Reed is now using the remedy in another case of eczema with beneficial results, and with flattering prospects of a speedy cure.

Respectfully,

W. D. GENTRY, M.D.

[The article referred to by Dr. Gentry was published in our last number, November, 1889, RECORDER.]

A REQUEST FROM DR. HALE.

Cactaceæ.

As a member of the Bureau of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in the American Institute of Homœopathy I have selected as the subject of my paper "The Pathogenetic and Therapeutic Properties of the *Cactaceæ*."

The number of known *genera* in this *family* is 18, and of *species* about 800. I desire to include in my paper all medical information concerning any species. I urgently solicit physicians of any country to send me all observations relating to the toxic and curative powers of any member of this important family, before June 1, 1890.

E. M. HALE, M.D.,

65 Twenty-second Street, Chicago, Ill.

PASSIFLORA INCARNATA.

A New Remedy.

HAVING used this new remedy a good deal recently, I desire to call the attention of physicians to it. The first notice that I ever saw of the medical uses of *Passiflora incarnata* was in the *New Orleans Medical Journal*, about 1839 or 1840, by Dr. L. Phares, of Mississippi. He gives some trials of this remedy, made by Dr. W. B. Lindsay, then of Bayou Gros Tete, La. He first used it in tetanus of infants, with success. He finally reports his successful use of it for thirty years in tetanus neonatorum. After he settled in New Orleans he extended his experiments with this remedy. That which grows on thin up-land is much the best. After using it for many years he says: "*I am satisfied that it is no narcotic, as it never stupefies or overpowers the senses.*" I have used it frequently in cases of sleeplessness of infants, as well as in adults, and find that it produces sound and refreshing sleep, from which the patient may be awakened at any time, and if allowed, will soon fall to sleep again. I have tried it in many grave cases of neuralgia, in which it has proven a very positive remedy, in doses of 25 to 30 drops every four to six hours.

It is almost a *specific* for neuralgia and tetanus in full doses, repeated every two hours until the subject falls asleep. The aqueous extract is a good application to *chancres* and painful ulcers and open cancers; also erysipelas. It is very soothing to painful piles, and aids in their cure. For new burns and scalds it perhaps has no equal. Dr. Lindsay used it in syphilis, and commends it highly in that disease. Prof. E. M. Hale, than whom there is no closer observer, says: "I have found *Passiflora* prompt to relieve erysipelas." He says, also: "I have used it in ulcers with advantage; also in neuralgias and tetanus." He says it has never failed to cure tetanus in horses for him. For horses, the dose of the fluid extract is from 8 ounces to 1 pint, repeated if necessary. Dr. J. H. Phares, son of Dr. L. Phares, says that the inspissated juice, reduced to a powder, is the best preparation. As a soporific, the concentrated extract, if properly made, would soon supersede Morphine. I have

used it in doses of 25 to 30 drops of the aqueous extract even in children, but I have never seen any alarming or unpleasant effects from this medicine. It should be gathered in May and made up.

I. J. M. Goss, A.M., M.D.

MARIETTA, GA.

(In homœopathic practice the θ of *Passiflora incarnata* is preferred. Dr. Goss, we should state, is the Professor of Practice of Medicine in the Georgia Eclectic Medical College.—RECORDER.)

OXALIC ACID IN LUMBAGO (?).

THE case reported on p. 257—RECORDER, vol. iv.—is valuable as showing how much better it is to prescribe for the symptoms than for the “disease” *from the diagnosis*. In the above instance the doctor made a masterly prescription—virtually “covered” his case, and with a remedy but little used. He had the usual reward of the *good* prescriber: entire relief in twenty-four hours.

But he is “astonished not to find *Oxalic acid* among the remedies to be considered” in lumbago. While grass grows and water runs he will *not* find it there—the genius of the remedy not including the rheumatic sphere.

Dr. “C. F. M.” really treated, and quickly cured, a case of spinal meningitis, as a thorough study of the pathogenesis of *Oxalic acid* will soon convince him. (Look up its toxicology!)

Some of the extremists in our ranks assert that no symptoms of any practical value are ever to be gotten from poisonings with material doses. Well, the first recorded symptom in Dr. C. F. M.’s case is “covered” to a dot in a fatal poisoning reported by Dr. Arrowsmith, *vide* Christison.

Oxalic acid has long been a favorite remedy with me in cardiac troubles occurring in highly “nervous” patients. In these cases it must not be mistaken for *Baryta carb.*, which also has an aggravation from “thinking of it.” “Cover” symptoms (“with brains, sir!”) to the dot over an i,—looking out for “fly-specks,”—and let the “diagnosis” go to the deuce.

S. A. J.

EXTRAORDINARY URINOSCOPY!

LONG before the year of our Lord 1000, he that was St. Gall, having received all the learning that the academies of Ireland could convey (and in those early days the Emerald Isle shone pre-eminent in letters), departed therefrom on a pilgrimage to Switzerland. “Wherever he sojourned,” says an old chronicler, “his sanctifie”

department commanded pious respect; and having reached Switzerland, he there founded a convent to which he gave his name." This grew and flourished; and its annals, written by Brother Ekkard the younger, who died in the year 966, were published at Frankfort in 1661. In its pages is found the account of Brother Notkerus; and we deem it so curious that we shall give our reader a glance at him.

"Notkerus was both a monk and a physician, who, besides knowing something of theology and medicine, was a rare scholar, an interesting painter, and a delightful poet. So various were his talents that he relieved the sick monks, when languishing in their cells, with physic and prayers; he adorned the walls of the monastery with his pencil; he composed Latin hymns and chanted them in the chapel, and made the roof of the refectory ring with his wit. His pictures and poems have been suffered to perish, and the few remaining specimens of his jests are obscured by Gothic Latin; but two examples of his medical abilities have been preserved.

"Henry the Second, Duke of Bavaria, a person of some humor, consulted Notkerus about his health. He gave a feigned account of his complaints, and, according to the usage of these times,* showed him a bottle—but it contained a deceptive liquid. The monastic doctor alternately examined the bottle and the patient, scientifically and shrewdly. At length, bursting with inspiration, he exclaimed: 'Behold a miracle! an unparalleled miracle! A man, nay, this mighty Duke hath conceived, and in thirty days he shall bring forth a son, and suckle him at his breasts.'

"The detected Duke confessed his stratagem to the priest of God; and the prediction was mysteriously fulfilled, nearly at the time foretold, by a fair maid of honor. Some temporary disgrace was incurred; but, through the earnest intercession of Notkerus, the Duke was appeased, and the lady, when recovered, was restored to favor at Court."

* * * * * *

By what "stratagem" the noble Duke got that bottle of "deceptive liquid," and how the "fair maid of honor" left such "liquid"

* "According to the usage of these times." As the monk Ekkard died in 966, and as his chronicle was written still earlier, we see that urinoscopy was practiced some nine hundred years ago. In a paper by Dr. S. A. Jones, I recollect reading of an eighteenth-century physician who, by examining a man's week-day water, could tell what trade he followed, and from his Sunday elimination define his religion.

These things are enough to make our modern physiological chemists green with envy. This is one of the "lost arts" not mentioned by the late Wendell Phillips in his famous lecture.

lying around loose, the good Brother Ekkard relateth not, and he is now too dusty to answer any curious inquiries. He, the humorous Duke, the "scientific" Notkerus, and the fair maid of honor, rest from their *labors* (especially the fair maid), and after nine centuries we read of their doings—thanks to Brother Ekkard's goose-quill.

*M.D.

NOTES ON THE TRANSACTIONS OF 1889.

The President's Address.

The address of the President, Selden H. Talcott, M.D., is good reading—inspiring, cheering—but RECORDER'S space is limited and it is "practical," and must pick the practical plums.

Among other eminently practical things, Dr. Talcott said: "The Asylum at Middletown has flourished for more than fifteen years; and to this day it accomplishes a success which always characterizes a strict application of homœopathic medicines to the treatment and cure of disease. By way of episode we may here remark: The more carefully and persistently we apply homœopathy, the more successful are the results." These are the words of the physician under whose care the Middletown Asylum has attained a success unrivalled in history, and they are worthy of most careful attention, for, after all is said, "by their fruits ye shall know them." Good advice is given on the journal subject: "Let every journal stand or fall upon its merits, and let every member of the Institute take such journals, 'old school' or 'new school,' as he pleases."

Potencies and Dispensing.

DR. CARMICHAEL'S paper, under the title of "The Pharmacy of Dilution," is a general shaking up of physicians, pharmacists and pharmacopœia makers. "By some the virtue of potency," said the doctor, "is supposed to depend on the amount of succussion; hence, some pharmacists lay stress on the fact that their potencies are hand-made, and that each one has received at least twelve powerful strokes or shakes. Other preparations received prolonged succussion on the machinery of a grist-mill, and still others are made in special apparatus where, by automatic arrangement, a receptacle is filled and emptied, and the liquid that adheres to its sides is supposed to contain the spirit or essence that impregnates the fresh supply. Some of these high potencies are 'run up' with alcohol, and others with water, except the final potencies, which are alcohol. The products of these various processes are alike in one respect, viz., that they are beyond the reach of all scientific analysis."

It is quite evident that the writer does not have a great deal of faith in high potencies, yet every reader of homœopathic literature knows that there are many physicians who have a most unbounded faith in them. It is not the RECORDER'S purpose to take sides in this dispute, but to point out what should be plain to all, namely, that the pharmacist who starts with mother tincture and makes a first dilution, giving it "twelve powerful succussive strokes,"—by which is meant that the vial is corked, held firmly in the fist, and pounded twelve times on a stiff cushion,—follows this dilution with the second, and so on up, using nothing but alcohol and giving each dilution twelve strokes, has faithfully followed Hahnemann's directions; and if there is any virtue in high potencies, it will surely be found in those run up in this manner, the menstruum throughout being alcohol. As the one part to one hundred of each potency is mingled with the succeeding one, the vial containing it is corked, and the mingling is made beyond question by means of the strokes.

A pencil and a sheet of paper will show any one that potencies such as these cannot be carried very high. Allowing one minute for each potency, would give sixty an hour or six hundred a day of ten hours,—this estimate is excessive, but it will answer our purpose. At this rate it would take a little over five years to run up one remedy to the one-millionth, or nearly eleven years of unremitting labor to reach the two-millionth, which we believe is the highest yet attained. If we mistake not, the one-thousandth centesimal is the highest that any set of remedies have been diluted by the Hahnemannian process. Has any one ever realized what the one-thousandth centesimal means? A line of printing in the RECORDER contains say fifty letters; to fully describe the one-thousandth centesimal would take the figure 1/000—with forty lines of ciphers like these appended.

Dr. Carmichael thinks that tablets will, in time, supersede all other means of dispensing medicine, being, in his opinion, the most exact and convenient method yet discovered.

The Pharmacies.

Dr. E. M. Howard's paper was something like an unexploded shell—the fuse was there, but the Institute very wisely concluded not to touch it off. Dr. Howard got Dr. J. P. Dake, of Nashville, to purchase from different homœopathic pharmacies a line of six different tinctures, put a private mark on them or make a key, and then send them to him. The tinctures of nine of the best-known pharmacies were thus procured. No one knew, or we suppose yet knows, save Dr. Dake, whose tinctures they were. Of *Aconitum napellus* three out of the nine samples were pronounced by experts to be

“good fresh plant tinctures,” five to be “probably from dried material” (fluid extract most likely), and one “a diluted root tincture.” Tinctures from pharmacies I., V. and VI. were “good” throughout. II. was “good” in but three instances. III. furnished one “good” tincture out of the six. IV. furnished two “good” ones. VII. did not furnish a single sample that was pronounced “good.” VIII. had four “good” (one of them, however, had an ? attached). Pharmacy IX. had two “good” out of the six. One pharmacy, IV., in addition to furnishing but two “good” tinctures, made an error in sending *cimicifuga* for *aralia racemosa*, which was ordered. So it seems that of the nine leading homœopathic pharmacies but three of them furnished tinctures that were in every case, “good, fresh plant tinctures.”

A passage from Dr. Howard’s paper is suggestive of the cause of this: “It is boldly claimed by agents of prominent old-school drug houses that some of our pharmacists are purchasing their fluid extracts and normal liquids in such large quantities that the presumption exists that they are using them in the manufacture of the tinctures supplied to our profession.”

A Pharmacist’s Paper.

Following Dr. Howard’s paper is one by Mr. A. J. Tafel on “Homœopathic Pharmacy of To-day,” which is well worth reading. Our purpose is not to go into detail but to touch on a few points of interest and value in the many interesting papers in the *Transactions*. The following from the paper under consideration is worthy of note: “Hahnemann’s peculiar direction for making *Calc. carb.*, *Calc. acet.*, *Causticum*, *Hepar sulph.*, *Kali carb.*, and other preparations should be strictly adhered to. His *Kali carb.*, for instance, is as different from that of the shops as can be, and Dr. Korndœrfer, in an address read before the Hahnemann Club of Philadelphia a few years ago, justly maintained that the reason why so many practitioners failed to elicit the expected results on exhibiting that remedy was due to the fact that most of the homœopathic pharmacists failed to follow Hahnemann’s directions in preparing it.”

The Report of the Provers’ Club.

This is of such a nature that an abstract cannot be well made of it. A set of rules have been adopted by which all provings should be conducted and reported. “Critical analysis” is the key-word. “Some earnest study and conscientious reflection will lead to the conviction that what we want is not ‘contingent symptoms,’ idiosyncrasies, or individual peculiarities, *but we want that, and only that, which is common to all.*” The report concludes with some caustic words for “book-makers” “who shall be nameless,” and

seem to be numerous, who "have copied error after error, uncertainty upon uncertainty," and who have "not only copied these, but assiduously multiplied them by adding statements and interpretations, generalizations and sensational guess-work under the deceptive name of 'Key-notes.'" Condemnations of this sort are apt to leave the reader's mind in a state of bewilderment; he turns to his well-stocked shelves and suspiciously regards his books with a vague query, "who are the culprits?" They, like a crowd of boys, do not "tell" on each other.

Critical Analysis of *Arsenicum*,* by C. W.

This is an analysis of thirteen provings, conducted according to the new rules. It concludes as follows: "In order that physicians may be able to make use of this proving, we give below the anatomical arrangement of such provers' records as appear to us as possibly and probably to have resulted from the effects of the drug:

"*Head*.—Dull, heavy headache in cerebellum, on motion; also dull, heavy headache in forehead and occiput (head feeling too full, as if it would burst)."

"*Gastric Effects*.—Hiccough, belching, followed by urging to stool, loss of appetite, feels weak. Nauseated, 'mean' feeling. Nausea and retching during stool. Head feels badly. Thirst, throat became dry. Burning sensation in stomach; passed considerable flatus."

"*Intestinal Tract*.—Four stools like diarrhœa, thin, watery, brown, painless, sudden, violent urging to stool immediately after dinner. Diarrhœa urgent, containing jelly-like lumps. Some pain in abdomen, below navel; urging desire to stool. Stool fecal, with mucus and blood; much tenesmus before and after stool."

"*Respiratory Organs*.—Symptoms too doubtful to include."

"*Urinary and Sexual Organs*.—(Urines more frequently in the night. Seminal emissions. All doubtful effects of the drug.)"

"*Skin*.—Too doubtful to include here."

"*Muscles, Joints*.—Long-continued rheumatic pains in the left shoulder. Intense tiredness. Pleurodynic pains in right and left sides of chest, sharp in region of left kidney, lower limbs, instep, scapula. (All to be further confirmed, as they resemble common, everyday sensations, and are found in every proving as well as out of it.)"

Other Remedies.

The same paper contains reports of provings of other remedies. Of *Adonis vernalis* there were "two provings of ten-grain doses of crude drug (part used not stated)." One dose was taken and the

* As there is no such remedy as "*Arsenicum*," we inquired into the matter and found that "*Zincum arsenicosum*" is meant.—RECORDER.

symptoms recorded for eleven days. "Dose of ten grains at 11.40 A.M. Increase of peristalsis of bowels while reading at 5 P.M.; slight glow of heat over body; abdomen bloated, and passage of hot flatus repeatedly in small quantities, somewhat offensive; head felt light, and some aching in occiput and nape of neck, with some stiffness. At 8 P.M. felt some pains in abdomen just above umbilicus, cutting in character, not relieved by bending forward; sphincter ani feels a little lax, as if a purgative had been taken. Later, during evening, some qualmishness at stomach, with belching of gas; head aches from occiput around temples to eye-sockets, across frontal region."

This remedy, it may be well to state, is not found in any of the homœopathic works except Arndt's *System of Medicine*. It is there highly spoken of as a remedy for dropsy and diseases of the heart, especially when the two are complicated. As prescribed there it is a mother tincture and is, or should be, classed by homœopathic pharmacists as an imported mother tincture. The old school uses the powdered dried leaves of the plant, which of course, is a very different thing from the homœopathic fresh plant tincture.

There were eight provings of *Lilium tigrinum*, but no results thought worthy of preservation were obtained. The amount taken was "five-grain" doses at four different times. The notice of these concludes as follows: "We would here record it as our opinion that the above proving, though of negative value, is one of the best, and deserves our unreserved praise, because every record springs from a sincere desire to tell the truth and avoid misleading exaggeration of style, and we sincerely hope to hear from such provers again."

The *Encyclopædia* devotes twenty-two pages to *Lilium tigrinum*. As used in practice the mother tincture is made (or should be) from the flowers only. The new *Hand-book* opens the paper on this remedy by asserting that "the provings of this drug have developed pressure, heaviness and symptoms of congestion of the pelvic viscera, especially in women. The ovarian pains are very marked. With the uterine and ovarian symptoms many reflex sensations are found, fluttering of heart, pain in back and extremities," etc. Also in one of those little gems in this work marked "Clinical" we find: "A large number of hysterical symptoms have been noted, associated with uterine derangements; for example, dread of insanity, great melancholia, with feeling that she is incurable."

There were nine provers of *Zincum metallicum* but "we scarcely have more than two whose records agree consecutively." A few symptoms only are given as possibly resulting from the drug. It will be remembered that in the *Transactions* of 1888, Dr. J. Heber Smith reported several cases of poisoning from *Zincum metallicum*,

even to death. It was reprinted in RECORDER for July, 1888, and is a most valuable paper and proving.

Zincum phosphoricum and *Zincum valerianicum* were also proved, but no results deemed authentic were obtained; such as they were, however, are reserved for corroborative evidence.

Chrysophanic Acid.

A very interesting paper on this drug was read by E. W. Beebe, M.D., of Milwaukee. *Chrysophanic acid* is an extract of Goa powder, a substance found in the wood of a Brazilian tree and long used in South America for skin diseases. A professional friend of Dr. Beebe who was troubled with marginal blepharitis, while preparing some of this drug for external use—one part to ten of vaseline—applied a little to his eyelid. The effect was immediate: “Marked conjunctival inflammation of the globe and lid, contraction of the pupils, with intense photophobia, the least ray of light producing great pain, which was intensified by a throbbing sensation, synchronous with the action of the heart; this was accompanied by phosphorescent flashes of light, like that from the application of a galvanic current. On forcing the eyes to look at objects in the darkened room, retinal impressions of them were left or retained for some time after closing them. There was swelling of the lids and irritation of the skin about the eyes.” This continued about a week, after which there was a marked improvement and another and milder application effected a complete cure.

The remedy “seems best adapted to that variety of the disease known as blepharitis ciliaris, and should not be used in greater strength than one part of the powder to a thousand of vaseline, for fear of aggravations. It is not, however, in affections of the lids that I have been most pleased with its action, or where it promises to be of the greatest service. The array of symptoms brought out by the proving gives us a most complete picture of retinal asthenopia, or, as Graefe called it, optical hyperæsthesia, a condition which is difficult to cure, and for which we have but a limited number of remedies. In its action upon the retina, iris and ciliary body, it is an analogue of *Physostigma* and *Pilocarpin*, and should prove of equal value in affections implicating those structures, when its sphere of action shall have been clearly defined by thorough provings. It will undoubtedly prove of greater value when administered internally, and used as a collyrium in overtaxed eyes, than as a myotic, as its action is too violent when used in sufficient doses to produce its characteristic effect upon the pupil. I have given it internally in the third decimal in photophobia attending scrofulous ophthalmia, trachoma, keratitis, and iritis with seeming good effect, but I believe it more applicable to those of retinal asthenopia which are

caused by undue irritation of the ciliary system from straining the eyes, either by an intense or insufficient illumination.”

In the discussion which followed the reading of this paper, Dr. A. B. Norton, said: “I have used *Chrysophanic acid* with success not only in blepharitis, but also in conjunctivitis and keratitis of the phlyctenular variety. I have also used it in cases of eczematous condition behind the ears. I use it locally as well as internally. I have not found any aggravation from its local use, and I have employed an ointment of the strength of eight grains to the ounce.”

ON THE ACTION OF THE ALKALOIDS OF ASPIDOSPERMA QUEBRACHO.*

THERE appeared in the November number of the HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER an item on the use of Aspidospermine in dyspnœa, etc. We have collected all the literature we could find on the action of the alkaloids for use and reference.

Hesse† has prepared from *Aspidosperma quebracho*, together with *Aspidospermine*, five other alkaloids, which he calls *Aspidospermatine*, *Aspidosomine*, *Quebrachine*, *Hypoquebrachine* and *Quebrachamine*, and which, according to *Penzoldt*, in doses of 0.01 to 0.02, cause, in the frog, paralysis of the motor apparatus, and then, next, of the respiratory apparatus, and, in larger persistence of the action, paralysis of the sensibility, which action, in *Quebrachine* and *Aspidosomine*, appears to depend upon the peripheric nerves, but in the remainder to be purely central. *Quebrachine*, *Aspidospermine*, *Aspidospermatine* and *Aspidosomine* also caused slowing and, finally, cessation of the heart-beat. *Quebrachine*, in the rabbit, caused motor paralysis in doses of 0.02 to 0.04; great injection of the ear-vessels and *dyspnœa*; also seen from *Hypoquebrachine* with less prominence, however, and after larger doses (0.08 to 0.12) of *Aspidospermine*. These symptoms were quite pronounced,

* Collected from different authors by Albert Peck and G. H. Pritchard, M.D., Boston, Mass.

† *Hesse, O.*, Studien über argentinische Quebracho-draguen.—*Annal. des Chemie*, Bd. 211, S. 249.

a. Botany and pharmacology of the plant may be studied from *Ther. Gazette*, September, 1880, p. 263.

b. *Bordoni*, an Italian, narrates on the action of *Aspidospermine* on the heart (*Bordoni, Sull'azione cardiaco dell' Aspidospermine*), reported in the *Bolletín 2d Soc tra i Cult. d. Sc. Med.*, in Sienna, 1886, iv., 396-405, but we cannot obtain it, unfortunately.

and precede paresis, while Aspidosomine and Aspidospermatine, in doses of 0.02 to 0.04, influence but little respiration and motility.

Neither the two alkaloids found in the red Quebracho, nor those of a Payta bark coming from an Aspidosperma, are identical.

The various bases brought into the market under the name of *Aspidospermine* and *Quebrachine*, should be regarded as mostly a mixture of the alkaloids isolated by *Hesse*, so that the experiments made with these have but little value (relatively).

In the experiments of *Petroue** with *Extractum quebracho*, in four cases of dyspnoea (in lung and heart diseases and asthma nervosum) it always had a palliative effect. *Aspidospermine* (of Merck), in 0.01 doses, does not act fatally upon frogs; also not upon rabbits below 1 kilogramme, and up to 0.6 on large dogs. Clinical experiments of *Marigliano*† show the *Aspidospermine* and *Quebrachine* (of Merck) to have, as well as the *Extractum alcoholicum* (of Quebracho), a slowing action upon the respiration, if it does not go past physiological bounds. This is less in *Aspidospermine* than in *Quebrachine*, and a retarding action upon the pulse (even 20 beats per minute), with integrity of the blood pressure, seen from subcutaneous injections in five to ten, and, in internal-use, from twenty to thirty, minutes. *Marigliano* uses the extract in an indifferent vehicle, for therapeutic purposes, in doses of 10.6 *Aspidospermine*, 0.05 to 0.1 of the sulphate per day in pill form. Larger amounts cause gastric disturbances, as nausea, vomiting, or 0.05 to 0.1, subcutaneously, in an aqueous solution (1 : 10) does not produce local symptoms of irritation. To obtain a quick result from the remedy in asthma, he recommends *Quebrachine* hypodermatically.

Experiments by *Huchord*‡ and § *Eloy*||, made with alkaloids prepared by *Tauret* according to *Hesse's* methods, have shown that *Aspidospermine* is not the most poisonous alkaloid of the *Quebracho* bases; *Aspidospermatine*, on the contrary, is the one most profoundly reducing the temperature. Their experiments, under *Brown-Séguard's* eye, with the *Aspidospermine hydrochlorate* subcutaneously show that, in rabbits, the respiration increases five times, and in dogs three and a half times, in depth before the frequency

* *Petroue* (Linge, M.), *Sull'azione fisio terapeutica della corteccia di Q. blanco e della Aspidospermina*.—*Nate Sper. Cliniche la Speumentols Agosto*, p. 129, 1883.

† *Marigliano*, E. (Genoa), *Therapeutische Mittkeibrugen. Quebrecho, Aspidospermin and Quebrachin*.—*Centralbl. f. die Med. Wissensch*, 43, 771, 1883.

‡ *Huchord et C. Eloy*, *Recherches sur les alcaloides du Quebracho blanc*.—*Bull. de la Soc. de Biol.*, p. 370 (1881).

§ Les propriétés physiologiques, thérapeutiques et toxiques des alcaloides des *Quebro blanco* (*Aspidosperma quebracho*).—*Union Med.*, 18, p. 1001.

|| *Huchord et Eloy*, *Nate sur les propriétés antitheriniques de l'Aspidosperma quebracho et de quelques uns de ses alcaloids*.—*Bull. de la Soc. de Biol.*, p. 426.

(in one-quarter hour) begins, and that the diaphragmatic and costal movements are not isochronous; that, in fatal poisoning, the blood (venous) is bright red, the temperature sinks, while, after subcutaneous injections of 0.01 to 0.02 of a mixture of the remaining alkaloids, a rise of temperature to $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ and convulsions precede death due to asphyxia. The fall of temperature after Aspidospermine does not stand in direct relation to the size of the dose, which more influenced the rapidity of the sinking than its degree. But the rapidity of its elimination has to do with it, as in salivation the sinking was less. Hypoquebrachine also reduced the temperature; Quebrachine to a less degree.

Eloy and Huchord,* who investigated the action of Aspidospermine, Aspidospermatine, Quebrachine and Hypoquebrachine, have found it to have no action upon the mammalia as regards sensibility, but which, however, seemed reduced by the sediments from these alkaloids. Aspidospermine and Quebrachine, in some cases, increased the excitability of the phrenic nerve. As to motor nerves, they found Aspidospermine to produce, in small doses, trembling; in larger, convulsions; and in yet larger, rapid paralysis. All the other alkaloids had a paralytic action—Quebrachine acted more energetically and rapidly; the remaining alkaloids less so than Aspidospermine. The remains of the extract, free from alkaloids, also paralyzed, but produced convulsions. It is peculiar that hoarseness and aphonia are produced by the use of Aspidospermine, which *Eloy and Huchord* think due to a paralysis of the muscles of the vocal cords. Hypoquebrachine and Quebrachine had no influence upon circulation. Aspidospermine slows it; Aspidospermatine accelerates it. Quebrachine and Aspidospermatine do not influence the respirations, Hypoquebrachine only slightly, while Aspidospermine increases, for hours, the depth and frequency of the respirations, and large doses of the latter cause arhythmenia of the respirations. It is striking that the costal respiration is more rapidly or stronger attacked than the abdominal, so that the number of respirations is increased by 1:2 of the former, and 1:15 of the latter.

Hypoquebrachine and Aspidospermatine cause diuresis and diarrhœa, Quebrachine increased urination, and Aspidospermine salivation in dogs and increased diuresis in Guinea pigs and rabbits. The residue of the alkaloids was seen to be more poisonous than any single alkaloid; Quebrachine, Hypoquebrachine and Aspidospermatine more poisonous than Aspidospermine.

* *Eloy (Ch.) et A. Huchord, L'écorce et le principes actifs des Quebracho blanco. —Arch. de Physiol. Norm. et Pathol. noécot 3, p. 237, 1886.*

THREE CASES.

THE following interesting cases are from the Polyclinic of the Central Society, reported in the *Allgemeine Hom. Zeitung*:

CASE I.—A young woman of twenty-four years of age, otherwise healthy and without any disposition to sickness, was, fifteen months ago, delivered of her first child. In confinement she contracted mastitis, which turned into suppuration. The abscess was lanced by her physician and emptied, but the opening would not close in spite of all surgical and external means applied, and a thin ichorous fluid continued to form, so that the presence of a fistula could not be doubted. She received *Silicea 30*, a powder every other evening, and, after fourteen days, the opening was closed and the fistula healed and remained so. It would be difficult for the greatest skeptic to attribute, in this case, the cure to any other circumstances.

CASE II.—Meta K., aged nine and a half years, daughter of a merchant, came under our treatment after she had been under allopathic treatment for over one year. The anæmic-looking child, of delicate constitution, suffered, since her fourth year, from rachitic appearances, eruptions and swellings of the glands. These disappeared in course of time, with the exception of two carious ulcers on the sternum and a large swelling of the joint-ends of the upper part of the thigh bone. In consequence of this the lower part of the thigh was in an inflected position, and the knee-joint was almost ankylosed, so that the child could only creep, and had to be carried. There were no pains present. The suppuration of the carious bone swelling was as usual. The mark remaining from a previous bone swelling was yet deep, which is considered a sign of the continuance of the carious processes. There were no essential or characteristic symptoms present except a certain want of appetite. The patient was given, first of all, *Calc. carb. 30*, six globules, morning and evening, then one daily, then every other evening, and so forth, with longer intermissions for four months. After an intermission of one month we changed to *Silicea 30*, a few pellets every evening. The result is, that the bone swellings are entirely cured, and the existing marks have become flat, and that the raised joint-ends have been so diminished as to make the knee-joints again movable, and the lower thigh so straight that she can step already on one-half of the sole of her feet. The child thereby looks blooming, is cheerful, and develops a healthy appetite. We hope to procure for the diseased extremity at least the appropriate normal length by using a proper extension machine.

CASE III.—The third case is that of a likewise scrofulous girl of about four years of age, in whom the disease manifested itself, espe-

cially in swollen glands, eruptions and a certain vulnerability of the skin, and the usual concomitants, such as wilfulness and fretfulness, were developed in a high degree. The investigation showed the presence of a swollen and suppurating gland, for over a year, in the left axilla, a few gland-scars, a hard, painful scar on the left elbow, as well as dryness of the skin and very changeable appetite. Cod-liver oil and useless surgical measures were the weapons used, up to this time, to combat the affliction. The child was brought to us on account of a violent pseudo-erysipelas of the left lower arm, which was soon removed by Belladonna 6. Thereby encouraged, the mother asked us to treat the child for her other affliction. She received, first, Calc. carb. 30, two to three globules daily; later, Silicea 6, three drops, three times daily; then one dose of Sulphur 30 as an intermediate remedy; after which, again Silicea 30 every evening. After using these remedies for several months, there was observed, first of all, a favorable change, in so far as the wilfulness of the child disappeared gradually. She became cheerful and visibly stronger. The axilla-gland also diminished gradually, the suppuration ceased, and, after five months' treatment, closed entirely. The child looks blooming, is lively and strong, and her appetite is all that can be asked for. Whether the cure is a complete and lasting one, the future must tell, as sometimes, after years, the breaking out of scrofulous and rachitic sores prove that the disease germ in the body is not destroyed completely.

MULLEIN OIL.

By WM. C. WELLS, M.D., HESPERIA, MICH.

THE application of Mullein oil is of more general application than anything I have found in print. I report to you some cases:

CASE I.—Mertie B., aged sixteen. Called to see her May 20, 1888. Found her suffering great pain in right ear. Parotid gland very much enlarged and painful. The right side of the head and face much swollen. Pulse about 100; tongue coated.

Treatment.—Mullein oil in the ear, and used as a liniment twice daily on the swollen parts. For the fever, Aconite. Great improvement during the first twenty-four hours, and on the 23d found the case convalescent.

CASE II.—Carrie H., aged twenty-two. Her second child four weeks old. Called November 15, 1888. Right breast inflamed and sore. Two weeks previous it had been lanced by another physician, a little above the nipple, but now a place a little below and to the left of the nipple gives evidence of forming pus. I told her that in my judgment it had gone too far to check it then.

Treatment.—Mullein oil, one-half ounce in four ounces of water. Wet cloths and apply. The inflammation and soreness disappeared in one week, and by the use of the same remedy occasionally has entirely recovered without breaking. Her husband, when he paid me, said: "Well, you have done better than any of the rest of the doctors."

CASE III.—Linford S., aged sixty-four. Called to see him September 20, 1888. Has just recovered from typhoid fever, but is able to be around. Taken with inflammation of the right testicle. Swollen to the size of a goose egg, and much pain. Red and shining appearance of the skin. Cause unknown, unless it was in connection with chronic enlargement of prostate gland.

Treatment.—Mullein oil applied twice daily as a liniment. Mercurius sol. internally. In three days the soreness and pain had entirely disappeared, but the enlargement continued several days. He walked around with ease three or four days before swelling had diminished any.

CASE IV.—F. C., aged thirty. Called November 16, 1888. Found inflammation of left kidney and of left testicle. Had been under treatment by another doctor and had recovered partially, but relapsed. Suffering much with pain in testicle, which ran up the spermatic cord and through to the left kidney.

Treatment.—Cantharis and Aconite, as there was some fever. Mullein oil applied to the testicle. Rapid improvement during the first twenty-four hours, and made a quick recovery.

I have also cured a case of chronic inflammation of the eyes, and a case of chilblains from which the patient had suffered, during the winter, for about six years. . . .

Every drug has its exact range. This one being new to the profession, we are just learning what it will do. In all these cases the Mullein oil has had an outward application twice daily.

[Enough provings have not been made to develop the full symptomatology of Mullein oil, but its chief sphere seems to be in urinary troubles. Clinically it has proven of the greatest value in that affliction of children so trying to both friends and physician, viz., *nocturnal enuresis*. Prof. Moffatt, of New York, has reported several cases of this sort in which the common remedies, Belladonna, Hyoseyamus, Causticum, Pulsatilla, Sepia and Sulphur, had failed, but which were promptly cured or very much improved by Mullein oil. It is also said to be highly serviceable in affections of the ear—applied externally—due to inspissated cerumen or dryness of the drum-membrane. It should be prepared from the blossoms—*Verbascum* is simply the alcoholic tincture obtained from parts of the green plant. Boericke & Tafel make a reliable preparation of it, and if any of our readers have had experience with the drug we will be glad to hear from them.—Editor of *Medical Counselor*.]

A New Diuretic in Heart Diseases.—To the indefatigable activity of Prof. Germain See, especially in this branch, we owe a new valuable remedy for persons affected with heart disease. The following is a *résumé* of his communications to the Academy of Medicine of Paris :

Milk is one of the best known diuretics. For a long time it has been the principal remedy in the treatment of stomach and heart diseases. But it so happens that sometimes patients refuse this beverage and fail to digest it on account of its massy coagulation in the stomach. For this reason a succedaneum has been looked for and *milk-sugar* has been thought of which, indeed, has given very satisfactory results. This substance, the other elements of milk (salts, fats, caseine) being excluded, has the greatest influence on urinary secretion. In doses of 2 litres milk increases diuresis; this is quite certain. On the other hand, in doses of 4 litres it causes glycosuria, a transient diabetes and a considerable secretion of urates, *i.e.*, a kind of disnutrition, a beginning inanition.

Milk-sugar allows us to avoid these inconveniences. In *doses of 100 grams per diem*, a powerful diuretic effect is obtained, more powerful than with 4.5 litres of milk. With it there is no more glycosuria, no more azoturia, for the sugar remains in the blood and the albuminates are not eliminated from the body. Two litres of a milk-sugar solution are equal in their effect to 4 litres of milk.

By the application of milk-sugar (100 grams per day), a polyuria may be produced which will soon exceed 2.5 litres per day, reach 4.5 litres on the third day, remain stationary for some time and then recede to 2.5 litres.

Milk-sugar, therefore, has a positive action on dropsy in heart diseases. Is this true also for dropsy in diseases of the kidneys? See doubts it. As a rule, the remedy is well supported. It is prescribed for *eight to ten days*. This is sufficient to produce a real dephlegnation of the blood and a kind of dessication of the tissues. After a few days of interruption it may be repeated.

In fact, milk-sugar is a physiological diuretic which acts more strongly on the kidneys than *Strophantus* and *Digitalis*, especially on dropsy in heart diseases.—*Proceedings of the Academy of Medicine of Paris*, June 11, 1889.

Infantile Diarrhœa.—JULY 2d, Mrs. S— applied for treatment for her infant, aged nine months. The child was weaned at eight months upon the advice of some "old grannies," as the mother thought (?) herself again pregnant, although the child was doing splendidly.

After weaning, the child was fed on cow's milk, and any and *everything* it would eat. The period being that of dentition, and in

connection with the kind of food it was receiving, and the weather not being at all conducive to good health, a severe and very debilitating diarrhœa set in the second week after weaning. The symptoms were as follows: Bowels move several times, at short intervals, just as soon as child wakens in the morning, from 5 to 5.30 o'clock, then moving but once or twice until next morning; stool very large, watery, yellow, painless, odorless; child looks old and careworn, with peevish tendency.

Treatment.—Podophyllum 6x tinct., a powder every two hours, and change diet to Alpine Cream-Milk, to be given according to printed directions.

July 27th.—Bowels are regular, appetite good, child looks healthy and vigorous. The *peculiar* point to me in the above case is the *very decided* time of aggravation; then the bowels move several times in quick succession, then nothing more is heard of the trouble until next morning, *always beginning when child wakes up*. The generally accepted and verified time of aggravation under this remedy is, "In the morning; in the night; during hot weather," yet very different from above case.

Then the Podophyllum stool is always supposed to be *very offensive*, but in this case stools odorless. In this case, when I first looked at patient, I at once thought of that "old reliable," Argent. nit., as the child presented that old, withered look, most remarkable in the *limbs*, instead of "legs," under Argent. nit.

Question: Would child have regained its health by simply changing its diet, without medicine? Or, did the change in diet assist in its own way the curative action of the drug?—L. L. Helt, in *Am. Homœopath.*

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

A Case of Asthma.

EDITOR OF HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

The writer of this is not a doctor, nor a veterinarian either, nor—what would you call a bird doctor? At any rate, our Don had a bad attack of asthma, if I am not astray in my diagnosis; he would wheeze in his breathing and often sneeze; the wheezing was especially noticeable in the morning, or after a rapid flight around the room. Don, I should say, is a full-blooded canary with a mind of his own; he loves his friends with a lively affection, and he cannot, apparently, scold enough to express his hostility when any one he dislikes approaches his cage. The asthma grew worse and the bird's

voice was much impaired. I heard from a friend who discovered it—I don't know when or how—that *Corallium rubrum* would cure asthma in birds. I got a vial of it in 3d trituration and gave some to Don; had no need to put it in the water-cup, as he greedily picked up all given him. The next morning after the first dose his asthmatic breathing was much less noticeable, and in a few days it had passed away entirely, and Don's voice can be heard all over the house now. *

Calving.—The *Hom. World* furnishes the following interesting item: "Farmers are looking with more favor on the homœopathic treatment of cows. Mr. George Simpson, of Wray Park, the well-known raiser of Jersey cattle, is one, and his mode of treating cows cannot fail to be interesting, not to say useful. To an inquiry how he treated a cow suffering from milk fever, he replied: 'We do not now use Aconite before calving, but give 10 drops in 2 ounces of water twenty minutes after calving, and repeat in two hours; then 10 drops of Belladonna, and keep on giving first Aconite and then Belladonna every two hours for twenty-four hours, then drop to every four hours till about thirty-six hours after calving, and then discontinue altogether. We never wait for symptoms, but treat all cows alike, not heifers. If the cow shows signs of mischief we give the medicines every hour, and sometimes oftener; then we drop the Belladonna for a bit and give only Aconite. After a bad case we give them every four hours, about three doses in all, as a tonic.' From the number of applications which Mr. Simpson receives, there is evidently a strong desire to try the homœopathic treatment."

Lame Horse Cured.—Last winter (1888-89) Mr. D., a Chester County, Pa., mill owner and farmer, was engaged in repairing and strengthening his mill-dam. He employed two horses in hauling the necessary stones and timber. While pulling a heavy load one of the horses slipped on the icy ground and badly sprained his hip. None of the ordinary remedies usually employed in such cases did any good, and summer came and the horse was still lame; after a long rest he was especially so, and also if worked too hard, for he was worked to some extent. Early in the fall one of Mr. D.'s sons, who had some knowledge of homœopathy, visited his parents and heard the story of the lame horse and saw his symptoms. These, in his judgment, indicated *Rhus tox.*, and he prescribed that remedy, 3x, twice a day for two weeks; great improvement. He then changed to the 30th of same remedy. In a month the cure was complete. One noticeable feature of the case was that after improvement set in, a hard lump, about the size of a walnut, grew out under the skin over the joint sprained, but, without breaking, it went away again when cure was complete.

Hide-Bound.—Homœopathic veterinary works speak of this trouble as a symptom of some disease, and give but slight, if any, treatment for it. If it is but a symptom it certainly is a very decided one. In vol. i. (1846) of the *Transactions* we find the following in Dr. Jacob Jeane's paper on *Lobelia inflata*: "A Charles Whitlaw tells, in the London *Lancet*, a queer story about hide-bound cattle seeking and eating the *Lobelia inflata*, becoming salivated, and then getting well." This is all to the point in question, and it is quoted from a treatise by Dr. Alphons Noack, of Leipsic (1841), on *Lobelia inflata*. This mere hint we accidentally stumbled across in that fine old work—for vol. i. of the *Transactions* deserves the name—and reproduce it here in the hope that some reader having a hopelessly hide-bound horse or cow may give it some heroic doses of this remedy and report the result to the RECORDER. *Apropos* of heroic doses, Thompson, the old Thompsonian Thompson, terror of the youth in by-gone days, who claims to have given the world this remedy, relates the following: While a boy he discovered the properties of *Lobelia* and "used to induce other boys to chew it, merely by way of sport, to see them vomit." One day—he must have been older then—"when mowing in the field with a number of men I cut a sprig of it, and gave to the man next to me, who ate it; when we had got to the end of the piece, which was about six rods, he said he believed what I had given him would kill him, for he never felt so in his life. I looked at him, and saw that he was in a most profuse perspiration, being wet all over as he could be; he trembled very much, and there was no more color in him than a corpse." A most lively vomiting followed and some two hours afterwards he said "he never had anything to do him so much good in his life; his appetite was remarkably good, and he felt better than he had for a long time." This also is from Dr. Jeane's paper, and while it has nothing to do with hide-bound cattle, we could not refrain from quoting it.

Quarter Crack—Equine.—Herr O. had me called to a horse which had suddenly gotten quarter cracks upon the inner side of the fore hoofs. On examination I found the fissure to extend from the edge of the hoof to the border of the hair. The edge of the corona was torn, and bled somewhat. This was the condition of both hoofs. The animal was quite lame, and could scarcely be induced to come out of the stall. I had two small linen cushions, provided with broad straps, and had them dipped into Arnica-water (1 tablespoonful to a litre of lukewarm water), laid upon the diseased parts and bound on by means of the broad straps. These cushions were moistened five or six times daily. Then the hoof was kept soft by means of an Arnica hoof-salve, rubbed in. Dur-

ing the process of treatment the horse was kept tied up well and highly, and was not let to lie down. Internally, I had Scilla 3x four times daily, given in doses of 10 drops. After about ten days the crack above was seen to be nearly healed, and the process of healing was seen to be progressing distinctly. As the owner of the horse was obliged to use the animal then as a buggy-horse, I had closed shoes put upon the horse's feet, and the seam filled with wax so that no dirt could penetrate into it. Thus the animal remained continually in use; the compresses and the inunctions were still applied daily while the animal was at rest, and after about seven weeks the two hoof-cracks were nicely healed. They will entirely disappear when the hoof will have grown down further.—F. Fischer, in *Ztschr. für Hom. Thierheilkunde*, 1888.

On the Epizootic Aborting of Cows.—The epizootic aborting of cows has already been described, and its infectious character determined. Brauer recommends a method of treatment which has been given a long and faithful trial. It consists in the subcutaneous injection of 2 to 3 Pravaz syringes full of a 2 per cent. solution of Carbolic acid every fourteen days, at the time between the 5th and 7th month. The results obtained by him by this method were extremely favorable, and he quotes a series of cases successfully treated in his own and others' practice.

As regards the cause, he thinks the condition is one of general infection, and the micro-organisms (pathogenetic) are only secondarily localized in the placenta. He finds a confirmation of this in his success in treating the disease by his method, for the small amount of Carbolic acid introduced into the circulation is sufficient to so influence the micro-organisms' soil, or change the conditions so that development of the same is prevented.—*Zeitschritte der Medicin*, Bd. 7, 1889.

Veterinary Practice.—Herr Baron v. K. asked me to examine a horse, which he had possessed for some time. It stopped eating a few days ago, seems to have appetite, but it is impossible for it to chew. Besides, it trembles often, as if it would have fever and would not move from the spot during riding, but seems rather exhausted. An examination of the horse in the stable of the gentleman revealed the following: The horse stood with the head hanging down, showed no inclination to eat, but increased thirst. Respiration somewhat increased, pulse 70 (per minute), temperature 40° C. The temperature of the body was increased warm, the mouth hot, and if one introduced his hand into the mouth it seemed to be disagreeable to him. The mucous membrane of the mouth was found hot and dry; the palate reached over the incisor-teeth. Fæces small, formed

into balls, and dry, dark-brown—secretion of urine decreased in frequency. The skin showed itself to be dry, closely adjacent to the subcutaneous tissue, and stiff.

This condition of the horse was incomprehensible to the possessor, and a veterinary surgeon, consulted by the servant, had already diagnosed this condition to be pneumonia, and ordered inunction in the region of the ribs, which was, however, not allowed to be followed out by the owner. Internally he had prescribed: *R.* Tart. stibiat, 2.0; *Dispensatur tales doses X, viz.:* Tartar emetic, 2 gr. (?) Of such powders ten pieces were to be made; the horse was to receive one powder with a little water every two hours.

I abstain from any criticism of this treatment and leave it to the judgment of the reader.

The powders were not administered, but Herr v. K. consulted me now. It was easily stated that we had to deal with a febrile condition, but it could not be foretold what the consequence would be. That no pneumonia was present was evident, but my experience told me that such a condition precedes often an exanthem.

In order to reduce the fever no better remedy than *Aconit. napellus* could have been given. It is the first remedy which must be always employed in all disturbances of the circulation, and has proven to be of especial value in febrile exanthemata. I prescribed *Aconit napellus*, on account of the very acute condition, in the first decimal dilution, 10 drops in a little water, every hour. In addition to this, rest in the stable and partial darkening of the same. I gave pure water to the patient *ad libitum*, and had it often renewed. On the next afternoon, when I visited the patient again, I found the same much quieter; pulse 45, respiration normal, fæces of a brownish color and covered with mucus, temperature (in the rectum) 37° C. From the mouth ran a thick mucus, and on examination of it I found the mucous membrane of the same covered with small and larger vesicles. I now prescribed *Aconit. 3 dil.* with *Acid. nitricum 3 dil.*, in alternation, every two hours. On the next day most of the vesicles had discharged their contents, and small open spots could be observed. The condition of the animal was perfectly vivacious, only the food could be digested but slowly. Temperature and pulse were now normal. *Aconitum* was discontinued; but *Acid. nitricum* continued in three-hour intervals. The course was now a normal one; after eight days the patient was discharged from the treatment and was ridden on the next day by its possessor.—H. Fischer, in *Zeitschr. für Hom. Thierheilkunde*, 15, 1889.)

P. AND P.

Basedow's Disease in Animals.—Jewsejuka, after giving a review of the symptoms which Basedow's disease presents in man, describes two cases, one in a horse and one in a dog.

The dog showed symptoms which were taken for epilepsy; epileptic spasms with consequent anæmia and excitability, constantly lying down, frequent groaning, temperature 39° C., palpitation of the heart and increased pulse-rate; in the region of the base of the heart a sougling with a metallic sound, slight swelling of the right portion of the thyroid gland, an urticaria-like eruption over the whole body, diarrhœa and loss of appetite. It was much improved by proper treatment for about three weeks. The symptoms respectively disappeared, but returned with renewed violence especially the palpitation; the thyroid gland began to increase into a firm and compact tumor, and both eyes began to protrude from their sockets. By the internal application of Kali jodide with a salve of Kali jodide and Belladonna externally, and injections of Iodine into the thyroid gland, recovery took place in about two months.

The second case was that of a race-horse, which, after a violent exertion upon the race-track, suddenly took sick, exhibiting but increased thirst, loss of appetite and weakness at first. The veterinary surgeon, later called in, found, with a temperature of 39.8° C., violent palpitation of the heart, increased respiration, swelling of the thyroid gland, œdematous swelling of the eyelids, and decreased sharpness of sensorium, and diagnosed a brain disease. A consultation with three other veterinary surgeons diagnosed a distinct exophthalmos, immobility of the eyes, a tumor-like enlargement of the thyroid gland, sougling, systolic murmur at the base of the heart, small pulse, temperature 41.1° C., etc. Death. *Post-mortem* examination unfortunately not performed.—*Fortschritte der Medicin*, April 15, 1889.)

P. AND P.

LETTER FROM DR. YINGLING.

NONCHALANTA, KAN., November 25, 1889.

MESSRS. BOERICKE & TAFEL, Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen: I send herewith one dollar for the HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER for 1890.

The RECORDER gives me much information. I like the veterinary department.

My herd of cattle was taken with the mange last spring, and every hoof was almost a solid scab from horns to tail. I gave them an ounce of *Sulphur 3x* in my tank containing about 35 barrels of water. Three doses effectually cured the herd. My work-horse was taken with sore eyes; *Euphrasia 3x* cured. *Nux vom. 3x* cured the rough hair and general decline and indigestion of my driving-mare. A fine cow aborted; placenta retained; hollow eyes; high fever; *Puls. 3x* in a few hours cured. A choice calf had diarrhœa; sunken eyes; excessive weakness; dirty yellow, offensive discharge; all

said it would die. *Arsen. alb.* 3x cured in a couple of days. Calf became the largest of the herd. I depend on homœopathy for all such cases; it never fails me.

Yours truly,

W. A. YINGLING.

BOOK NOTICES.

Eating for Strength; or, Food and Diet in their Relation to Health and Work, Together with Several Hundred Recipes for Wholesome Foods and Drinks. By M. L. Holbrook, M.D. New York. 1888.

Dr. Holbrook is known in the book world through his *Parturition Without Pain*, published in 1871. The object of his latest work, *Eating for Strength*, is to present the most recent facts of science concerning food "in a way to make them valuable for actual use in daily life. There is no doubt but man may double his capacity for work and for enjoyment by improving his dietetic habits. Many have already done this, and multitudes more are only waiting for the knowledge which will help them to do it." To impart that knowledge is the object of this book. It is on the same line as the works of Luigi Cornaro, written four hundred years ago—more scientific and less poetic, but teaching the same lesson, *i.e.*, that nearly all our physical ills spring from excess in eating. The good prohibitionist will be shocked to learn that his methods of promoting temperance are but vanity and vexation of spirit, for, acquired habits aside, the craving for stimulants is the result, according to Dr. Holbrook, of excessive indulgence in the wrong sort of food. Those who want to know what is the right sort must go to the book itself. If the advice is followed, the American nation need not fear cheap Chinese labor, for a Buffalo, N. Y., gentleman relates his experience, covering six years, of living on a diet that costs him from two to twelve cents a day, and "there is not wealth enough in the State to hire me to eat and drink as do the average of mankind." The chapter on fruits, and the beneficial effects of the use of ripe fruit in diseases where the average doctor prohibits them, is well worth considering by the medical profession. The book teaches many valuable lessons in diet, and all will admire the beauties of dietetic temperance, but few will follow them. When the man of the present, as did he of the past, gets wolfishly hungry, he wants beefsteak, and not bread and apples—and is going to have it. But notwithstanding that, the book is a good one for every one to read, for dietetic intemperance is worse than drink intemperance. (The book contains 246 pages; retails for \$1; postage, 9 cents. Net price to physicians, postpaid, 89 cents.)

Consumption: Its Cause and Nature. By Rollin R. Gregg, M.D. To which is added the Therapeutics of Tuberculous Affections; by H. C. Allen, M.D., Ann Arbor. 1889. 477 pages.

This work is copyrighted by Hattie E. Gregg, wife of the author, deceased, and, we are informed, published for her benefit. In the preface the author says: "Strangely enough, in all the investigations and considerations of the subject, it seems never to have occurred to any one to account for anything in consumption but the tubercle; and yet there are many serious and alarming accompaniments of the disease which are only secondary to the tubercle in their ominous indications, and which, indeed, are sometimes just as serious in what they mean." These indications, which rather precede than accompany the tubercle, are "the great emaciation" which appears even while the patient still eats heartily and digests well, the "too watery blood," "the night-sweats," "the fatty liver," "the scrofulously enlarged joints and the thickened, curved and ridged finger-nails, besides other things that are quite as characteristic of the consumptive subject as almost anything else in his disease, but which, it is reported, nobody seems ever to have thought of taking into account, or, at least, of accounting for the cause, in the many theories of tubercle." By a knowledge and mastery of these fore-runners of the final symptom, the physician may hope to successfully combat it. In the first paragraph of Chapter I. occurs the following: "I am now prepared to reaffirm, even more positively than ever before, that the *cause* of consumption is a loss of albumen from the blood through irritated and abraded mucous membranes." Italics are Dr. Gregg's. The first 179 pages are devoted to establishing the theory we have so briefly outlined, and to a general view of the treatment of the disease, for which there is "a rational ground for hope" that a large majority of the cases are curable. The "inhaling remedies" are absolutely and unequivocally condemned. "The lungs were made to inhale air and nothing else. And he who violates this organic principle of nature will surely be made to pay the penalty." The remainder of the work is "The Therapeutics," by Dr. Allen, the "Repertory" occupying 105 pages. The book is very well printed, large type and good paper. (The price is \$4 net. Cloth. Postage, 20 cents.)

Counsel to Parents, and How to Save the Baby. By I. D. Johnson, M.D. 1889.

This is a new book by the writer of the well-known *Johnson's Therapeutic Key*. It is dedicated "To the Woman's Christian Temperance Union." The author, in his preface, says of the work:

“The subjects brought forth are of paramount importance not only to parents, but to all classes of society, and especially to the *youth* who, through ignorance of the information it imparts, are making wrecks of themselves physically and mentally. It discusses the marital relations, points out the sin of sexual excesses, exposes the common vices of youth, and warns the offender of his impending doom.” There is a great deal of practical advice on the management and feeding of infants in the book that will make it of great value, especially to young mothers. What is said about over-feeding infants, and of offering them pure cool water regularly to quench their thirst, is golden, and, if followed, would doubtless lessen the infant mortality. But the “hints” to young women and men about to marry are—well, in brief, here they are: Young woman, don’t marry a man who uses tobacco, who drinks any kind of alcoholic liquor, who is lustful, an invalid, is stingy, a “dude,” or who is under twenty-three years of age. Young men are advised not to marry a woman whose temperament is very similar to his own, who has a small waist, pale, delicate, of a family tainted with consumption or epilepsy, and, finally, “never marry a woman without first telling her everything you know about yourself.” If this advice were to be faithfully followed by all men and women, the shade of Malthus could rest tranquil. (The book contains 224 pages, and sells for \$1. Net to physicians, post-paid, 86 cents.)

Dr. E. R. Ellis has brought out a new edition, the seventeenth thousand, of Dr. John Ellis’s popular *Family Homœopathy*. The author long since gave up practice for the more lucrative business of manufacturing lubricating oils, but allows others to bring out his works, two of which, until recently, were out of print, *i.e.*, *Family Homœopathy* and *Avoidable Causes of Disease*. Both are obtainable now, and the price of each is \$1.50, less .20 to the profession. The present edition of *Family Homœopathy* has a picture of the author for frontispiece.

Drs. Boericke and Dewey promise us a new edition, the second, of their well-known work, *The Twelve Tissue Remedies*. This new edition is to be new, not only in name, but in fact as well, as it will be “entirely rewritten, containing everything pertaining to these remedies and the biochemical method published up to date.” The new edition will be ready about February 1st.

Dr. Wm. Boericke is at work on a new American edition of Ruddock’s *Stepping Stones*, which will be improved and enlarged by the addition of the *Tissue Remedies*.

A new edition of *Lilienthal’s Homœopathic Therapeutics* will soon be forthcoming.

PUBLISHERS' DEPARTMENT.

ACCORDING to our usual custom, subscription blanks are put in all the copies of this, the first number of Vol. V., by the binders. Those who have already paid for the volume in question hold receipts for same, and are not called upon to take any notice of these blanks. Those who have not paid, and who wish to receive the RECORDER regularly, will, we trust, fill them out and make prompt remittance. If more convenient, subscriptions may be paid at any of Boericke & Tafel's pharmacies in person.

A Lost Remedy.—During the summer of 1888, while the yellow fever was prevailing in Florida, a physician inquired at Messrs. Boericke & Tafel's Arch Street, Philadelphia, pharmacy for a remedy the name of which he did not know, nor any particulars concerning it further than that he had once read a paper in which it was stated that the unknown remedy had been used in Cuba with most remarkable results in the treatment of yellow fever. Inquiry into the matter was rewarded by the following items, furnished by Dr. E. Fornias, of Philadelphia:

“It was in 1873 that I heard of the wonderful cures of yellow fever (*Vomito Negro*) made by a remedy discovered by Dr. Victor Iturralde. I wrote to a brother-in-law of mine, who was then Commissary of War at Santiago de Cuba, and through his influence obtained a supply of the remedy from Father Callejas; but I left Cuba shortly afterwards, and have never had a chance to test it.

“The history of the remedy is as follows: The day before leaving for Spain, on account of ill-health, Dr. Iturralde placed in the hands of the venerable Father Callejas some of this remedy to try in the terrible disease, and at the same time said that it was made from a plant growing in Cuba, and carefully prepared by him. He refused to give its name, stating that the twenty-two cases he had treated, without a single death, was not, in his estimation, sufficient proof of the curative power of the drug. Dr. Iturralde begged Dr. Callejas to employ the medicine during the then prevailing epidemic, and, after exchanging views in regard to the success obtained, he would then give the name of the plant, and announce its virtues to the medical world. Unfortunately, however, Dr. Iturralde died shortly after arriving at his native land, and carried with him to the grave his secret.

“In the meantime, Dr. Callejas (for he was a doctor), associated with Dr. Navarro, Dr. Giron and Dr. Avilés, obtained wonderful results. The last of these alone treated *one hundred and three cases* at

the Charity Hospital with *only two deaths*—one, who was admitted in a dying condition, the other, from excess in diet during convalescence. Father Callejas, in his great enthusiasm, goes so far as to proclaim it a sure *prophylactic*.”

This is about all that is known concerning this lost remedy. If it could be found again, and would bear out the claims made for it, the discovery would be an epoch in medicine. The only known supply is that mentioned by Dr. Fornias, which has been run up in dilutions, but is too high, probably, for proving. We publish this in the hope that a wider knowledge of the facts may lead to the hoped-for discovery.

A Growing Fad.—The trick of showing up the inconsistencies of the medical profession seems to be a growing one. A year ago, it will be remembered, one of the “great dailies” of Chicago got off the abortion sensation, and plumed itself on its virtue, no doubt—how benignantly Mephistopheles must smile when a “great daily,” after lugging some moral or physical nastiness to light, poses as a “moral” agent.

Then a New York paper turned its female reporter, Nellie Bly, loose on the M.D.’s of that town. The Nellie Bly of the old song used to shut her eye, but the latter day Nellie shut the doctors’ eyes. She wanted a prescription for a bad cold, and got a dozen of them and then published them, and each one was different, as a matter of course, for they were all Regular.

And now comes Dr. S. E. Chapman, of California, who has spent time and money to demonstrate that the regulars are, in reality, irregular—regular guerrillas, in fact. He wrote a letter detailing certain symptoms, and asking for a prescription for them, and sent a copy of it to ten prominent homœopathic physicians in various parts of the country, and to an equal number of the regulars or, as he calls them, the allopaths. In each letter he inclosed two dollars to pay for the prescription. The ten homœopaths promptly replied, and every one of them prescribed *Lycopodium*. Of the others, one refused to prescribe without seeing the patient, another made no reply, while the eight others sent in eight different prescriptions. One gentleman certainly earned his money; he gave a prescription to be taken before meals, one after meals, and two, if needed, before bed-time. These four are made up of Cinchona, Gentian, ac. hydrochlor. dil., pepsin, Bismuth subnit., Pulv. glycyrrh., Aloe socotrine, Podophyllin, Ipecacuanha, Nux vomica, Hyoscyami and Colocynth. Among the others we note, in addition to the foregoing drugs, Peristaltic lozenges, Ac. muriatic dil., Syrup aurantii, Lady Webster’s Dinner Pills, Salicin quin. sulph., Aloin, Lactopeptine, Aqua cinnamon, Strychnia Sulph., Quinine sulph., Pil. Rhei Co., Potassii cit., and Sodii phos.

A number of these remedies appear twice. It is but fair to add that one of the homœopathic prescribers remarked to us that the symptoms were so plain that no homœopathic doctor could mistake them. But this only makes it plainer to all that the paths of homœopathy are so regular and clear that no one can "err therein," while those of the regulars are such a maze that no two can walk side by side in them, but must constantly cross each others tracks while seeking a common goal. No wonder the demand for homœopathic text-books and medicines is increasing among physicians of other schools.

Jamaica.—In a letter we recently received from the Rev. E. E. Reinke, Hope, Spur Tree P. O., Jamaica, West Indies, occurs the following: "There are plenty of plants here in this beautiful and tropical island that could be proved to advantage, having long been used as 'simples;' beautiful climate and scenery, steam transport, etc. Some of the American Institute men should be deputed to investigate, or some of the hard-worked doctors should come here to recuperate and botanize."

If any of our readers want to take a run to the tropics, doubtless Mr. Reinke would be glad to correspond with them, and the RECORDER to chronicle anything of interest to homœopathy they should find in the land of endless summer. Opposite to the name of the remedy *Calotropis*, in an order for medicines, Mr. Reinke puts the following note: "For leprosy—I have tried it, and found it good."

Nuphar Lutea.—This old remedy, the yellow pond lily, is worth considering in reference to its action on the sexual organs. It is claimed for Nuphar, by the eclectics, that it allays abnormal sexual excitement and irritation, is valuable in spermatorrhœa and, in strong doses, controls satyriasis and nymphomania, and will often cure prostaticorrhœa after other remedies have failed. Allen's *Hand-book* says nothing of the remedy, but his *Encyclopædia* gives a proving by Dr. Pitet (*Journ. de la Soc. Gal.*). In the part relating to "sexual organs," we find the following: "Complete absence of sexual desire; penis retracted; scrotum relaxed (eighth day). Entire absence of erections and sexual desires; *the voluptuous ideas which fill the imagination do not cause erection* (tenth day). Continued absence of erections and sexual appetite (eighteenth day). Diminution of lascivious thoughts and the sexual inclination for some ten days; opposite effects during the succeeding days."

Farrington only mentions it once, in five lines, and says it "seems to cause nervous weakness."

Hering does not mention it.

Hale, *New Remedies*, says it "has been used in medicine by all nations." Also "The ancient physicians, among them Dioscorides

and Pliny, mention the depressing action of this plant on the generative functions."

Dr. Petit, who proved the remedy, reports a number of clinical cases where he employed *Nuphar*. One of these was "a patient convalescing from typhoid fever, whose feeble state was aggravated by nocturnal emissions." These gradually diminished and disappeared under a few doses of *Nuphar* 6, for several evenings. Another case reported was that of a man who for nine years had suffered from involuntary seminal losses during sleep, at stool and when urinating; he was pale and languid; he took *Nuphar* (strength not stated), two doses a day for thirty days. "His paleness diminished, his general weakness disappeared by degrees, and his digestive functions took a new start; at the same time the pollutions ceased, erections came on, accompanied by a decided propensity for the generative act, and before the thirtieth day of the treatment he was able to satisfy it with success and without fatigue." The remaining cases are those of "morning diarrhœa" in which *Nuphar* is eminently successful.

Hughes only speaks of *Nuphar* in connection with morning diarrhœa.

Such in substance is about all we can find concerning this remedy. It is an imported mother tincture.

Melilotus Alba.—Dr. Bowen (*Medical Advance*), finds *Melilotus* to be a most valuable remedy for insanity. He prescribed it in all cases to reduce the hyperæmic condition of the brain, thinking he would use the indicated remedy as soon as acute congestion was removed, but found that *Melilotus* cured the entire train of mental symptoms and restored the patient to health.

Apples.—In Holbrook's new book, *Eating for Strength*, we find the following quoted from Joel Benton: "Curiously enough, the apple has a very pertinent relation to the brain, stimulating its life and its activity which it does by its immense endowment of phosphorus, in which element it is said to be richer than anything else in the vegetable kingdom. But phosphorus is not only brain-supporting; it is *light-bringing*, and thus contributes to knowledge. The apple follows the belt of civilization, the zone of intellect, or else is followed by it."

The Old Story.—We take the following from a letter from Kansas: "Please send me one copy of Wm. J. Guernsey's Card Repertory on Diphtheria. We are having a serious siege of diphtheria, but I am happy to say that in my practice (homœopathic) I have lost but few patients; but, Oh dear! with the so-called

'regulars' the mortality has been terrible. One would think that in time even the most bigoted allopath would have his eyes opened. This occasionally happens, and in proportion as the enlightened one smuggles homœopathic remedies administered on homœopathic principles into his practice so far does his fame as a successful physician wax great."

Highways and Byways.—One thing leads to another. The safety bicycle has come to stay, and on it the timid, the men of portly presence whose bump of assimilation is well developed, the awkward squad—every one, in fact, may ride (granting ability to purchase) without danger of breaking neck or bones. Of course even a safety may toss a man or, what is the same, and perhaps more accurate, he may tumble off, but the fall is not apt to hurt anything save the fallen one's pride, and even this, with the lungs full of pure air and the blood coursing swiftly from the breezy exercise, is not apt to suffer much. The safety bicycle has led to a call for better roads, not only better highways but byways as well, and the organized wheelmen have set about educating the public sentiment on this point. The RECORDER feels like giving them a helping hand in this matter, and is almost if not absolutely sure that the county doctors *en masse* will give their moral, and many or most of them their active, support to this laudable work.

The people of the United States are mad for railroads until they get them, and thereafter are in a chronic state of mad *at* them, for it is a well-known fact that there is not a community in this country, from big New York down to Huckleberry Metropolis, that is not "discriminated" against and having its trade ruined by the naughty railroads, and this notwithstanding the fact that freight on a barrel of flour has fallen from \$1.50 in *antebellum* days to 25 cents or lower in our day, and carried in one-fourth of the time. There is fallacy somewhere if we could only find it, and we think it lies in bad roads. And if communities and men would cease for a time their striving after "competing railroads," when rates are as low now as they can be, and have the railroad live and be kept up, and put one-tenth of the money so wasted in good local roads and cross-roads leading from their respective towns, the country would soon be covered with a network on which the public could snap its fingers at the railroads. Think of being able to start from any point and go north, south, east or west, on hard smooth roads, good at all seasons, stretching from one town to another on to the border! Think of what enormous tracts of country could be opened up to commerce and pleasure even in our oldest States were each town to spin a spider-like network of superb highways and byways around itself! Could such a state of affairs be brought about, we verily believe the con-

stant cry for "more railroads" would cease, that "time would run back and fetch again the age of gold;" when men travelled in their own conveyances or bestrode their steeds, breathed the pure air and saw something of mankind and nature while on a journey instead of sitting cooped up in a hot car ruining their eyes by poring over some worthless book or paper. Give the country good veins and it won't be long before healthy blood will pulsate through them.

Passiflora Incarnata.—The following is from a paper read before the Ohio Homœopathic Society in May, and printed in the *Southern Journal of Homœopathy*. The appended note is by the editor of that journal:

"*Passiflora* seems to be especially adapted to derangements or disturbed conditions of the nervous system, as neuralgia, tetanus, tetanus neonatorum, chorea, insomnia or sleeplessness. For that nervous, restless, excited or wakeful condition found in so many affections, *Passiflora* has a wonderfully soothing effect, generally producing a quiet, restful sleep, from which the patient awakens refreshed. I have used recently, with gratifying results, the *Passiflora* ^o (five drops in the evening, repeated if needed) to produce sleep in a little girl eight years of age, who was suffering from chorea so marked as to greatly disturb her sleep, on account of the nervous excitement and continued motion. It is said to be almost a specific for tetanus in horses. I have used the tincture in from one to ten drop doses, and the lower attenuations. This remedy certainly deserves a proving."

[After reading this article I prescribed *Passiflora*, five-drop doses, in a case of tetanus in a horse, with excellent results in eight hours. Dose was repeated every hour.—ED.]

Constipation.—Dr. Richard Epp's little work, *Constipation, Hypochondriasis and Hysteria*, although it has been on the market for some years,—the second edition came out in 1874,—is one that is well worth a place in the library. "Every one thinks that he knows what are the effects of purgatives," says Dr. Epps, "when, as a matter of fact, he is only acquainted with the primary one. Everybody would at once answer the question of 'What is the effect of a purgative?' Why, to purge, to open the bowels, to make them act, *of course*; why, whatever other action could it have? Yet everybody would be wrong, or rather would only state half the truth. The secondary action of a purgative is to cause constipation. All purgatives have two actions—first, their primary (or purging) action; in the next place, their secondary (or constipating) action. This secondary action is often called by the name of reaction. Whether, however, we use the one word or the other is of no moment, as they

are convertible terms." For all that, however, "the British public is dearly fond of purgative pills;" one of these gives such easy and prompt relief that another is taken the next day, until finally the foolish man or woman is completely in the toils of the purgative devil whence only homœopathy can rescue them. The book contains reports of many most interesting cases of constipation treated by Dr. Epps, that are instructive and suggestive. It contains 124 pages and sells for 55 cents; postage, 3 cents.

Scolopendra Morsitans.—Dr. Sherman, of California (*Med. Advance*), reports the following symptoms as prominent in a woman bitten by a centipede:

"*Head.*—Vertigo, with blindness, worse in the morning.

"*Stomach.*—Nausea and vomiting; unable to retain either food or liquid.

"*Back.*—Terrible pains in back and loins, spasmodic and irregular, at times extending down the limbs. Pains returned every few days for three weeks, commencing in the head and going out at the toes. 'Resembled labor pains as nearly as anything I ever saw.'"

Baldness.—According to Dr. Saymonne, the wicked "bacillus crinivorax" are responsible for bald-headed men; they eat the hair, "make it brittle," so that it breaks off at the roots, and then the little cuss goes for the root itself and grubs it up. This proceeding shows a lack of reasoning in the crinivorax that is not to its credit, for it could hasten matters by going for the root at once. By the way, who ever saw a case where the hair "broke off at the roots?"

Dr. R. R. Petitt, in *Medical News*, reports a case of death resulting from the exhibition of two doses of *Sulphonal* of 15 grains each, the last administered after a lapse of one hour and a quarter. The patient was a woman aged twenty-eight. The moral is obvious.

Glonoinum.—The regulars have just discovered, it seems, that nitro-glycerine is an excellent remedy. Dr. Burroughs (*Lancet*) has used it with benefit in the following instances:

"A patient with neuralgia of the heart (*angina pectoris*) was frequently relieved of pain and dyspnœa by it."

"A young man who fainted during the dressing of his wound was quickly restored by a drop on his tongue."

"Anæmic headache was quickly relieved by it."

"One drop instantly cured pure spasmodic asthma in a workman, enabling him to resume his work at once."

"A patient with typhoid fever became delirious and extremely prostrated on the twenty-fourth day. His temperature fell, his

pulse became slow and remittent. He refused to take brandy. One-fourth of a drop of nitro-glycerine (1 per cent. solution) was given every fifteen minutes for two hours. The pulse became full and regular, the delirium subsided, and in twenty-four hours the mind was clear."

"In a case of acute alcoholism the patient was made worse by a single drop of nitro-glycerine solution."

"In a case of opium narcosis and of uræmic coma, with feeble pulse, great benefit followed its use."

"In cases of apparent sudden death and drowning, nitro-glycerine dropped on the tongue might start the heart again to beating, and restore the patient to life."

Fluid Extracts.—W. H. Wearn, in *Western Druggist*, comes out strong against fluid extracts; he asserts that they rapidly deteriorate and vary so widely in strength as to be unreliable. He obtained three samples of fluid extract *Digitalis* from the three largest manufacturers in the United States. The best sample was found deficient in the ratio of 135 to 153; the second fell off to 110, and the third to 50. "It is evident," says Mr. Wearn, "that they are deficient in strength, and that they all vary, and that none of them will prepare a tincture equivalent to that made from the drug."

Better stick to homœopathic mother tinctures and not be led away by watery, weak and uncertain fluid extracts. If cheapness is desired, dilute the θ with *aqua destillata* and the result will be a better medicine than the Fl. ex.

Poke Berries a Satisfactory Anti-Fat.—"Several years ago I called attention to the efficacy of pills made from the extract of poke berries as a reliable remedy in obesity. My attention was attracted to it from the fact that birds that feed on the poke berries in the fall are deficient in adipose tissue. It has been my custom for several years to gather in the fall, after frost, a quantity of the berries, express their juice, and evaporate it to the consistency of an extract, of which I make pills of 3 or 4 grains. The dose is two pills before each meal, sometimes increased to three or four. They diminish the appetite to some extent. In some cases the reduction of weight is remarkable, as much as fifteen to twenty pounds per month. Blondes are more especially affected by them; brunettes not so much so. The reduction is frequently apparent the first week; a feeling of lightness and comfort follows their administration. One patient lost forty pounds in three months and suffered no inconvenience; the average is from ten to fifteen pounds per month. I think the berries should be gathered after frost, as the frost seems to destroy the poisonous properties of the berries. I am somewhat

surprised that this treatment has not received the attention it merits. In a large number of cases treated no symptoms of a dangerous character have been reported, and but few failures of a satisfactory result. The remedy seems analagous to Iodide of potash, and acts in chronic rheumatism similarly. I have found it efficacious in that painful form of rheumatism of the arms and shoulder, of which so many complain.

"I have failed to notice many physiological symptoms. Some sleepiness and dulness for a few days, but this passes off soon. It does not constipate the bowels, but rather acts as an aperient. It seems to have the power of causing absorption of adipose tissue in a great degree."—M. M. Griffith, M.D., in *Medical Summary*.

Thuja for Diphtheritic Throat.—"Experiences with Thuja in the treatment of syphilitic fauces have led me to try the remedy in the early stages of diphtheritic throats. Thus far I am more than satisfied with its effects upon nascent states of faucial manifestations. The drug seems to be specific in curable conditions of diphtheria, and the majority are such. But the agent must be employed early—as soon as the chill is off and the pharynx is sore. If the drug be not used until the nares, fauces and larynx are in a state of sloughing, and putrescent fluids are discharged in astounding quantities, nothing beneficial may be expected from it, or from anything else. To render such a throat aseptic would require purification by fire. In the worst forms of putrid diphtheria, we might as well try to render aseptic a public sewer. It would be like the efforts of the old woman who would keep back the sea with a broom."—H., in *Dr Scudder's Journal*.

The Great Work.—The *American Homœopath's* recognition of the merits of Dr. Allen's last work, the *Handbook of Materia Medica*, and acknowledgment of the debt of gratitude the profession is under to him for his years of careful labor, is so just that we reprint it in full:

"There can be no question but that Dr. Allen has placed the homœopathic profession under a lasting debt of gratitude for this most beautiful and perfect of materia medicas. The superlative degree of comparison can alone voice our admiration of the work. It is one of the finest books that has ever reached our review table; and after browsing in its rich leafiness for several months in the hope of saying something markedly different from what has already filled the critics in other journals, we find our praise and recommendation tame and pointless—a more than twice-told tale. We have made use of this volume on an average of half-a-dozen times a day since its receipt, and in no instance have we had cause to re-

gret the time given to looking up mooted points or clearing away our ignorance, and we have arrived at the conclusion that with this *Handbook* at hand, assisted by the *General Symptom Register*, together with the promised *Therapeutic Pocket-book* of Bœnninghausen, it must truly be an intricate and involved case when these volumes, understandingly handled, cannot throw light sufficient to make a prescription. The arrangement of the page in double columns, and set "solid," gives room for very nearly four hundred remedies without crowding or the use of very small type. The type, in fact, is one of the handsome features of the book; for by a judicious use of different fonts of type symptoms are made to stand out with great clearness according to their relative values, so that a mere cursory reading of the heavy-typed symptoms of any remedy will, in a few moments, give the reader the genius of that drug, to be followed up for more minute symptoms at leisure if the leading indications were in the right line. Of its intrinsic worth, what can be said that will add one laurel more to the wreath with which the profession has long since crowned the work of Dr. Allen? No intelligent comparison can be made without the book lying before one. It differs from Hering's *Condensed* in compactness of arrangement and the welcome absence of so many contradictory symptoms. It does not blow hot and cold in the same breath. It has sifted out the trash and the cheat, and presents only symptoms that are reliable. The clinical cases are chosen with extreme caution, lest some of the many hypothetical cases, with which our literature is so grievously burdened, should be embodied. For his courage in resolutely omitting what have seemed favorite symptoms when they were not capable of standing the test, Prof. Allen deserves a vote of thanks. If the materia medica reformers will go about their work in the same spirit, there will be, nay, there can be, no objection raised. It differs from Farrington's *Clinical* in being more full and exact, and not given to the colloquial style. It differs from almost every other text-book on materia medica in that it covers the whole field of proven symptoms of every drug used in homœopathy. No one can go wrong who takes this *Handbook* as his rule and guide in prescribing for his cases. It is worthy of the utmost confidence. We have tested it severely, and so far have found no flaw even in the typography. For its therapeutic indications it will take that place in homœopathy that the *United States Dispensatory* occupies in relation to the old school. The mechanical execution is superb. The paper used, the new type, the compactness of matter without crowding, the binding, all reflect credit upon this publishing house."

Effects of Antifebrine Upon Memory.—In a communication to the *Medical World*, Dr. Joseph Haigh, Granada, Kan., gives it as

his opinion, based on actual experience, that the continued use of *Antifebrine* impairs the memory. He noticed this first on himself, after taking the Antifebrine for four months, and found the opinion confirmed by similar effect produced on a patient, a girl of thirteen years. He stopped the use of Antifebrine in both instances, and changed the anodyne, with the effect of distinctly restoring the former ability of remembering current events. This seems to be a pretty fair proving of the drug, though not intended as such. Why may not *Antifebrine*, homœopathically potentized, be a good remedy for a bad memory or a wandering mind?

Salol.—Dr. Mann, in his paper read before the Ohio Homœopathic Association, claims that *Salol* “quickly removes the offensive odor of the breath attending the indigestion of patients suffering from severe rheumatic pains.” Also, “I wish to call attention to the action of *Salol* in *articular rheumatism*, and especially *rheumatic neuralgia*. It is not in chronic but *acute* and *acute aggravations* of *chronic cases*, or *comparatively recent cases* of rheumatic affections, where *Salol* gives the best results. . . . Dose: Five grains to one-half drachm. I generally give five or ten grains every hour until better, then increase the interval between doses gradually. Small doses of *Salol* are too *slow* and *uncertain*; better give twenty grains than give one grain. A thorough and lasting effect is attained by continuing the administration of *Salol* in decreasing doses for several days after all pain has ceased.”

Ipecacuanha.—Dr. Carl Semelroth, of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., writes as follows on the subject of *Ipecac.* to the *Medical Summary*:

“No doubt the original term *Ipecacuanha* was derived from the language of the South American Indians, as the plant is a native of Brazil, found in moist, thick and shady woods. The same name has been applied to various emetic roots of the United States, which are often used to dilute or substitute for the original imported *Ipecacuanha*, which has been in use in its native country for more than two hundred years; and in 1672, a celebrated physician, associated with a merchant vessel, imported a large quantity of *Ipecacuanha* into Paris, and there placed it on the market as a wonderful secret remedy, and with so much success in dysentery and other bowel complaints that soon a general attention was attracted to it, and the fortunate physician received from Louis XIV., a large sum of money and many public honors, on condition that he should make it a public remedy, so that all could receive its benefits; and from this time on it has maintained its value in materia medica, and, like *Veratrum viride*, has its friends and foes. . . .

“As this is an age of adulteration, *Ipecac.* has not been overlooked

by the drug dealers; in fact, some seem to owe it a spite, and mix up a sad, abominable trash, and in reviewing the prospect of this drug from a commercial point of view, we cannot resist the conviction that the supplies are becoming either more unreliable, or that the demand is going ahead of the quantity which is available, growing scarcer every day—and soon a big increase in price, if gobbled up by some of the cursed trust combinations that are the pets of this free government.”

The RECORDER has preached many sermons on the text of adulterated and unreliable medicines, and welcomes the foregoing from a “regular” preacher. The fact of the adulteration of *Ipecac.* has long been known to all in the drug trade. It is also equally well known that a perfectly pure tincture of this drug is obtainable if the imported root is used in its manufacture, and not the powdered product of commerce. But, of course, those who do this cannot brag of “cheapness,” which at the present day, with many, outranks purity and quality.

The Chinese doctors, according to a floating paragraph, claim far greater success in treating certain diseases than their Christian brothers can show, such, for instance, as bilious attacks, gout, stomach complaints, headaches, etc. They require their patients to fast for two or three days, and that, they claim, does the business. Whether they give a Chinese *Sac lac* for the sake of the mental effect is not stated.

An Important Decision.—The following letter comes to hand as our last form closes :

MOBILE, ALA., December 18, 1889.

EDITOR HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER :

Dear Sir: It has just been decided by the Supreme Court of this State that any one who has a diploma from a reputable college can practice medicine here without having to apply to an allopathic examining board for a license. All the doctor has to do now is to have his diploma recorded in the office of the judge of probate in the county in which he practices. This only costs one dollar. I hope you will make a note of this in your journal, so our brethren may know that we can invite them here now, and we certainly have a splendid field for homœopathy here.

Very truly yours,

GEO. G. LYON, M.D.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

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No. 2.

ON THE EMPIRICAL APPLICATION OF MULLEIN.

[FINDING that *Mullein Oil* has been written of in the RECORDER twelve times in the last four years, it occurs to me that an account of the empirical applications of Mullein as a remedy might be of interest to the very numerous readers of the RECORDER. I purpose to give its history from the tenth century to the eighteenth, as the requisite authorities are at my hands.

The "Historie of Plantes" is not a merely interesting field of literature, it is also an useful, and, as I believe, particularly so to the homœopathic physician. Certainly, it contains much that is based upon the superstition of ignorance, but, as certainly, it contains very much that rests on actual experience. Men had common-sense before they had colleges, and one need not be a scholar to know from experience if *Colocynthis* cures his colics; so I conclude that any virtue ascribed to a plant which has the testimony of centuries behind it is an indubitable fact attested by common-sense from its experience. Now, in such plants as have had a homœopathic "proving," I find many of the virtues empirically ascribed to them sustained by the *data* of the proving, and it must be admitted that this is the strongest of testimony. I was particularly struck when proving *Lappa major* with certain phenomena—in my big toe joints and elsewhere—that resembled an incomplete explosion of gout; and when I began to read its empirical history, I found that Tournefort advised *Lappa* in gout, and that Sir John Hill declared it the "specificum" for that disease.

The empirical virtues recorded in the old "Herballs" will also enable one to make applications of our remedies *from their provings*, which it has not yet occurred to us to make; that is, the empirical

use enables us to combine certain symptoms in the proving so that we discover the "like" of a disease not before by us distinguished.

A still further use, and one that I cannot sufficiently emphasize, is this—the suggestion of remedies worthy of a "proving," with which these old volumes abound. I will mention one instance, namely, the *common honeysuckle*. Make a tincture from the leaves and flowers; the "proving" will add a most valuable addition to our *Materia Medica*. "It is already too large," says a reader. My objecting friend, I don't know who you are, but I'll bet a family syringe that you wear a bigger boot than you do a hat. Of course, you can't help that anatomical misfortune, but if you will only keep your mouth shut strangers, like myself, will not be so apt to find it out.]

VERBASCUM THAPSUS MULLEIN.

The Greeks called it *Phlomos*, and derived the name from *Phlego*, "I burn," because the woolly leaves, cut into strips, were used as wicks in their lamps. The Romans termed it *Candela Regia*, and *Candelaria*, from the fact that the stalk dipped in melted tallow was then used for illuminating. In primitive days these "tallow dips" were probably carried in their torch races. An old English name is *Higtaper* (for *Hightaper*), the stalks soaked in tallow or fat being used at funerals, which, in olden times, were often held at midnight—a weird-like scene!

Our first citation is from the Anglo-Saxon text of the *Herbarium of Apuleius*—a work written not later than 1000 A.D.:

" FELTWORT, OR MULLEIN.

"1. This wort, which is named *verbascum*, and by another name *feltwort*, is produced in sandy places and on mixens. It is said that Mercurius gave this wort to Ulixes, the chieftain, when he came to Circe, and he after that dreaded none of her evil works.

"2. If one beareth with him one twig of this wort, he will not be terrified with any one, nor will a wild beast hurt him, or any evil coming near.

"3. For gout, take this same wort *verbascum* pounded, lay it to the sore; within a few hours it will heal the sore so effectively that (*the gouty man*) can even dare and be able to walk. Also our authorities declared and said that this application was in the highest degree beneficial."

Here we have a pronounced example of the superstition and the experience before mentioned.

The classical student will at once recall that passage in the tenth book of the *Odyssey*—"Therewith the slayer of Argos gave me the plant that he had plucked from the ground, and he showed me the growth thereof. It was black at the root, but the flower was like

milk. Moly, the gods call it, but it is hard for mortal men to dig ; howbeit with the gods all things are possible."

We are helped to a conception of the antiquity of the Homeric poems when we recollect that the identification of this celebrated plant was not possible, even in Pliny's time. Since then much learning has been exercised on this *quæstio vexata*. Fée came to the conclusion that the *Moly* of Homer, Theophrastus, Ovid, and the poets in general, is only an imaginary plant, while Sprengel derives the name *Moly* from the Arabic, and says the plant is the *Allium nigrum* of Linnæus. That it is not the Mullein, is quite evident from Homer's description. Judging from the milk-white flower and the black root, I will hazard the conjecture that *Comfrey*—the *Symphytum magnum* of the Romans—is meant.

One feels some surprise at finding it recommended for gout with the indorsement of "our authorities," to wit, the Druids. The Herbarium of Apuleius was taken to Great Britain by the Romans, but this reference to *our* authorities shows that the Anglo-Saxon copy had gone through Druidical, or bardic hands. Did Gurth, born thrall to Cedric the Saxon, have gout and lay this same wort, pounded, to the sore, that he "could even dare and be able" to hobble after his master's swine as they fed on acorns? Alas! it is more than likely, for there is a gout from pinched want as well as from pampered surfeit. The gout that Apuleius met, came from stewed lampreys and Salernian wine, but whence this of "our authorities?" In the medical treatise of Rhiwallon and his sons—*Meddygon Myddfai*—that dates back to the thirteenth century, I find ten remedies for gout, and three of them are distinctly specified as for "gout in the stomach." No better proof can be required that gout is not solely a product of luxury. How far would the excessive beer-drinking of the Anglo-Saxons account for it?

We jump over six centuries to meet our next authority, Rembert Dodoens, whose work first appeared in English in 1578. The quaint spelling of the original is given :

"The roote of white Mulleyne boyled in redde win, and dronken, stoppeth and healeth the dangerous laske, and bloody flixe. [Laske is diarrhœa.]

"The same boyled in water and dronken is good for them that are broken [ruptured] and hurte inwardely, and against an old Cough of long continuance.

"The decoction of the roote swageth toothache, and is good against the inflammations and ulcers of the Aulmondes, or kernels of the throte, to be kept warme in the mouth, and the mouth to be washed and clensed, by often gargeling of the same.

"The leaves of Mulleyne are also good against the Hemorrhoides,

when they be wiped and clensed therewith, and it is good to washe the mouth with the decoctions of the same.

“The seede of Mulleyne is good to drinke (as saith Plinie) against the bursting and falling out of joynte of members, for it taketh away the swelling and swageth the payne.”

The ever-worthy and learned John Gerarde published his voluminous “Herball” in London, *anno* 1597, and before a second edition was called for, he grew aweary, and laid him down, and went a-simpling no more. In 1633, one that was Thomas Johnson, “Citizen and Apothecarye of London,” was moved in the spirit to edit and reissue Gerarde’s *opus*. Honest Thomas Johnson! many a man would have stolen the volume bodily, added his modicum and published the enlarged work as his own; but, “Apothecarye” as thou wert, thou hadst in thee the soul of a Cavalier, and thou didst cast thy fortune with Charles the First, of England, and seal thy fealty with thy blood at the last siege of Basing House, when Cromwell’s Invincibles carried it by storm. Inigo Jones, the architect, and Wenecslaus Hollar, the engraver, escaped, but thou wert doomed—no more simplings in field, and forest, and breezy glade for thee, forever.

Johnson’s edition of Gerarde’s “Herball” is noteworthy as giving the earliest mention of MULLEIN OIL: .

“The later Physitions commend the yellow flowers, being steeped in oile and set in warme dunge vntill they be washed into the oile and consumed away, to be a remedie against the piles.”

Johnson gives the following new applications: “The leaves of Mullein boiled in water and laid vpon hard swellings and inflammations of the eies, cure and ease the paine.

“The leaves worne vnder the feet day and night in manner of a shoo sole or sock, bring downe in yovng maidens their desired sickness, being so kept vnder their feet that they do not fall away.

“The country people, especially the husbandmen in Kent, do give their cattel the leaves to drink against the cough of the lungs, being an excellent approved medicine for the same, whereupon they call it Bullocks Lungwort.”

In the same year as the above work was issued a second edition of Dr. William Langham’s “Garden of Health.” Though a physician, Langham was a rank empiric—a combination that is also to be observed now-a-days. He gives us these observations: “Warts, stampe the flowers betweene stones, and apply them, or apply the distilled water of them. Eyes red and dropping, wash with the juyce of Mullin. Matrix windy, [Physometra] apply the juyce of Mullin and Rapes with Barley meale. Cankers, burn it and apply the powder. Scab and itch, distill the flowers and leaves in a Limbecke, and use the water with cloutes. Bleeding in any place,

stampe it and apply it to the branches of the teates. Tenesmus, seeth it and stampe it, and apply it to the fundament, or sit over the fume of it. Feuer tertian, put the juyce of it into the nostrrels before the fit. Feuer quartan, drink the juyce before the fit."

The next is a gem: "Flowers stopt, binde it to the soles of the feet; flowers to stopt, binde it to the arme pits."

John Parkinson, Herbarist to King James the First, issued his "Theatre of Plantes" in 1640, and had notes from Lobel and Dr. Bonham. He evidently strove to give the actual rather than the mythical "vertues," and one reads him with a growing conviction that his empirical *data* are sustained by experience. He says "the decoction of the root is profitable for those that have crampes and convulsions. That the fumes of the burnt seeds and flowers helps those who have piles, or falling downe of the fundament. The decoction of the root in red wine, or, if there be an ague, in water wherein red hot steels hath been often quenched, doth stay the bloody fluxe. The decoction of the root in red wine openeth the obstructions of the bladder and reines when one cannot make water. The juyce of the leaves and flowers being laïd upon rough warts, as also the powder of the dried rootes rubbed on, doth easily take them away, although it will do no good to those [warts] that are smooth. The powder of the dried flowers is an especiall remedy for those that are troubled with belly aches, or the paines and torments of the collick. The distilled water of the flowers is used against running or creeping sores, or any other deformity of the skin. An oyle made by the often infusion of the flowers, is of very good effect for the piles."

From Robert Lovell's *Pambotanologia*, Oxford, 1665, I cull two observations that I have not met elsewhere: "The ointment of *Mullein* healeth the simple gonorrhœa, used upon the loins and testicles.

"The *Tapismel* (Honey of Mullein) often used for epilepsie, taken in the morning fasting, and in an evening about 4 of the clock in the afternoon" (*sic*).

The English Herbal, or History of Plants, by William Salmon, M.D., London, 1710, is the last of its kind of any note. It is quite comprehensive, for he had carefully read all his predecessors, and had travelled extensively, especially in America, and it is a model for its method: evidently, a labor of love by one ripely qualified. His huge folio is a fit ending for a long line of worthy Herbarists. It is a simple tribute to his well-doing to quote in full what he says of

THE VIRTUES.

"XII. The Juice or Essence.—Taken from a Spoonful to three Spoonfuls in a strong Bodied or Styptick red Wine, it cures Diarrhea's, Dysenteria's, Lienteria's, and the Hepatick Flux; and is good

against a Rupture or Bursteness ; they cure Catarrhs and Defluxions of Rheum upon the Lungs ; and used as a Gargle, heal a sore Mouth and Throat. And being drunk Morning and Night for 30 days together, it cures the Gout. *The Juice or Essence of the Roots*, made before it bears a Stalk, and taken in a draught of *Muskadine*, for three or four times or oftener, an hour before the coming of the Fit of a Quartan Ague, will certainly cure it. *The Juice of the Leaves and Flowers* being put upon rough warts, and rubbed on, quickly takes them away, as *Matthiolussays*, but do no good to those which are smooth.

“XIII. *The Decoction in Wine or Water*.—It is profitable for those which are Bursten, and for such as have Cramps and Convulsions, and likewise for such as are troubled with an old Cough. Being used as a Gargle, it eases the Tooth-ach. *The Decoction of the Root* in Red Wine or Water, is good against an Ague, as also the Bloody Flux, more especially, if Gads of red hot Steel or Iron has been often quenched therein. The same opens obstructions of the Reins and Bladder, and is good against the Strangury. It is of great force to dissolve tumors or Swellings, and Inflammations of the Throat. *The Decoction of the Herb in Water*, Country People give to their Cattel, when troubled with a Cough, or by reason of a Looseness of the Bowels have a falling out of the Intestinum rectum or Fundament.

“XIV. *The Compound Decoction*.—Take Leaves of Mullein two parts, Camomil Flowers, Marjoram, Sage, of each one part, make of all these a Decoction in Wine. With these bathe Morning and Night where the Veins are Swoln, or the Nerves are contracted, or where the Cramp commonly afflicts ; it gives relief, ease and comfort.

“XV. *The Powder of the Roots*.—Given to a Dram in a strong or Stiptick red Wine, Morning and Night, it stops all sorts of Fluxes of the Belly. If it is rubbed often on rough warts it will take them away in a short time.

“XVI. *The Powder of the Flowers*.—It is an especial remedy for such as are afflicted with Belly-aches, and such as are troubled with the Colick, tho' periodical. It may be given from a Dram to a Dram and a half, Morning and Night, in any proper Vehicle.

“XVII. *The Fume*.—Take Seeds and Flowers dried of Mullein, of each three parts, White Rosin two parts, Camomil Flowers, and Caraway Seeds of each one part, mix them, and put them upon live Coals in a Chafing Dish, or some Earthen Pan, and set it in a Close-Stool, and let the person who is troubled with the Hemorrhoids or Piles, or falling down of the Fundament, sit over it to receive the Fumes up the Body ; it gives much ease and relief ; and is also very profitable for such as are troubled with a *Tenesmus*, which is a desire to go often to Stool, and can do nothing.

“XVIII. *Tapismel, Honey of Mullein.*—Take Juice of Male Mullein, Juice of Celandine, of each one part; Clarified Honey two parts; boil them by degrees, till the Juices are consumed. The simple *Tapismel* being taken three times a day, an Ounce or an Ounce and a half at a time, stops Catarrhs powerfully, and is good against the Falling-Sickness.

“XIX. *Tapisvalentia*, an Ointment containing the Powers, Force, or Strength of Mullein.—Take Juice of Mullein, Hog’s Lard, of each equal quantities; mix and beat or grind them together in a Stone Mortar; keep it in a convenient Vessel nine or ten days, then heat it well twice, once more with fresh Juice, until it be green, and another time without Juice first casting away what is thin and discolored, then keep it close covered for use. It softens hard Tumors, and eases their pain; anointed on the Belly, it stops a Looseness and a Bloody Flux; so also given in a Clyster. Anointed on the Crown of the Head and Sutures, as also on the Nape of the Neck and Stomack, it stops Catarrhs, and is an excellent thing against Coughs of the Lungs, and it is found by experience to cure the Hemorrhoids or Piles.

“XX. *The Isolated or Decocted Oil.*—It is made by an Infusion or Decoction of the Flowers in pure Olive Oil, often repeated. It is very powerful against Hemorrhoides or Piles.

“XXI. *The Ointment.*—It is made of the bruised Flowers, the Yolk of an Egg, Juice of Leeks, and Crumbs of White Bread beaten together in the form of an Ointment. Applied to the Piles when they swell, and their pains are most vehement, it gives wonderful ease upon the spot, and in a short time cures them.

“XXII. *The Cataplastm.*—1. Made of the Leaves and Seed boiled in Wine, and laid upon any Dislocation after it is set, eases all the Pains and discusses the Swelling. 2. Made of the Leaves and Tops of the Lesser white Mullein boiled in Water, and applied to the Gout, it gives wonderful ease, and discusses the Tumor. 3. Made of the green Leaves beaten in a Mortar and applied or bound to a Horse Foot which is very much pricked with a Nail, or Thorn, or Splinter, it eases the Pain, and heals it in a short time.

“XXIII. *The Distilled Water of the Flowers.*—Take to 3 Ounces at a time or more, Morning and Night for some days together; it is said that there is not a better remedy found out for the hot Gout. Dropped into the Eyes, it takes away the watering of them, and also cures the redness of the face called in Latin, *Gutta Rosacea*, or the Rose, if it be washed often therewith. This water is also used against creeping or running Sores or Ulcers, or any other deformity of the skin.

“XXIV. *The Spirituous Tincture.*—It cures a vehement pain of Stomack, and is profitable against Convulsions, Fainting and Swooning fits, Palpitation of the Heart, Sickness at Heart, and Vomiting, a vehement Diarrhœa, and the Bloody Flux. Dose from 1 Dram to 3 in a glass of *Madera*, Sherry, or Canary.

“XXV. *The Oily Tincture*.—Outwardly applied to the Piles, it eases the pain, heals and cures them. Applied to the Gout, it eases the pain and cures it: Anointed on the Back Bone and other parts affected, it prevails against the Palsie, Numbness of the Limbs, and a Trembling. Inwardly taken from a Scruple, Dram, Dram and a half or more, it gives ease in the most Vehement Colick, prevails against inward Convulsions of the Bowels, induces the Terms in Women if stopt, facilitates the Birth, gives ease in the Strangury, and provokes Urine powerfully, expelling all Heterogeneous things, as Stone, Gravel, Sand, or Tartarous Mucilage from the Reins, Ureters and Bladder.”

I can but think that Hahnemann's introductory observations to his pathogenesis of *Verbascum* are aimed directly at the empirical history of this drug. His proving is of meagre symptomatology, and his language seems to contrast the paucity of his results with the plenitude of the empirical data. As the homœopathic school now-a-days sees so little of Hahnemann's writings in its journals it may be a novelty to quote a little of him now and then, lest he be wholly forgotten :

“Who would believe that the medical school, as it has hitherto existed, in place of earnestly endeavoring to ascertain *experimentally* what genuine, dynamic powers this plant manifests on the health of human beings, was content to ascribe to it *conjecturally* (falsely) a demulcent, resolvent and laxative medicinal power, from the sickly odor of its flowers when crushed with the fingers, and from the slimy character of its juice, and to employ it blindly, in combination with other herbs whose medicinal qualities were equally unknown, for such conjectural objects, in the form of gargles, poultices, and clysters ?

“The following pure symptoms and morbid states which have been produced by this plant on healthy persons will show how much mistaken the medical world was in its frivolous conjecture, and, on the other hand, for what true curative objects it may be employed with sure effect in natural morbid states corresponding in similarity to the characteristic symptoms produced by it.

“A small portion of a drop of the above juice is a sufficient dose for homœopathic purposes.”

What a magisterial manner—even dogmatic ! It is evident to any fair-minded reader that Hahnemann's condemnation of the empirical history of *Verbascum* is unjust, unphilosophical, and, worse than all, untrue ; and this because the ascription of “demulcent, resolvent and laxative medicinal power” not only does not include all that the said history teaches, but puts into it a quality—“laxative”—that is not once mentioned in more than a thousand years of empirical testimony. Hahnemann was quick enough to avail himself of evidence derived *ab usu in morbis* to back up pathogenetic

symptoms; but why not use the evidence *from the use in disease* to convict a pathogenesis of *incompleteness*? This can be done, and if we seek the truth must be done, in the case of *Verbascum*.

If efficient provings corroborate no features whatever of the empirical history of a drug we are bound to reject such history as false; but, on the other hand, if provings do corroborate *any* feature of the empirical history it establishes the probability of all its features and suggests that the provings are incomplete. Now the empirical history says that Mullein "provokes urine powerfully," and the proving of Hahnemann—"Frequent call to urinate; the urine passed in greater quantity"—and that of Gross—"He must urinate very often and very copiously"—corroborate this feature. It is, then, a fair inference that our provings are incomplete, and, presumably, from the dosage employed.

Hahnemann's mother tincture is "the freshly expressed juice of the *Verbascum thapsus* at the commencement of the flowering mixed with equal parts of alcohol," and Hahnemann in 1826 did not use ounces of a mother tincture in a proving: hence the inference that the paucity of his pathogenesis of *Verbascum* is due to incomplete proving. It is, then, my conviction that "for what true curative objects it may be employed" is by no means indicated in the meagre Hahnemannian provings.

That MULLEIN OIL, in the lack of comprehensive provings, should be tried empirically in piles, is a duty, in the face of three centuries of empirical testimony to its efficiency. A symptom from Langhammer's proving may enable us to apply to the "exact morbid state corresponding in similarity to the characteristic symptoms produced by it," "*Scanty evacuations of fæces in small, hard bits, like sheep's dung, with pressing.*"

One must use physiology in order to divine the pathological condition when one or more symptoms of a disease are known. Now if the stool is scanty and in small, hard (and therefore *dry*) bits like sheep's dung, there is a deficiency of water in the intestines and an excess of it eliminated by the kidneys. Then the *Verbascum* hæmorrhoidal patient will probably have: INFLAMED AND VERY PAINFUL PILES; SCANTY EVACUATION OF FÆCES IN SMALL, HARD BITS, LIKE SHEEP'S DUNG, WITH PRESSING; FREQUENT, OR COPIOUS URINATION.

If there is also *a pain in the belly that extends deep down, causing a contraction of the sphincter ani, and a transient call to stool,*" then it is even a mathematical certainty that *Verbascum thapsus* is the remedy under a law as unerring as that of gravitation.

My dear reader, it is easy for you to try the remedy under the conditions given; do so, and when the law fails, write and put me to shame.

S. A. JONES.

HOW DO MEDICINES ACT?

PART IV.

BY RUFUS CHOATE, M.D., ROCKVILLE, MD.

(Parts I., II., III. are in No. 2, Vol. III. of the RECORDER.)

MEDICINES act by and through their form.

Everything exists in, and impresses itself in its individuality through its form.

The form of a thing constitutes the entity of that thing.

A substance is sweet because its globules are round. The rounder the globules the sweeter the substance.

A substance is acid because its globules are angular. The more angular the globules the more acid the substance.

A substance in its general conformation, with all its complementary parts, contains the form that characterizes its smallest particular.

A condition that does not exist in the particular cannot exist in the general.

Every inherent particular of any part of the general conformation must be in existence in every one of the particulars of the whole.

An external contact cannot localize itself upon a special portion of the body without affecting the minutest particular of the whole body.

There cannot be such a state as a local disease.

There is a local manifestation of a general disease condition, and a corresponding conformation of this local manifestation is made upon every atom of the entire organism.

Potentiation does not destroy the form of the substance. It removes external enveloping forms.

External enveloping forms have resident within them the germinal form, which gives individuality to the general form, and each enveloping form admits the germinal form to lower planes.

A germinal form, to become a remedy for the cure of disease, must have taken from it the enveloping form, either by potentiation, digestion in the stomach, lustration in the liver, or secretion in the glands.

Potentiation resolves a substance to its germinal form, and prepares it for immediate reception as a remedy in the system.

The old-school method of administering drugs makes digestion of a substance a necessity before it can become a remedy for the cure of disease.

A substance in its external enveloping forms has influences over

the system, but these influences enter the system by a mediate way ; potentiation admits the entrance of the same substance, without its externals, immediately.

All remedies enter the system through veins, and while in the veins are functional remedies.

All remedies are distributed to their appropriate place in the body through arteries, and are then nutritive remedies.

If there is not a demand in some part of the body for the substance introduced through the veins, it remains functional, though it gains an entrance into the arteries.

After a time its presence possibly creates a demand, and it is thereby admitted as a nutritive. It may cease to be a nutritive, and become a functional.

The remedy applied to the tongue, or the skin, gives cognizance of its presence to the nerves through its form, which is the only quality of the remedy the nerves can comprehend.

By its form the remedy is transmitted through the veins, accompanied by a guide, the nerve, to its appropriate place at the cortical cells of the brain.

The brain, or rather the mind, which is within the brain, aware of the need in some portion of the body of a particular form, inspects that supplied through the veins, and finding it suitable, gives it over to the arteries to be transmitted to its destination.

The constituents of the body should be named form 1, 2 or 3, etc. The substance, whose form will supply the deficiency in form 1, will prove to be identical with form 1, and will be known as form 1.

The spectroscope, perhaps, will assist in distinguishing remedies by their forms. As Chloride of sodium has a fixed spectral line, so its deficiency in the body will show a change in the Chloride of sodium line, to which change, duly recognized, may be attached some of the provings of *Natrum mur.* Every disease condition must change every atom of blood to accord with that condition. We know that atoms of blood do not remain longer at a point where there is inflammation than is necessary for their transmission. While in transit they lose their spherical form and become square or angular to accord with the disease condition at that point. Suppose, for illustration, that the atom of blood passing an inflamed tissue takes the form of a crystal of Chloride of sodium. It follows under our law of similars, that *Natrum mur.* is the appropriate remedy.

A remedy whose form accords exactly with the form of the disease condition is a similitum, and acts immediately for the cure of the disease. If it accords with the form of some other portion of the system than the disease portion, and acting upon its accordant can, by changing it, effect a change in the disease portion, it is a similar,

and acts immediately. If it is wholly dissimilar, it is an opposite, and produces a disease condition opposed to the existing disease, and is an opponent.

Let No. 1 represent the disease form, and also represent the form of *Natrum mur.* Then when *Natrum mur.* is administered it acts immediately for the cure of the disease, and is the similimum. Let No. 2 represent *Apis*. If form 2 is administered, instead of the more appropriate form 1 and makes a change in form 2 of the blood globule which will act with ability to make a further change in form 1, and restore health, it is the similar, and acts mediately. Let No. 3 represent *Mercurius* which we suppose is wholly dissimilar to the disease form 1. Form 3, or *Mercurius*, acts here antagonistically and produces a disease form 3, which, for a time, overshadows form 1.

To increase our new nomenclature let a perfect globule be represented by A; less perfect by B, and so on through the alphabet. In time algebraic signs can be made to state a condition and greatly assist in the solution of difficult problems.

$B = 1$. Condition or shape of globule B, returned or restored to condition A through the use of its similimum form 1.

$B = 3^{5c} 2^{10x}$. Condition B cured by the successive use of form 3, 5th centesimal and form 2, 10th decimal. $C > 7^{5x} = 8^{10c}$. C made better by form 7, 5th dec. and cured by 8, 10th cent. $E > 9^{100x} > 8^{10c} \vee D 10^{200} < M 3^x = 5^{500}$. Condition E made better by form 9^{100th} dec., at a stand-still through the use of form 8, 10th cent., improved to condition of D by form 10^{200th}, made worse by 3 mother tincture, and cured by 5^{500th}.

Nor will these forms be so very difficult to decipher. Take for illustration, *Natrum mur.* The form of the crystal of chloride of sodium is known. According to the proposition made above, that a general must be of the form of its particulars, it follows that an imponderable quantity of *Natrum mur.* must have the same form as the greater bulk of chloride of sodium. It is known, and established forever, that chloride of sodium produces certain thoroughly recognized effects in the body. Symptoms of disease exactly similar to these provings of the drug are invariably cured by the administration of that drug. It then follows that all indications of disease immediately cured by *Natrum mur.* must have the form of a crystal of chloride of sodium.

Natr. Mur.—Headache, beginning with a blinding of the eyes. “Blinding headache;” “sick headache.”—MORGAN.

HOMŒOPATHY IN ENGLAND.

MANY times have we heard apologies offered for the apparent failure in the growth of homœopathy in England.

In our opinion, the time for apologies has long since passed. The homœopathic physicians there are those for whom we need not blush, and when all is understood, we think it will be granted that they are doing a good work. The query is rather, "How have they been able to accomplish so much? rather than "Why have they not done more?" It is almost impossible for a stranger to understand the disadvantages under which our trans-Atlantic brethren labor. With our American spirit of "free thought and free speech," we can scarcely imagine in any country other than despotic Russia or benighted China that such laws could be enforced as to effectually control all branches of medicine and give to one school a monopoly in physic. With an assumption of knowledge that would be simply an amusing specimen of egotism, were it not clothed with the purple robes of royalty and the ermine of the law, the allopaths assume to dictate to every man, not only of what his medical education shall consist, but also where he shall acquire it.

Not only must he study medicine at a college where the name of Hahnemann is never heard, except it be with imprecations, but he must exhibit a diploma of variable importance granted by some one of the nine or ten authorized bodies having their seat of power in some part of their "tight little island," less than half the size of one of our States.

Free trade is believed in by Great Britain in everything excepting medicine. In this the "tariff" is very high.

Let us count the cost for one to become a physician in England provided he has been so fortunate as to hear of and believe in the truth of homœopathy.

He wishes to study "scientific homœopathic medicine"—a system embracing all that is known in this last quarter of the nineteenth century and proven to be of value for the "speedy, gentle and permanent restitution of health."

What must he do?

He must first pay for the privilege of grinding out four long years in an allopathic college where, if he dare make known his conviction, he will be privately reprovèd and publicly shunned, and thus after this long struggle, and when his classmates are ready to commence work, he must sail to America and begin the study of true medicine. After a thorough course here, he may succeed in forgetting enough of the old and gaining enough of the new to make a good physician. But how many would want to spend six or seven years in the best part of one's life and a liberal amount of money in gaining what

might be secured in one-half the time? And how many of us commenced the study of medicine with strong enough convictions so that, had powerful influences been brought to bear, we would not have been changed in our beliefs and lost the faith that was in us? Would we send a son to a Presbyterian school of theology, expecting him to become a Methodist when he graduated?

No one can estimate the number of adherents every year lost to our school from the influences of enforced surroundings. To each one who follows the course of study outlined above to its successful termination, it is safe to estimate that a dozen become dazzled with the glitter of "state medicine," and after declaring their intention of "looking into homœopathy some day," settle down into the easy ruts of allopathic medicine. But, notwithstanding the gigantic barriers there are an increasing number of men with the courage of their own convictions who are doing valiant work for homœopathy.

In Glasgow such an one is Dr. James E. Hardy whom every American is glad to meet, whose extensive practice is only equalled by his bountiful table, and his belief in "*similia*" by his hospitalities to strangers. Judging from the elegant residence in which we found him, and the sample of his fare we were shown, we would solemnly affirm that homœopathy was not being *starved out* in Glasgow. In this city where there is such a plethora of allopaths, that calls are being made and medicine furnished for *nine-pence a visit*, Dr. Hardy is getting £1, and refuses calls daily.

In Edinburgh, while of course everything seemingly is in the hands of the allopaths, yet there are men of our school who are busy night and day, not only in practice, but doing good missionary work in the cause of homœopathy. Dr. W. T. P. Woolston is one of these, who, besides attending to one of the largest practices in Scotland and editing the *Gospel Messenger*, has also under his care three young men whom he is instructing faithfully in the law of homœopathy while they are attending a college whose professors declare that, although there is a law governing every other science, medicine alone is merely a matter of experiment. Under Dr. Woolston's able teachings, there is little fear but that they will become well-grounded in the truth. Had our school "a fair field and no favors," there could not be a more promising location found, or a more lovely city in which to live than Edinburgh.

Concerning London, the story has already been often told. The same difficulties are in the path of every student. Lord Littlewits has not decided that homœopathy is "quite the thing, you know," and no true worshipper at the shrine of royalty would dare do anything so out of the "awdinary" as to publicly say that they had tried homœopathy and found it was a good thing. Until the *people* commence to do their own thinking, and cease to follow the example

of those degenerate scions of nobility (?) with whom such an intellectual process as thinking would be a psychological impossibility, homœopathy cannot grow rapidly.

The London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, W. C., is doing good work, and was well filled with patients when visited. A large amount of dispensary work is done by the staff composed of well-informed and thoroughly live men. Mr. Knox-Shaw has charge of the Ophthalmic Department, and has a proud record in surgery. Drs. Cooper, Moir and Carfrae, with seven associates, make up the medical staff and are prepared to treat any case medical or surgical, that may be presented. Dr. Cooper, whom we had wished to see operate, was absent on his summer vacation. Dr. Skinner was also trying to escape from the city, but had time enough for a few words.

His view of homœopathy in England was rather gloomy. With their present unjust laws he saw "no way for our school to more than hold its own.

"On the contrary, could the laws be such as you have in America, our cities would soon be filled with young homœopaths."

Dr. Dyce Brown manages the *Homœopathic Review*, and a thriving practice, and of course has done, and is still doing, good work in our cause.

Dr. Dudgeon, "just around the corner," is doing more literary than professional work at present, but still has not laid off the harness.

Dr. Hughes, out at Brighton, is never idle.

In an atmosphere so saturated with the fumes of allopathy, one would suppose that there would be little demand for homœopathic literature. But this is not true. The people are glad to know of this the same as of any other scientific truth, and would be just as glad to carry the investigation farther, and test the efficacy of scientific medicine at the bedside, had they the chance.

In conclusion, we would state that homœopathy in England has done *well*, considering the difficulties under which it has labored. That these difficulties are *real*, and are the same ones we would find in the United States, were the allopaths given a single State examining board; that the demand for homœopathic physicians in all the large cities of Britain far exceeds the supply; that, had England our present favorable laws, according to every person equal rights to follow the dictates of his own conscience, an increase would be made in the ranks of homœopathy during the next ten years that would equal any decade in our own history.

And that, until such laws shall be enacted, the progress must be necessarily very slow.

E. ELMER KEELER.

DR. WILLMAR SCHWABE'S MUNIFICENT GIFT TO THE CITY OF LEIPZIG.

THE City of Leipzig too, had, for many years a sick-relief association comprising over 40,000 members. It is under the control of the municipal government and every member is entitled to treatment by the physician of the association, and to receive his medicine at certain drug stores at a reduced price, provided he regularly paid a very small weekly or monthly dues to the association. From sixteen to seventeen physicians are regularly employed and about twelve drug stores are designated at which members may procure their medicines.

For many years Dr. Willmar Schwabe, the proprietor of the largest homœopathic pharmacy, not only in Germany but in all Europe, was chairman and president of this association. An honorable and laborious post without emoluments.

The association possesses a large hospital for the accommodation of its members and one of the great drawbacks, since many years, was, that the limited facilities necessitated the sending adrift of the convalescents as soon as they could be removed without danger, to make room for new-comers.

Hundreds who were as yet too feeble to work were thus of necessity thrown back on the limited resources and the often unwholesome quarters of their families, and for weeks and months incapacitated for active work.

To remedy this crying evil, Dr. Schwabe cast about for adequate facilities and in the goodness of his heart resolved to provide himself the necessary accommodation. An advertisement in the daily papers for landed estates suitably situated for the purpose brought forth no less than forty-nine responses, and for over two weeks the doctor, in company with a friend visited estate after estate, until finally two old feudal castles were selected which combined all the necessary facilities such as shelter from the cold northeast winds, high elevation (1000 metres above tide-water), facilities for thorough drainage, fine old woods and open fields in the immediate vicinity and good spring water in abundance conjoined to an extensive view over hill and dale. The drainage of one castle was almost perfect and needed only some slight alterations to be available, while the internal arrangements of the other were so ill-suited that the whole interior had to be torn out and reconstructed on the most approved principles.

The estate "Gleesberg" near Schneeberg with over 100 acres of land, one-half of it woods, was set apart for female convalescents, while the estate "Frostel," near Schwarzenberg, with 110 acres, one-third woods, was destined for male convalescents.

Both establishments were really sumptuously furnished, provided with adequate bathing facilities, an ample supply of water; paths through the woods with plenty of comfortable resting places were constructed, and on the 25th of last August that for female convalescents was opened and on October 15th that for males was turned over to the association. The direction of both establishments was entrusted to the "Albertinerinnen" (Protestant sisters of mercy), and food for the inmates is furnished by the tenants of the estates. The association allows one mark (25 cents) per day for board at the convalescent's retreat and whenever the cost for their comfortable maintenance exceeds this stipulated sum Dr. Schwabe volunteered to cover the deficiency.

One public-spirited citizen of Reudnitz (near Leipzig), Mr. Hugo Schneider, furnished forty-seven lamps to light the establishments. Dr. Schwabe, a very picture of health, is now in his fiftieth year, in the full vigor of manhood.

The city of Leipzig honored itself by electing him a member of its municipal council.

A. J. T.

BOOK CHAT.

MATERIA MEDICA.

THERE is no more difficult branch for the student and beginner in homœopathy to encounter than that of our materia medica. All seems so confused and endless. It is a great mistake to try and master bulky volumes of symptomatology—these are excellent and indispensable for reference, but out of place as text-books for the student. The best book with which to begin an intelligent study of this branch is undoubtedly Dunham's *Lectures*. His preliminary observations and introduction to the study are certainly the best things that have been said, and throw a wonderful light on the symptomatology of the separate remedies. Take for instance that brilliant lecture on *Silicea*; with what a touch of genius is here developed a rationale of action, and how logical are its therapeutic applications! Now supplement this work by a reading of Farrington's *Clinical Materia Medica*, and you will get a clear and comprehensive idea of the sphere of action of each drug—its character and individuality, that will forever be stamped in your memory. While you will not know all the symptoms of a given drug, your knowledge of its genius will tell you almost intuitively whether a certain condition is in harmony with it or not. This rare knowledge which the masters of our art had in an eminent degree, can only be

obtained by such analytical study as found in those volumes, based as it is, on bedside experience and observation.

For the office table, as a book of constant reference at once complete and up to the times, Allen's *Handbook* is indispensable. This great work so recently published, is doing more for accurate prescribing than any other work. Like a dictionary it must be within your reach and be consulted whenever necessary, which is almost with every prescription made. Its usefulness will be greatly enhanced when the new Boennighausen *Repertory* arranged by Allen is published, which we are informed, will be in a few months. A smaller work for reference, thoroughly reliable, simply because its author is Constantine Hering, is his *Condensed Materia Medica*. Its excellent arrangement, giving each symptom or new line, is very grateful to the eye and greatly facilitates quick choice between concordant remedies.

Now there is another class of books dealing wholly with the absolutely essential symptoms, the key-notes or characteristics, which ought to be committed to memory and thus made one's own. A very good presentation of these is found in Cleveland's *Salient Materia Medica and Therapeutics*, and also most excellently presented at the head of each drug in H. C. Allen's *Therapeutics of Intermitent Fever*. This is a queer place, perhaps, to look for general "key-notes," but it is a most valuable mine of them. We know of one professor of materia medica who always recommended this special work as his text-book for his classes. There is a vast amount of the best and most practical therapeutical application of our symptomatology scattered throughout that classic work Gurnsey's *Obstetrics*. It contains not only the best homœopathic treatment on diseases of women and children yet published in our school, but contains also brilliant interpretations and concise, clear indications for remedies crystallized in simplest phraseology for everyday needs. Equally brilliant and fascinating in their boldness, though rather more imaginative are the deductions of Teste, our French student of materia medica. If you can pick up a copy of his work, now out of print, do so; you will find it enjoyable reading. Some of his peculiar therapeutic applications can be found in his small treatise on diseases of children. Though peculiar, they have all been clinically verified.

For a full presentation of the vast resources of our materia medica, arranged under the different pathological conditions, Lillenthal's *Therapeutics* fills a unique place. It is comprehensive, reliable, and represents the bedside experience of the homœopathic school up to date. While the venerable author in this book includes all that is valuable and trustworthy, and thus gives it permanency in our literature, his own fifty years of active general practice with its

ripened fruits of experience give this book a practical value far above all mere compilation, however judiciously done. Then there are several works on this branch that pursue interesting side paths. Foremost among these is Schüssler's *Biochemical Remedies or Tissue Builders*. However insecure his theory may be, the *Twelve Tissue Remedies* will repay study, and Schüssler has given us a few most valuable remedies that future proving according to homœopathic method will establish as polychrests of the highest order.

Hale's *New Remedies*, especially the therapeutics, forms a most readable volume and is full of practical suggestions: Then there are valuable separate studies published, like Burnett's *Essay on Gold*, and on salt, and Reill on Aconite, etc., which will repay perusal. Do not neglect to read Hahnemann's introduction to different remedies in his *Materia Medica Pura*; it is good to come into direct contact with that great mind in his work-shop and see how, under his magic touch, the apparent hopeless confusion of amassed symptomatology becomes organized into living interpretation and useful form.

In connection with the materia medica, a book on the philosophy of homœopathy ought always to be read, and no student ought to fail to read and re-read Hahnemann's *Organon*. It is not light reading, though, so take it slowly, and intersperse it with his most genial interpreter, Carroll Dunham. Get the latter's *Science of Homœopathy* and whatever else he has written. It is all solid gold.

Then Jones's—the brilliant Sam Jones—little book on the *Grounds of a Homœopath's Faith* will inspire you, and you will return to Hahnemann's *Organon* with renewed ardor. The *Organon* is the homœopath's bible; it is the ever-living judge before whose tribunal the daily practice of the homœopathist must be judged. It fulfils its noblest use when accepted in this capacity, but if this age of mongrelism does not require this function, read it merely to catch the faith and enthusiasm of the time, even though the dogmatism of the master may at times offend our modern good-natured, well-bred, elastic principles.

PROFESSOR.

SKOOKUM CHUCK.

TO THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

THE name "Skookum Chuck" means, in the language of the Chinook tribe of Indians, "strong water." "Chuck" means water, and "Skookum," "strong." Hence it would be tautology to use the Latin prefix "Aqua" to designate the remedy. I hope you

will therefore use the term "Skookum Chuck" hereafter in referring to it.

I have just received the following from Dr. E. H. Peck, of Cleveland, Ohio, which will be of interest to the profession :

"A few weeks since, you kindly sent me Skookum chuck salts, 1x, and in a few minutes after receiving it a test-case presented, and I gave the remedy with astonishing results. It was a case of eczema of about nine years' standing, due to vaccination. Two or three others were vaccinated at the same time with the same matter, and all broke out. Two of them died from the effect of the vaccination and the other two have suffered since with the eczema. My patient had the worst hands I ever saw, and that is saying much. Sarrac., Petroleum (c.m.), Psorinum (42m), had done wonders; but when, after many months' treatment, there was an aggravation, they did not work so promptly. Skookum chuck, however, has almost cured the case in two weeks. It did more in that time than any other remedy did in three or four times as long. I must have a supply of the remedy."

I have received a number of inquiries regarding the local use of the remedy. A beautiful soap can be made with the crude salt by using it instead of common alkali. In the absence of the soap, a dilution may be made by dissolving about a teaspoonful of the 3d trituration in a teacupful of water, and applying it to the part.

Very respectfully,

WILLIAM D. GENTRY.

ROGERS PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILL., February 4, 1890.

[Skookum Chuck has been prepared for external use in form of an ointment with Lanoline base.—RECORDER.]

"POTENCY" AND THE INFINITE DIVISIBILITY OF MATTER.

THIS hypothesis is not presented for the first time, nor are the details brought out in full. The criticisms are meant as introductory or supplemental to the main idea.

"Potency" in the November issue (RECORDER) aptly illustrates the energy of *Merc.* by dividing it into particles. He could have mentioned *lead* with telling effect, especially to painters. One would not hesitate to swallow a piece of lead the size of a three-cent piece, but grind it as finely as found in the 3*t.*, or higher, and no consideration would induce him to take the 100th part of it. But no attempt was made to explain how one energy changed others until they partook of its identity; nor how "energy" deserted its atom and distributed itself in the vehicle or around the molecules of the vehicle. He did not hint how to imagine it.

Is it unfair to ask what potency contains the last atom to each drop of the vehicle? (1) Suppose that you arrive at that potency and call it *a*; in the next higher potency, *b*, what becomes of that "last atom?" Does it curl up like Darwin's *gemmule*? or take its chances of being in *c*, *d*, etc.? (2) If it is in *b*, then *c*, *d*, etc., contain nothing but energy; and, has *d*, as much energy as *c*, or one-half as much? By running the potency *up* would the energy come *down* in quality or quantity to the low acting power of the 1x? (3) The *c* potency, then, contains the entity energy. Is this energy equally divided among the drops? or does a portion of it cling to each molecule of the vehicle? Take either horn and you still have the entity; something that exists and is divisible, for it has parts. "Now . . . taking a drop of the last potency containing" one of these drug particles, put ten drops of alcohol with it, then shake all of them together and what takes place? Stop us; for, is it not the next higher potency: but when do you stop?

Take *Kali bic.*, when in the last potency containing one drug *molecule* to each drop, make the next potency and what takes place? You have (1) drug atoms or (2) the energy of the molecules. If drug atoms, then they are the atoms of two different drugs, each of which "has a specific energy, distinctive, definite and absolute." Which of these atoms will change the others so that the latter will partake of its identity? You have two atoms of *Crom.* and one of *Kali*—each atom separate and distinct from its companions in the vehicle; now make the next potency from these atoms and tell us what label is used and why? (2) If you have the energy of the molecules, then you have destroyed the identity of *Kali bic.*, for you have no molecule to get the resultant of *Kali* and *Crom.* You have destroyed the parallellogram of forces and the originators separate from each other, because there is nothing to hold them together; and as in (1) you have the energy of two separate and distinct drugs.

The following hypothesis is offered to explain the entity and identity of a simple or compound drug. In the theorem p. 242, after "force" insert *innate*, *inherent* and *essential*, and *matter or substance can be divided indefinitely*.

Take a microscope with a power high enough to discover one of Prof. Haeckel's moneron, a spermatazoa or a muscle-cell. Now take one with a still higher power and, by properly staining the specimens, you may be able to see one or more organs in the once living specimens, and you can see the muscle divided into still smaller parts by lines. Suppose a microscope could be invented as far exceeding our best instruments, as they exceed the power of our naked eye, such ultimate atoms would then seem to be as large as cannon balls, and would be distinctly composed of still smaller

“ultimate atoms.” With a still higher power repeat the process again and again, and—

“Small mites have smaller mites
Upon their backs to bite ‘em.
And smaller mites have smaller mites
And so on *ad infinitum*.”

In a proper place in a well ventilated room, place one grain of musk which has been weighed with the most delicate balance. When you enter that room, you are convinced that musk is there, for its particles strike your nostrils and meander among the hairs in a well defined direction. Let no one disturb the musk or its surroundings, and let one thousand men enter the same room each day during the next ten years and the same game of lawn tennis and battledore takes place in each nose. At the end of the ten years place that musk in the same balance, and the index will not vary the fraction of a hair. Let the drop-of-medicine-above-Niagara-Falls bigot do the weighing first and last and do any amount of smelling; if no hint of homœopathy is made, it is all right. But make a hint and deduct any number of cubic miles of air, and he will not attempt to figure what potency of musk will affect the human nerves.

Medical Advance, November.—“ (Homœopathic Dilutions in the Light of Daily Experience and Common Sense). . . . The essential part of the trail (spur) is something perceptible to the sense of smell, a peculiar matter belonging to the individual. And how much of it? And how minute is the quantity of this matter which a man produces? Of it only an extremely minute portion adheres to the soles of his boots. Of this again only a much smaller part is given off to his tracks. And how small this must be when the supply on his boots suffices to give off to each step, and that to the last one when a man has walked all day. . . . And further, if this matter were not volatile a dog could not smell it, and in everything that is volatile there is a constant degree of quantity. The tracking animal follows the trail not only after hours, but if rain or snow has not fallen, even after several days; that means after a time in which the first already infinitesimal quantity has lessened to an extraordinary degree. Finally, the trailer does not use all the infinitely small quantity that adheres to the steps, but that suffices which he carries off in his nose which, is only a minute portion of that which remains. . . . ” Now, can any candid mind deny that there are thousands of particles left in each footprint, even after the dog fails to smell them?

The substance, *ether*, if it really exists, is as much more highly attenuated than the above particles, as you can think. Prof.

Tyndal says that it "has definite mechanical properties. It is almost infinitely more attenuated than any known gas, but its properties resemble a *solid* rather than that of a gas. It resembles *jelly* rather than air." And how many molecules has a drop of ether? Musk, particles from a man's boot, ether or any other substance—when do you arrive at that potency containing a *molecule* to each drop of the vehicle?

Dr. Lewis Sherman claims that, in an average drop of liquid, there are 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 molecules. His scientists got such a small number, because they supposed that the molecules were as far apart, proportionately, as the planets in our solar system are from each other. What material these vast spaces between the molecules are filled with was never made known to the writer. But the truth is, the molecules were not found so, but were pryed away from each other to bolster up a *wave theory* that *died ten years ago*. But nature utilizes those vast and useless spaces and packs them full of the same kind of molecules as are in the material; and Dr. S.'s figures fall as far short of the approximate number of molecules in a drop of liquid as this solar system of ours falls short of being packed full of asteroids.

LEWIS F. ACERS, M.D.

SAC CITY, IOWA.

SOME OF MY MOST IMPORTANT EXPERIENCES IN HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTICE WITHIN THE LAST FIFTEEN YEARS.

BY DR. J. KAFKA, OF PRAGUE.

(Translated for the Homœopathic Recorder.)

AFTER a pause in literary labors of several years' duration, due entirely to excessive amount of work connected with practice, I regard it a duty, before leaving the arena of practical activity forever, to communicate the most important and interesting experiences which I have had in diagnosis and therapeutics.

I am convinced that the publication of extraordinary and difficult cases, particularly when they were of long duration and had been treated unsuccessfully by allopathic methods, or when the disease was protracted and severe, and a cure effected nevertheless by a well-selected homœopathic remedy, or when the selection of the remedy depended upon comparisons with analogous diseases, or necessity demanded that other and most unusual methods for the incorporation of the effective homœopathic remedy were required,

is not only very instructive but also induces others to experiment in a like direction, whereby the possibility is presented that many of our colleagues shake off their indifference and either confirm, or prove my experiences worthless.

“*Exempla trahant*” is an old proverb; the erection of theories concerning the origin of disease we leave to specialists in pathology. Our duty is, and still remains, the cultivation of reliability and circumspection in the management and cure of various diseases; and our results should not be withheld. To remain silent concerning difficult and important homœopathic cures is an offense against homœopathy, as the latter can and will obtain recognition and influence only by its brilliant results.

1. Acute croupous bronchitis, cured after occurrence of seven relapses.

This disease, as is well known, belongs to a class of affections not frequent in occurrence, but at the same time very dangerous. To the ancients it was known as bronchitis polyposa. At the end of the seventeenth century, Clarke described a case, calling it bronchitis fibrinosa. At the end of the eighteenth century, J. Hunter published a case with illustrations. While finishing my medical studies at Vienna, in 1834, Joseph Edler v. Hildebrand, professor of clinical medicine, delivered a lecture on fibrinous exudations of the bronchi, and called attention to the dendritic form of the same after being washed under water; he also displayed several specimens preserved in alcohol. Rokitansky, who at that time acted as prosector at the Pathological Anatomical Institute of Vienna, called our attention to the white, pearly coagulations which appeared upon cutting into the diseased lung, giving forth under the knife a grating sound similar to that caused by gritting the teeth. Already at that time these exudations were designated as croupous. Since then, the knowledge of croupous processes has become much more extensive, due partly to the study of morbid anatomy, and partly to numerous clinical observations and descriptions. So much, however, is certain, that croupous bronchitis belongs to the category of dangerous diseases, and, according to Bierner, few cases are known in which a favorable termination occurred.

This statement determined me to publish the case referred to.

On December 3d, 1881, I was called to J. Ranzen, merchant, of Prague, æt. 32, a man of blonde complexion, slender build, and pale appearance, pretty muscular, married, who had passed through the Franco-Prussian war of 1870 to 1871, and then settled at Prague. He had until now been in good health, suffering only from a catarrh of nose and pharynx; for several days has had constant cough, day and night, tussive efforts being very violent; the rattling of mucus in chest was so loud that it could be heard in an adjoining room,

although expectoration was very difficult and caused dyspnoea. Upon examination, I found the thorax well arched, clavicular regions not sunken, neck long, scapulæ not prominent, impulse of heart in normal situation, epigastrium not retracted; moderate elevation of temperature, about 38° C.; pulse, 92; slight thirst, anorexia, slimy taste in mouth, tongue coated, no distension of abdomen, stool delayed; urine scanty, high-colored, containing neither sediment nor albumen.

Percussion note was everywhere resonant; loud mucous râles extended over both lungs, but no bronchial breathing or crepitant râles could be detected, only large and small mucous râles in some localities becoming sibilant in character, as if imprisoned air were escaping through a narrow orifice; respiration was very difficult, 30 per minute, the exertion thereof causing sweat on forehead; patient had no appearance of anxiety, lips and nails were not discolored, and temperature of extremities was normal; expectoration was very difficult, slimy and mixed with much saliva, but no blood; vomiting, due to severity of cough, had not occurred.

The patient's family history is good; he ascribes cause of disease to frequent crossing over a bridge in a sharp wind at night.

With this history there is evidently no pneumonia present, but a general catarrhal inflammation of the bronchi (Bronchitis Catarrhalis Universalis).

The course and treatment of this important case will be dealt with in a summary manner, as the relation of details would not only take too much space and time, but also require much patience. Despite the use of Bryonia, Phosphorus, Tartaric emeticus, and Ipecac., each of which were given hourly for twenty-four hours in water, not the slightest amelioration occurred after four days had elapsed. On the contrary, the condition of the patient became very serious, as somnolence (due to Carbolic acid poisoning), faintness (due to cardiac weakness), and great paleness of skin supervened. These threatening symptoms induced me to give the sputum a thorough examination.

To attain this, on the 7th of September the patient was made to expectorate several times into a glass half-filled with water; the sputum was then thoroughly washed by means of a small stick, and then spread upon a sheet of paper. Already, during the process of washing, larger and smaller casts, adhering to each other, and thus having a stringy appearance, were noticeable, and when spread upon the paper and held to the light the dendritic or arborescent form of these casts was distinctly visible, and could be recognized as fibrinous exudations of the bronchial tubes, the form of which they retained.

Croupous inflammation of the bronchial tubes was at once assured, and an indication for a change of treatment demanded.

Having been taught by many years' experience that croupous inflammations yield more rapidly to the iodides than to any other remedies, I immediately put ten drops of the first dec. dil. of Kali iod. into a half glass of water and gave two teaspoonfuls every two hours.

Early in the afternoon symptoms of improvement set in; respiration became easier, expectoration less difficult, mucous râles less audible, somnolence decreased, faintness disappeared, and the general appearance improved.

In the evening I found the patient quite cheerful; expectoration was easy, dyspnoea but slight, mucous rattling less pronounced, and there was present an enjoyable sensation of comfort.

Improvement continued steadily, expectoration of mucus being quite easy, râles gradually diminished, cough was less frequent, and after six days disappeared entirely; thus, the course of this dangerous disease was checked, after which the patient rapidly regained his health.

For several weeks the patient pursued his business, complaining of nothing; but towards the end of October of same year the first relapse occurred, due to same cause as that of primary attack, namely, exposure to cold night air while crossing bridge.

This relapse pursued a course precisely similar to the attack described above, and was treated in a like manner. Only after the remedies first mentioned, to which were now added Hepar and Spongia, both of which have frequently proved efficacious in croupous laryngitis, was Kali iod. given, and again rapid improvement and speedy cure was effected.

In this manner there occurred in the course of a few weeks six more relapses, all due to the same cause, and all treated alike.

The recurrence of attacks only ceased when the patient moved to the opposite side of the river, thus avoiding the exposure of crossing at night.

Judging from the course the disease took, it is evident that exposure to cold winds and raw night air is particularly favorable to the development of croupous bronchitis; this is confirmed by Lebert, Biermer, Riegler, Bettelheim, etc.

According to my experience croupous bronchitis is not so dangerous a disease as generally supposed. In the treatment it is of the utmost importance to examine the sputum. The expectoration, according to Lebert, Biermer, and Riegler, is, as in the above case, at first mostly catarrhal, and only after four or five days have elapsed does the fibrinous or croupous exudation develop, and as soon as this condition is established the use of the iodides is indispensable.

The use of the well-known and efficient remedies for catarrhal inflammations, given early, as seen above, has always been without results. Kali iod. was not used until there appeared somnolence and faint-like weakness, and then the results were striking.

These two conditions are also guiding in croupous laryngitis. Should the condition be overlooked or not noticed, there occurs a high degree of ammoniaemia and cardiac weakness, and a fatal termination is unavoidable; even laryngotomy is then useless. The examination of the sputum is indicated and imperative in bronchitis, whether acute or chronic, when expectoration is hindered, and does not become rapidly loose under the above-mentioned remedies. As soon as the arborescent fibrinous casts are found, Kali iod. is the most applicable remedy to loosen the tough expectoration, whereupon a speedy cure generally follows, a fact to which I called attention twenty-five years ago, in my work on therapeutics.

The application of Kali iod. in the above form and dose is all-sufficient. Larger doses often produce a marked aggravation, while the higher potencies do not develop such precision of action. Pure Iodine is also efficacious, but the second or third decimal dilution must be given afterwards.

As soon as the mucous râles and expectoration cease, Kali iod. must be replaced by Pulsatilla or Natrum muriaticum to finish the cure. As a rule the patients recover rapidly.

The use of Kali iod. is not in perfect accordance with the law of similarity; because of its excellence in laryngeal croup, I have tested it in croupous pneumonia as well as in croupous bronchitis, and have been well satisfied with the results obtained.

2. Observation upon myself.

On the 27th of November, 1888, I was summoned as a witness in a suit brought by the State-Attorney against a nurse of one of my patients. I was at that time suffering from a slight catarrhal inflammation of throat and bronchi, and, being compelled to overtax the organs of speech and respiration in giving evidence and citing records, I was seized at night with severe paroxysms of coughing, accompanied by loud mucous râles. I took several doses of Nat. mur., 6x, a remedy which has often proved useful to me for the ill-effects resulting from excessive use of vocal organs. The following day was passed pretty comfortably, but at night the cough and mucous rattling returned. Improvement again occurred after Nat. mur. so that on the morning of the 29th I could pay several necessary visits.

On the 30th of November, however, I suddenly awoke about 12 A.M., feeling greatly depressed and affected with a glowing heat; a cough more severe than ever set in, accompanied by loud rattling of mucus, detachment of which was extremely difficult. The ap-

pearance of fever occasioned me to rise from bed ; and upon noticing that the expectoration, which apparently consisted of mucus and saliva, was stringy and tenacious, and difficult to remove from lips and tongue, I determined to make an examination thereof. I accordingly expectorated several times into a glass of water which had been previously placed near at hand for the night, washed the sputum carefully with a match, and spread the remaining portion upon a sheet of white paper. The dendritic formation was distinctly visible, and thereby a diagnosis of croupous bronchitis established. The temperature had risen to 39° C., and pulse increased to 120. Without wasting any time in considering whether I should take Aconite or Phosphorus, I determined immediately upon the use of Kali iod., as in the case above; the dose, however, being more frequent, two teaspoonfuls being taken every fifteen minutes. Already after the fourth dose, that is, within three-quarters of an hour, the temperature had fallen to 38° and pulse to 100; and after the sixth dose the expectoration was less difficult, and the râles had diminished. About 5 o'clock I felt quite comfortable and fell asleep, waking about 7 o'clock in an apparently normal condition. The attack was broken, and I recovered rapidly.

I make known these personal observations for the reason that some important practical suggestions can be drawn therefrom.

The first hint for a thorough examination of the sputum is given when expectoration is difficult to detach, and is drawn out into thick, firm strings, which hang tenaciously to tongue and lips. To this special feature no reference has been made by any one, although I have several times found, particularly in chronic bronchitic affections, that patients themselves call attention to this condition. For over thirty years I had under treatment a case in which two or three attacks of catarrhal bronchitis occurred annually. In 1884 the disease became obstinate despite the use of former successful remedies. One day I was led to examine the sputum by the patient stating that the expectoration was stringy and very solid. The presence of fibrinous, dendritic casts at once indicated the use of Kali iod., whereupon the patient, an old man of seventy-two, was quickly cured.

The use of homœopathic remedies in rapidly succeeding doses is to be recommended in very acute, febrile and painful affections, as well as in dangerous cases. I have been constantly interested in the treatment of dangerous diseases, and found the rapid action of homœopathic remedies in rapidly succeeding doses confirmed by all the most celebrated practitioners of Vienna, Budapest, Dresden, Leipzig, Berlin, Hanover, Munich, etc., with whom I came in personal contact during the annual conventions of the Homœopathic Central Society of Germany during the years 1855 to 1876. Even

Hahnemann, Rummel, Vehsemaier, Veish, Schweickert, Reubel, Rosh, Lobethal, etc., gave frequently repeated doses, as can be instanced in the articles on cholera, dysentery, etc., in Rückert's *Homöopathischen Erfahrungen*. I have often been called late at night to children and adults suffering from a sudden febrile attack, where the temperature had already reached 40° or over, or who were suffering from some painful disorder. Here Acon., Bellad., Merc., etc., in solution, every ten or fifteen minutes, was followed by relief after a few doses, the fever subsiding or sweat developing, so that the patient spent the remainder of the night quietly.

Antipyretic treatment in homœopathy is not guided by the thermometer, but by the causes of the disease and the morbid phenomena presented by the case from time to time, and in accordance with which the selection of a remedy upon a physiological pharmacodynamic basis, or according to the law of similarity, is determined.

We regard fever simply as symptomatic of the invasion of acute disease, or as an accompaniment of an already existing disease, which may be catarrhal, rheumatic, gastric, inflammatory, psychical, infectious, malarial or dyscratic in nature.

In homœopathy, fever never becomes a sole object of treatment; the co-existing causes and symptoms are always taken into consideration.

Physicians who regard a rise of temperature to 40° C. as an onset of some severe or dangerous disease, are liable to frequent deceptions, inasmuch as a suddenly appearing sweat, diarrhœa, epistaxis or vomiting is often followed by a complete cessation of fever, whereupon the condition again becomes normal.

In the above case the fever was an accompaniment of croupous bronchitis. The prompt use of Kali iod., in frequent doses, caused rapid restoration to health, which could not have been so easily accomplished by any other method of treatment.

THE SPARE HOUR.

No. 2.

HAVING lately spent a few pleasant evenings with an ancient physician who retired from practice on the 7th of September, 1681, I have thought that a few notes of his experiences might be of interest.

Our venerable friend was born in 1629, and took his degree of M.A. at Oxford in 1652. He became a clergyman of the Church of

England, and in accordance with the usage of the seventeenth century, he studied medicine, so that when King Charles the Second appointed him to the Vicarage of Stratford-upon-Avon, in 1662, he both preached and practiced. He left a common-place book, consisting of seventeen manuscript duodecimo volumes, in which the entries extend from 1648 to 1679. He had, doubtless, seen Harvey, who died in 1658; he had read the *Religio Medici* and *Paradise Lost*, in the *editio princeps*; he had heard with awe of the beheading of King Charles the First, and of the "Great Plague" in 1665, and the terrible "Great Fire" of 1666. He was in London, a medical student at "Barber Chirurgeon's Hall," in 1661, and under the date of June 14th, of that year, he writes: "I saw Sir Henry Vane beheaded on Tower Hill, and he was much interrupted in his speech, because he reflected on his judges."

In 1661 there was only one place in London where public anatomical lectures were delivered, namely, the afore-mentioned "Barber Chirurgeon's Hall" in Monkwell Street, and of the doings there we have this glimpse: "February 26th, 1661, I was at Barber Chirurgeon's Hall, where I saw Dr. Scarborough's picture, and in the theatre there are skeletons, and one statue there is resembling the muscles. One skeleton there is over the table, to let down for inspection in time of dissection. Dr. Scarborough had a wooden man wherein the muscles, with all their motions, were represented; it cost him ten pounds; hee brought it to an anatomic one day, and itt was stolen from him; hee declared in open hall that iff any man could help him to itt again hee would give him five pounds. Dr. Terne should have read, but he was sick. There are but two anatomies in a yeer at Barber Chirurgeon's Hall, besides private ones." At a later date he heard two anatomical lectures read by Dr. Terne, "the one on the heart and midriff, the other on the head."

"Two anatomies in a yeer" doubtless means the dissecting of two subjects in a year, and we can now better understand the following: "Dr. Sydenham is writing a book which will bring physicians about his ears, to decree the usefulness of natural philosophie, and to maintaine the necessitie of knowledg in anatomic in subordination to physick. Physick, says Sydenham, is not to bee learned by going to universities, but hee is for taking apprentices; and says one had as good send a man to Oxford to learn shoemaking as practicing physick." [I can testify that universities have improved some in latter days, but it must be admitted that the "wooden man" holds out there yet and—*draws a salary*; which Dr. Scarborough's couldn't do.]

The extent of our old friend's "anatomic" may be judged from this leaf of his notebook: "A woman, Goodie Southerne, in great paine in her hips and thighs by a fitt of the stone, and vomitted

much ; the reason of the vomiting in the stone is by reason of the connexion of the reins with the stomach, by the common membrane borrowed from the peritoneum, and likewise by a nerve of the sixth conjugation, two branches whereof are brought from the stomach, and inserted into the inner tunick of the kidneys." We can, however, learn from this that the " Knowledge " of " anatomie " was progressing, for in 1578 the anatomical text-book of " Barber Chirurgion's Hall " thus described the nerves of the Kidney: "*The sinew commyng to the kidney is small in proportion, answerable neither to the arterie nor veyne of the kidney. For they are offred for the cause of nourishment and heate. But for sense sake, nature caused to either of them to be reached one braunch from the vi payre, sent to the rootes of the ribbes, which rather into the coate then into the body of them is dispersed.*"*

In 1665, he records a surgical operation: " A cancer in Mrs. Townsend's breast, of Alverston, taken off by two surgeons. First they cutt the skin cross and laid it back, then they worked their hands in ytt, one above and the other below, and so till their hands mett, and so brought itt out. They had their needles and waxt thread ready, but never ust them ; and also their cauterizing irons, but they used them not: she lost not above six ounces of blood in all. Dr. Needham coming too late, staid next day to see it opened. Hee said itt was a melliceris, and not a perfect cancer, but itt would have been one quickly. There came out a gush of a great quantitie of waterish substance, as much as would fill a flaggon ; when they had done, they cutt off, one one bitt, another another, and putt in a glass of wine and some lint, and so let it alone till the next day ; then they opened itt again, and injected myrrhe, aloes, and such things as resisted putrefaction, and so bound itt upp againe.

" Every time they drestt itt, they cutt off something of the cancer that was left behind ; the Chyrurgions were for applying a caustick, but Dr. Needham said no, not till the last, since shee could endure the knife.

" The way how and where itt should bee cutt was markt with ink by one Dr. Edwards."

This rude memorandum shows what a subservient position the surgeon held in those days.

The outcome of this case affords us a glance at an old-time *post-mortem* : " 1666. Mrs. Townsend, of Alverston, being dead of a cancer, Mr. Eedes and I opened her breast in the outward part, and found itt very cancerous ; itt had been broken, and a mellicerous part was yet remaining when we saw itt, which being launct, yielded two porringers full of a very yellow substance, which came out plentifully out of the cavities of the breast.

* *The History of Man*, etc., fol. 83. London, 1578.

“The flesh that was growne againe, after part was taken out, was of a hard gristly substance, which seemed very strange. The ribbs were not putrefied as wee could discerne, nor anything within the breast of a cancrous nature, for wee run the knife withinside the breast through the intercostal muscles. The cancer was a strange one, as was evident; we wanted sponges and other things convenient, or else wee had opened the cavitee of the breast.”

We find two hints worthy of notice: “There is not a more excellent balme for a burne than spirit of salt [*id est*, Muriatic acid], in a moderate quantitie of water.”

“Three spoonfuls of the juice of stinging nettles [*Urtica urens*] in posset drink, with three mornings intermission, is a certain cure for the stone.”

[Dr. John Pechey says of the Nettle: “’Tis Diuretick and Lithonriptick. Eaten with Pot-herbs, it loosens the Belly, expels Gravel, and promotes Expectoration. . . . The Juice of Nettles cures the Stings of Nettles presently.]

That our old priest-physician was a shrewd observer of human nature, and woman nature, is evidenced by this note of his: “*Fæminæ sunt medicorum tubæ.*”

One other item may interest obstetricians: “Dr. Chamberlayne, the man-midwife, lives in the Abbey Churchyard; his fee is five pound, yett I heard, if he come to poor people hee will take less.” Considering the relative value of money, Chamberlain got one hundred dollars for his forceps-cases. S. A. J.

BOOK NOTICES.

Diseases of the Eye and Ear.—By C. H. Vilas, A.M., M.D. 117 pages, 8vo. Chicago. 1890.

This book is the outgrowth of the notes and lectures of Dr. Vilas in his capacity of teacher in the Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago. Prepared originally for his own convenience, they have been added to from time to time and finally prepared for publication, and “the words of commendation heretofore received from old students (now practitioners) indicate that this new volume will prove valuable to others who, though they may decline all operations, are compelled from the nature of the diseases to treat many of them and alleviate others until such a time as the patients can be safely sent away.” These words, quoted from the introductory note, indicate how useful this work may be to every general practitioner, by giving him a concise and clear description of the diseases of the eye and ear and the appropriate treatment, both

homœopathic and external. The price is \$1.50; net to physicians, post-paid, \$1.28.

Klinische Arzneimittellehre. Eine Reihe von Vorlesungen, gehalten am Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia von dem verstorbenen E. A. Farrington, M.D. Aus dem Englischen übersetzt von Dr. Herman Fischer. 1 Lieferung. Leipzig. Verlag von Dr. Willmar Schwabe. 1889.

The first volume of Farrington's well-known *Clinical Materia Medica*, translated into German by Dr. Herman Fischer, and published by Dr. Willmar Schwabe, is to hand. It is 160 pages, and runs to "Phytolacca" on page 171 of the original; the remaining portion will appear promptly, and the entire work be completed in four parts. Every German and English scholar who has examined the translation says it is very felicitous, the charm of the original being retained in the translation. The price per part is \$1.00.

The Twelve Tissue Remedies of Schüssler, comprising the Theory, Therapeutical Application, Materia Medica, and a Complete Repertory of these Remedies. Arranged and compiled by William Boericke, M.D., and Willis A. Dewey, M.D. Second edition. Revised and enlarged. Philadelphia. 1890. 325 pages. Cloth. \$2.50.

This new edition is twenty-two pages larger than the first one, the extra space being taken up "by the addition of all the facts relating to the tissue remedies that have accumulated for the past two years." In its present state the book represents the complete presentation of the biochemical treatment of disease by means of the twelve remedies. A number of the clinical cases included in the first volume have been omitted and their places filled by newer and later cases. The Materia Medica part of the work is brought up to date by the incorporation of the results of late provings. The net price of the book to physicians, post-paid, is \$2.14.

There is a certain fascination—to the reviewer at any rate—in floral catalogues. They always come to us in the winter season, and bring with them a whiff of summer. The 1890 catalogue of James Vick, Rochester, N. Y., is before us, and is a handsome and complete work. May be had of the publisher for 10 cents, which amount is deducted from any purchases made.

We have received a copy of *Directory of Homœopathic Physicians*, published yearly by H. A. Mumaw, M.D., Orrville, O. It embraces the States from Pennsylvania to Nebraska, and south to Tennessee. The price is 10 cents.

“Professor Allen half apologizes for the ‘clinical sections’ of his *Handbook*. They alone are sufficient to justify the publication of this unwieldy book, and they alone will make the book cheap at any price to the practitioner.”—Samuel A. Jones, M.D., in *N. Y. Medical Times*. (*Italics, Dr. Jones’s.*)

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

On the Use of Ichthyol in Veterinary Practice.—By *Rabe*
—Rabe, in a lecture, speaks warmly on the results which he has obtained from the remedy in canine practice. He used it with excellent results :

1. *In Mange from Sarcoptes* (10 per cent. solution), rubbing the Ichthyol liniment over the entire body nearly, in some cases without seeing in dogs and cats any disturbances of the appetite or albuminuria.

2. *In Mange from the Acarus (Psora)*, where it is extremely difficult to remove and resisting the usual and even the stronger external applications (three cases of recovery).

3. *In Chronic Eczema*, Ichthyol excelled all the other remedies, used in a 10 per cent. solution.

4. *In Diffuse Purulent and Pustulous Eczema, Prurigo, Erythema, Erysipelas of the Head, of the Mammæ, of the Prepuce and Scrotum*, a 5 per cent. solution of Ammonium sulpho-ichthyolicum had an excellent action. In the latter affection, the application twice of a salve of 50 per cent. of Lanoline with 3 per cent. of this remedy, produced a striking improvement.

According to the experience of the writer, the use of equal parts of Ichthyol and something to correct the odor, is an excellent remedy in *Eczema Intertriginosum* and *Erythema Exfoliaticum of the facial skin*.

5. *In Swellings after Bruises and Traumatism (Chronica)*.

6. *In Gonarthrititis of the Knee-joint*, which, according to the writer, is more frequently seen in dogs in Hanover than anywhere else.

7. *In Traumatic, Ulcerous, Parenchymatous and Vascularizing Inflammations of the Cornea*, it has been used with excellent results in a 2 to 3 per cent. aqueous solution of the Ammonium sulpho-ichthyolicum.

Internally, 2 to 4 per cent. solutions (aqueous) may be given with very good results in chronic and acute gastric and intestinal catarrh, with or without icterus; it has also been used with good results in “staupe” (a deeply-penetrating catarrh of the air-passages, accompanied generally by intestinal catarrh, nervous symptoms, etc.—*Adam’s Wochenschr. für Thierh’k’de und Viehz.*, xxxi., p. 24.

“**Corn-stalk Disease.**”—Frank S. Billings, M.D., has been investigating what is known as the “Corn-stalk Disease,” and reports his discoveries to the *Buffalo Medical and Surgical Journal*. This disease often attacks cattle which have been turned into corn-fields that have been “topped.” It is an acute blood-poisoning, with fever from 102° to 107.6° ; weak pulse; rapid respiration; the animal will either bellow and chase other animals, or stand depressed and loth to move; retains its power to swallow and drink; constipation, which in favorable cases turns to diarrhœa; urine normal; yellowish-red congestion of mucous surfaces; milk slackens or ceases. “The *post-mortem* microscopic changes are those of acute septic febrile disease. The disease is not conveyed by one animal to another.”

The farmers were sorely puzzled. Only certain fields or parts of fields were dangerous. They could never tell when a valuable herd would be decimated, if turned into a fodder-field. Various theories, easily disproved by experiment, were prevalent among farmers. It was held to be caused by lack of salt and water for the cattle; by dryness of the fodder; by smut (*ustilago maidis*); but it was seen in cattle which had water and salt; and the dry-food theory was shown to be false. Moreover, cattle fed on large quantities of smut were not made ill.

The growing corn was now examined. In the diseased patches the plants were stunted, if attacked in early summer. The lower leaves die, becoming yellow, with colored streaks. The roots decay in the ground, even the brace-roots becoming corroded. The ears do not mature.

Microscopic examination of the leaf-streaks and other diseased parts reveals the presence of an organism which is now believed to be the cause of the disease. It is never found far from parts which are plainly diseased, and it invades the healthy tissues at the edge of the affected areas.

The germ resembles very closely that of the Southern *cattle plague* or *wild-seuche*, and of the swine plague. It is ovoid, its length being about one-sixth the transverse diameter of a red blood-cell. When stained it resembles a small white bean, with both ends and two sides stained. It moves by a sort of rolling action. Dr. Billings supposes that the white, non-coloring substance is a secretion of the two poles or cœcoid ends, and that it may constitute the ptomaine or essential poisonous pathogenic principle of the disease, which gets into the fluids of the animal body by the breaking up of its capsule, which occurs as the germ becomes mature.

The only treatment he recommends is Glauber salts to clear out the intestines.

In Norway they set a bucket of water in the stalls of horses beside their allowance of hay or oats, and let them moisten their food to suit their taste. They do not drink much at a time, but frequently take a sip with apparent great relish. It is hinted that this prevents broken wind, as such an ailment is hardly known in Norway.

Rheumatic Lameness.—The horse of a captain of Uhlans, v. T., was afflicted for a long time with an aggravated attack of lameness of the shoulders, and after ringing the changes of all possible old-school treatment, the owner was advised to try to get rid of his horse as best he could, for the affliction was incurable, advice which he was loth to follow, as his was a fine animal. As the sick horse was located at some distance, it could not be inspected, and the veterinarian, Dr. H. Fischer, of Berlin, had to rely on the history as given by the owner and by the old-school veterinarian who last had it under treatment. The latter, moreover, deprecated the possibility of its being influenced favorably by homœopathy, averring that if it did, he would take up and study that branch of medicine. In view of the fact that all manner of embrocations had already been used in vain, Dr. Fischer concluded to treat this chronic case by internal medication only. The prescription was Ferrun mur., 3x, and Rhus tox., 3x^d dil. in attenuation twice a day. The effect was astounding, exceeding the doctor's whole previous experience, for the horse was in perfect condition again two weeks from the commencement of the treatment.—*Fundgrube* for February, 1890.

Pink-Eye.—A four-year-old colt, half-blood Texas pony, December 21, 1889. Coryza, watery, running; worse when heated by least exercise. Great debility; weaving, staggering weakness when exercised. Stiff in legs, more or less all over, and sore as if overworked. No cough. Worse in morning—could hardly get out of stable. Pinkish, glassy eye, and running water of the same color. Sweats very easily on least exertion, and worse from exercise. Drinks but little at a time. Shortness of breath; panting, heavy respiration as though he had been running. Lost appetite. Arsen. alb. 3x, 6 disks three times a day. Rapid and steady improvement. Four doses relieved. Well the third day. Runs and plays as usual.

This remedy was also given to some colts which had pinkish, watery eye, running at nose and a few mild symptoms. Several doses entirely relieved and cured.

W. A. YINGLING, M. D.

NONCHALANTA, KANŒAS, January 6, 1890.

PUBLISHERS' DEPARTMENT.

MULLEIN OIL.

MESSRS. BOERICKE & TAFEL :

I have been much interested in the clinical study of this remedy, —new, yet not new,—but I have not succeeded in demonstrating what the symptom-deafness means in this case. Dr. Cushing does not claim to be an expert in this department, so time must help us out, and I am anxious to learn all I can of its effects on the ear.

In an old note-book of Dr. Hering's, *Hearing and Ears*, copied for me with the author's permission by my friend Dr. C. R. Norton, I noticed the following: "In Germany flowers of *Verbascum thapsus* put in a dark-colored bottle, hung up in the sunlight, give in two or three weeks an oily fluid which has cured many old people and children." This method is impracticable, the amount produced being so small. *Verbascum* prepared in olive oil or fluid petroleum has the same effect as any oil; excellent in chronic disease of the integument; negative in middle ear disease. When your house brought out *Mullein Oil* under Dr. Cushing's direction I took it up again, and have prescribed it in a large number of cases. In chronic dermatitis of the external meatus and drum head, or exfoliation after furuncle, it is excellent; in chronic catarrhal inflammation of the tympanum I have not been able to see any effect, but in chronic suppurative disease of the tympanum, or in accumulations of detritus in cases of perforation, scarred drum-heads, etc., it acts to dislodge accumulations, free the ossicula from pressure, and thereby improves the hearing; this process goes on for months till the tympanum has thrown out an amount of *débris* that is surprising. In a few cases it has caused soreness and increased mucopurulent discharge, due, I think, to excessive use.

My experience with it in chronic catarrh of the tympanum coincides with that of my friend, H. P. Bellows, M.D., of Boston, as published by him, but I purpose to continue the study of the drug, and hope for better results. In sub-acute or chronic disease after suppuration its effect is very gratifying; it aids exfoliation and checks irritation from exfoliated material.

I am able to confirm the symptoms noted of its effects in nocturnal enuresis in many instances. There is one effect I have not seen noticed by any observers: relief of night cough. More than ten years ago Dr. H. A. Tucker, Brooklyn, N. Y., told me of a *Glycerole of Mullein* made by macerating the plant in Jamaica rum for two or three weeks, expressing it and adding to this product an equal quantity of glycerine. This led me to the use of the fluid

extract of the plant, glycerine and water, equal parts, as a mollifier in cases where patients would resort to some popular remedy containing opium or similar opiate. The same effect can be produced by drop doses of *Mullein Oil*, the teasing cough which comes on lying down, preventing the sleep, usually yielding to a few doses.

HENRY C. HOUGHTON,

February 13th, 1890.

7 W. Thirty-ninth St., New York.

Sanicula.—H. M. Bascom, M.D., of Ottawa, Ill., furnishes us with the following points concerning *sanicula*:

“At one time, some ten years ago, there was an exhaustive analysis made of the water by a prominent chemist of Yale college, I think. My best recollection is that the Sulph. of magnesia was found in excess. I know of no other time when the salts have been evaporated. The medicinal action is upon the excretions: 1st. Increased urination, both frequency and amount. 2d. Increased action of the intestinal tract, in some cases causing profuse watery evacuations. 3d. Is sought after by chronic dyspeptics, and chronic rheumatics; seems to have an alterative effect. At one time, when the spring was quite popular, it was remarked that a few months later several cases of sterility were cured. Whether this fact threw disrepute upon the spring I am unable to say. I have always considered the spring valuable in many cases of chronic trouble for its alterative effect, clearing up the kidneys, or rather the whole system. Have never gone into any exact proving of the drug.”

TO THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

Nuphar Lutea.—Loss of strength. Excessive moral sensibility.

Diarrhœa.—Character is yellow, without colic in morning; in evening diarrhœa, which is part of this remedy, there is much flatulence. Chronic diarrhœa; stools watery, painless, quite copious, yellowish color, *very offensive*; frequent, as many as twelve in a day; a feeling of physical exhaustion is constant. Urine deposits a copious red sand.

Skin.—Psoriasis.

H. D. CHAMPLIN, M.D.

CLEVELAND, O.

TO THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

Skookum Again.—Dr. Gentry's article is very laughable to us Washingtonians on the *Skookum Chuck*. There is no such lake; the lake is known simply as Medical Lake. Skookum in Chinook means “good,” “strong,” “strength.” Chuck means “water,” “food,” “river,” “stream,” according to the inflexion of the word. Skookum Chuck means “rapid current.” The salt is known all over this

country as "Medical Lake Salt." If I knew Dr. Gentry's address I would send him a dictionary of Chinook jargon. Don't publish any more "Skookum Chuck" articles. It is easier to correct it now than after awhile.

Respectfully yours,

W. A. EGBERT, M.D.

WALLA WALLA, January 24, 1890.

[Even Dr. Gentry may be pardoned for not being familiar with the Chinook lingo, but it certainly seems that barbarous "Skookum Chuck" is a more distinctive name than "Medical Lake." However that is a matter of taste. No doubt Dr. Gentry will be happy to receive a dictionary of Chinook. It may be addressed to him at Rodgers Park, Chicago, Ill.—RECORDER.]

Theridion Curassavicum.—The supply of this remedy heretofore has been confined to dilutions made from the original from which Dr. Hering made his proving, but now through the courtesy of Dr. J. A. Terry, of New York, Messrs. Boericke and Tafel are enabled to offer a new supply and in lower dilutions than heretofore. We find the following "clinicals" scattered through Allen's new *Handbook* under Theridion:

"Hysteria, with loquacity and feeling as though head did not belong to her, or as if she could lift it off, great sensitiveness to light, etc. Scrofulous diseases of bones, rickets, caries and necrosis.

"Violent headache, with nausea, cannot bear the least noise; a feeling as if the vertex were separated from the rest of the head, or as if she would like to lift it off. Effects of sunstroke with most intolerant headache, nausea and vomiting."

"Nasal catarrh, with offensive, greenish, yellow discharge."

"Sea-sickness in women, nausea increasing with closing the eyes."

"Dysmenorrhœa, intense in left ovary, with intense headache, extreme sensitiveness of the cervix, chilliness, etc., syphilitic cases."

"It has been used in some forms of phthisis, violent stitches in the upper part of the left chest, extending to the back. Convulsive cough with peculiar vertigo. Violent cough, with spasmodic jerking of the head forward and the knees upward."

In Hale's *New Remedies*, Therapeutics, we find the following, among other things, concerning *Theridion*: "It is homœopathic to the headaches, so common to many women, which always begin with 'flickering before the eyes.' It also cures that symptom when unconnected with headache." "It cures a vomiting when closing the eyes, and when it resembles that of sea-sickness." It is also said to cure a "peculiar severe pain in the side" which resists all other remedies.

Dr. William Boericke in the *California Homœopath* says of this

remedy: "*Theridion* is very valuable in destroying the cause or caries in scrofulous people. It has stinging pains in various parts of the body and a continuous aching in left chest near articulation of floating ribs."

It is a remedy that has never come into general use, but it seems to have a place of its own for all that. It may be had in the 3d dilution.

Calendula in Deafness.—Dr. Robert T. Cooper furnishes the following important information concerning *Calendula* in deafness. We quote from *Homœopathic Review*:

We will now discuss the question of the influence of our old friend *Calendula officinalis* upon the ear. This is a subject that I flatter myself is altogether new.

Last January there was attending my out-patient department an engineer's apprentice, who had been under me for over two years, during which he had remained in a stationary condition, and before this had been a patient at an Ear and Throat Hospital, where he had got decidedly worse. He had been deaf since childhood, his body having, after vaccination, been covered with an eruption which was cured at this hospital, and the evidence of which he retains in the thickened, hard, dry skin of his hands, and in constantly-recurring sores about the body. There was a history of otorrhœa; but since being under me he has never had purulent discharge, but the ears are filled with a dirty-looking semi-liquid cerumen, which, when washed away, is shown to hide tympanal membranes with cicatrices as though perforations had existed.

The deafness is worst in a noise, and best after being in open air. His hearing, on first coming, was about 4 in. on *right*, and 1 in. on the *left* side, and until last January, when I put him upon *Calendula* off., it had varied but very little.

It occurred to me to try *Calendula*, and for this reason—*Calendula* as well as *Saffron* have been used from the time of *Culpepper** as "expulsive remedies." Both these are used now-a-days by the herbalists for developing eruptions when suppressed in the exanthemata. Now I had given this man *Lobelia* with more benefit than any other remedy upon this metastatic principle, but it did not cure him, and naturally I asked myself if *Calendula* might have an effect such as the herbalists claim for it. Five drops of *Calendula* ψ to go over two weeks, well diluted with water, and four drops of the same to ζ ij of *Sacch. lact.*, a grain to be used three times

* *English Physician*. Printed by John Streater, 1666. By Rich. Culpepper, Gent., Student in Physic and Astrology. Under *Marigolds*, p. 154, we are told it is "an herb of the sun," and under *Leo*, "they strengthen the heart exceedingly, and are very expulsive and little less effectual in the small-pox and measles than saffron."

a day as snuff, was my prescription. The effect was unquestionable; steady and continued improvement at once set in, both in his general health and in his deafness, and he has gone on with it in varying dilutions up to the present time. On beginning with it the hearing was, *right* 5 in., *left* 2½ in.; now, *right* is 7 in., *left* 20 in.

All I wish to commit myself to in this case is the enormous benefit this man derived from *Calendula*; as to the theory which suggested it I have no opinion to offer.

Calendula is of great use in the local treatment of ulcerating and eczematous surfaces, and, it may be, that it effected a change in the epithelial lining of the naso-pharynx, the influence extending to the middle ear.

Beyond the presence of dermic thickening of the dorsæ of the hands, and a disposition to sores on the body, this case gives us no presumable indication.

But there was then attending another very similar case in a girl of 21, where *Calendula* exercised an equally beneficial effect, and in which the indication seemed plain enough: "A great disposition to take cold, especially in damp weather.

Since then I have had an opportunity of putting very fully to the test of practical experience this key-note, and am well satisfied that we know of no remedy which can be resorted to for this particular symptom with such certainty as *Calendula*.

In one very obstinate case, in a clergyman of about 33 years of age, where only the left ear was deaf, and where everything had been tried without success, the *Calendula* brought back the hearing in a few days. In this case the deafness had come on after bathing; both membranes were normal in appearance, there was no discharge whatever, and there was an inability to distinguish with the left ear from whence sounds were coming, and which was always worse in damp weather. It had existed three years, during one year of which I had used every possible means without any real benefit until *Calendula officinalis* ψ 7 drops to ʒij. of Sacch. lact. was given as a snuff. If a solitary case could be a crucial test of the powers of a drug, this would be, for in no way can the action of *Calendula* be explained except on the principle of specificity. Other medicated snuffs had proved useless.

The next case shows very plainly the action of *Calendula* and of *Calcarea phos.* A girl of 17 consulted me 14th October this year. Always dull of hearing, very much worse last three months from being exposed to draft in church. Was very deaf as a child "from her throat," but yielded to treatment.

Right ear: deaf since scarlet fever, fifteen years; watch-hearing, 15 inches.

Left ear: deaf three months; watch-hearing, 4 inches. Glairy hyaline discharge from both ears.

Hears best in a train or busy thoroughfare.

Hearing is worse when she takes cold, which she always does in damp weather; worse when fatigued.

Cannot hear two persons speaking together. Hears church-bells and distant sounds fairly.

Has never been strong, liverish, appetite fair, bowels regular, sleeps heavily, not subject to cough, catamenia regular.

Prescription.—*Calendula* 3x, 7 drops to go over a fortnight, and a grain of 3x trit. to be taken as snuff thrice daily.

October 27th.—Has been hearing very much better; the snuff restores hearing in an hour or two after each insufflation. Watch-hearing, right 13 in., left 15 in. Glairy discharge continues. To continue.

November 11th.—In every way better; heard in church for first time for four months. R. 30 in., L. 40 in.

Prescription.—*Calcarea phos.*, 1x, 3 grs. dry on tongue three times a day.

November 25th.—Not hearing so well, but *Calcarea phosphorica*, she states unasked, acts upon the tonsils and enables her to swallow easier, the fluids of mouth do not hang about the throat as used to be the case. General health better. Watch-hearing better—right 50 in., left 45 in.

Prescription.—To have *Calendula* off. 3x as snuff, and *Calcarea phos.* 1x.

The case is still under treatment, but enough is shown by it to prove the effect of *Calendula*.

It will be thought, perhaps, I am robbing *Dulcamara* of its reputation. I do not think so; but, any way, what concerns me at present is not *Dulcamara* but *Calendula*.

What I claim to have done this evening is simply to have shown that there are good grounds for supposing *Calendula* to be particularly useful in the treatment of certain varieties of deafness, namely, those where the deafness is worse in damp surroundings, and especially where eczematous conditions are present.

It will be said that *Calendula* is imperfectly proved; this, certainly, is a reason for proving it but none for withholding clinical observations regarding it. The point is this: We have many ear-remedies, amongst the principal of which are *Aconite nap.*, *Pulsatilla*, *Hydrastis*, *Ferr. pic.*, and *Quinine*; not one of these meets the symptoms for which I have found *Calendula* so useful, and as this symptom is a very frequent one, the addition of *Calendula* to our ear-remedies is a decided gain.

There are many people who are constantly taking cold in damp

weather; they require something to counteract this tendency, and, as a help to their ears, we cannot do better than to advise the sniffing up of a grain of the third dec. trit. of *Calendula* off., the fresh plant being used in its preparation; while as far as the state of system generally goes, it ought to prove useful, as there are few remedies which produce symptoms like those arising from damp and chill more obviously than *Calendula*.

Lastly: what position is *Calendula* to occupy among ear-remedies? It is, of course, too soon to express a definite opinion; but it is not too soon to say that, without excepting even *Hydrastis canad.*, and which was first brought into prominence as an ear-remedy by myself in this hospital, I have never handled a remedy with greater satisfaction than *Calendula* in the treatment of the moist catarrhal manifestations of Vascular Deafness.

Unproved Remedies.—Dr. Dudgeon, in the *Homœopathic World*, relates the following interesting cases, in which *Syzygium* and *Thlaspi bursa pastoris* were used successfully:

“Dr. G., æt. 56, came to me on the 5th of September of this year. He complained of what he called ‘prickly heat’ all over the upper part of his body and arms. The skin was covered with small red papules, which he said itched so intensely he could get no rest. He felt very weak, which might be owing to his having for the last week abstained from all animal food, and confined himself to bread, farinaceous food, vegetables and fruit. He complained of much thirst and a great flow of urine. His mouth is very dry, and he must pass water every two hours day and night. The urine which I examined had a specific gravity of 1036, and was very saccharine. I told him to take chiefly animal food and green vegetables, and very little bread and no sugar. I gave him a phial of tincture *Syzygium* mixed with three times the quantity of alcohol, and directed him to take two drops every three hours. September 17th.—He had taken the specific gravity of his urine every day, and found that it sometimes reached 1045, but had steadily declined for the last few days. It was now 1030. His thirst was less, the prickling itching much relieved, and the quantity of urine passed very much diminished. Continued medicine. 29th.—No thirst, no itching, passes very little urine—specific gravity 1025; he told me it had even been much lower. No sugar. His strength and spirits excellent. I told him to continue the *Syzygium*, once a day for a short time to confirm the cure.

“This is the most striking cure of diabetes I have yet seen by any treatment. I cannot say with preciseness how long the disease had lasted before the patient visited me. It is always very difficult—generally impossible—to fix the date when diabetes began. It is

generally pretty far advanced before the patient thinks it necessary to seek advice. Dr. G. was chiefly concerned about the tiresome pruritus, which deprived him of rest. He noticed that his mouth was dry and that his thirst was great, but he ascribed this to febrile irritation from the incessant torture of the itching. Though not a medical doctor, he has a very fair knowledge of physic, and when I announced to him, after examination of the urine, that he had diabetes, he was very much alarmed. The diet he had been pursuing was of course the worst possible for his disease, but he adopted it with the view of allaying the intolerable itching, on which, however, it had no effect—indeed, the itching grew worse every day, and was the cause of his coming to me. He watched his symptoms with intelligence, and carefully tested the specific gravity of the urine from day to day. I was not very strict in my dietetic rules, only enjoining on him to eat as much meat as he felt inclined for, to abstain from sugar, and to take toast and biscuit in place of bread and potatoes. As the diabetic symptoms declined, I removed my embargo on sugar and starch, so that, in fact, diet had nothing to do with his cure, which was apparently solely due to the *Syzygium*. I had already had some experience of the power of this medicine in several cases of diabetes, but none to such a degree as in this case. This may have been owing to the other cases not having been of quite the same character as this one, or perhaps to my not having relied on it alone for the cure. Of course, I know that *Syzygium* will not cure all cases of diabetes, for that is a disease that seems to be owing to many different morbid states; but my success in this case should be an encouragement to others to give it a fair trial in similar cases. The mere diminution in the quantity of sugar excreted by means of a rigorous anti-diabetic diet, cannot be considered as a cure of diabetes, for the sugar, as a rule, returns as soon as the patient resumes ordinary diet. By the way, the cures said to have been effected by Opium, are illustrations of the homœopathic-therapeutic rule, for Levinstein has shown in his work, *Die Morphiumsucht*, that acute poisoning by morphia causes sugar to appear in the urine of man and animals.”

“*Thlaspi Bursa Pastoris for Excessive Uric Acid.*—I have elsewhere mentioned the power of this substance to affect the secretion of uric acid,* and since then I have seen several cases corroborative of its medicinal virtues in this direction. One, a gentleman, æt. 57, who, in addition to other dyspeptic symptoms, had occasionally large discharges of coarse uric acid, coming away in masses the size of a good big pin’s head, but curiously enough without pain. I prescribed *Thlaspi*, which he said soon stopped the uric acid. Nearly a year

* See *Monthly Homœopathic Review*, xxxii., p. 614.

after this he called on me for a different affection, and informed me that the uric acid had reappeared several times in his urine, but that a few doses of Thlaspi 1 soon stopped it, and it never came to the height it attained when I first gave it to him. A lady, nearly eighty years of age, was suffering from the pressure of a calculus in the left ureter, which I knew to be of uric acid, as she had previously passed much 'sand.' The urine showed no sand, and was very scanty. I tried several remedies, among the rest the Borocitrate of magnesia, but it was not till I gave Thlaspi 1 that a great discharge of coarse brick-colored sand took place, with speedy relief to her pain. At the same time, indeed, I made her drink copiously of distilled water which has a powerfully disintegrating effect on uric acid sometimes, but, as she had already been taking this for several days without effect, I am inclined to give the whole credit of the cure to Thlaspi.

"It is not alone in such cases that Thlaspi is useful. Its ancient use as a hæmostatic has been confirmed in modern times and in my own experience, and my friend, Dr. Harper, related to me lately a most interesting cure he had effected by its means of a very prolonged and serious affection. The case was that of an elderly lady who for years had suffered from a large discharge of muco-pus, sometimes mixed with blood, sometimes apparently nearly all blood, which poured from the bowels after each evacuation. She had been many months under the medical treatment of the late Dr. D. Wilson, who at last told her he considered her disease incurable. She then put herself under the treatment of a practitioner who relies chiefly on oxygen gas for his cures; but she was no better—rather worse—after his treatment. She then came to Dr. Harper, who worked away at her with all the ordinary remedies without doing a bit of good. At last he bethought him of Thlaspi, led thereto by my remarks on its anti-hæmorrhagic properties in my "therapeutic notes" in *The Monthly Homœopathic Review* of October, 1888, and he found that, from the time she commenced using this remedy, the discharge from the bowels gradually declined and ultimately ceased, and there has been no return of it.

"No doubt Thlaspi is a great remedy, and until it is satisfactorily proved, we may employ it with advantage in cases similar to those I have mentioned. But it is to be hoped that some of our colleagues endowed with youth, health and zeal, will ere long favor us with a good proving of it, whereby its curative powers may be precisionized. At present we only partially know these from the less satisfactory results of clinical experience.

"*Lycopus virginicus* seems to be a specific for bringing back an old (but long disappeared) hæmorrhoidal flux in persons with light

eyes. I gave, a week ago, the first decimal dilution to a gentleman (sixty years) for noise and throbbing in the head during the night (which prevented the quietness of sleep); because neither *Cactus* (which helped quickly when he had blood-spitting) nor *Kalmia*, nor *Gelsemium* helped radically. The night after taking *Lycopus*, he was a little better, and in the forenoon came a bleeding from the rectum (about three tablespoonfuls after defecation) with great general relief. There was chronic catarrhus bronchialis. Two days afterwards, I gave to an elderly lady (sixty years), who had glycosuria, cataract of the left eye, and every third night was very restless, *Lycopus virginicus* 1 decimal dilution, one drop in the evening. The following night was excellent, and in the morning came an abundant bleeding from the rectum, with great relief. Both patients are tall, very irritable, have weak innervation of the heart, without decided organic disease of the heart; both are hypochondriacs; have light eyes; noise in the left ear. Both had, years ago, hæmorrhoidal flux, which stopped suddenly."—Dr. Proell, in *Homœopathic World*.

MERAN, October 21, 1889.

Apocynum Cannab.—"Mrs. J. F., aged twenty-one years, living at Vilaseca, married, of good constitution, appeared at my office, January 4, 1889, together with her young and affectionate husband, justly alarmed by the grave prognostications of several doctors who had examined her for a complaint from which she had suffered for seven months before. It had arrived at such an extreme that she had been advised to go to Barcelona to be operated on, and before undergoing the operation to confess herself and make her will.

"Such advice to a young and happy woman was not cheering.

"As a last resort, she determined to try homœopathy, and but a few days passed before she repented of not having done so from the first day.

"Let us examine the symptoms of this patient.

"Of apparently good exterior appearance, all excepting a paleness of face, and slight lividness of the lips, indicated her sufferings. The abdomen was much swollen, having the appearance of a woman in the last stages of pregnancy. Of this she complained. I examined her at once, and discovered a large quantity of fluid in the abdomen, which was of globular form, more prominent above the umbilical and epigastric regions. On slight percussion the fluxion was noticeable; the slight pain was increased by the weighty feeling. The respiration impaired as a result of mechanical distension, it was rather dyspnœa, compelling the patient to seek a semi-recumbent position. There were frequent, although not continuous,

palpitations, some vomiting and impaired digestion, and the tendency to lipoma constituted the general condition of our patient. Let us add, menstruation normal, the menstrual hæmorrhage appearing several days before the regular time. No cause could be attributed for this, as she had not taken cold, suppressed any perspiration, or exposed herself to any dampness.

“Diagnosis: Ordinary dropsy. I gave one dose of Sulphur, then six of Apocyn. cannab. 3 to dissolve in eight spoonfuls of water, each containing a quarter of a drop, to be taken every three hours.

“The 26th of same month I again saw the patient. The improvement was remarkable. The abdominal effusion was diminished to about two-thirds, the only complication was a slight constipation, that was relieved by a simple enema (cold water). This was ultimately cured by some globules of Nux vom., returning to the Apocyn. cannab. in same proportions as before, and on the 15th of February she was pronounced cured. Two months later she had a relapse, but with prompt treatment it disappeared within a few days, and up to date she is well. How can a few drops of a dilution where there are no medicinal properties (according to the allopaths) overcome a case of dropsy that could not be cured, but only alleviated by operation?”—Dr. Filip Ascot de Tortosa, in *El Con. Hom.*, translated for *Homœopathic Physician*.

Nutmeg Poisoning.—Dr. Amos Sawyer reports in the *New York Medical Journal* a case of nutmeg poisoning in a child three years old. He found the little patient with a normal temperature and respiration; pulse regular, but just a little slow; all the muscles completely relaxed. An attempt to arouse him failed, his head falling in whichever way the body inclined. An examination of the pupils revealed complete dilatation. Upon inquiry, the doctor was informed that the child had, unknown to his mother, appropriated from her spice-box five large nutmegs, which he informed his little sister was his tobacco, and which by noon he had managed to consume, presumably spitting out the bulk of the spice. About 2 P.M. he complained of feeling dizzy and soon fell asleep, and they had been unable to arouse him. He had had one movement from the bowels, and had urinated twice while in this condition. There had been no delirium. He recovered consciousness as if awakening from a natural slumber, but with the greatest dislike for nutmegs, after having slept thirty consecutive hours.

Nothing New under the Sun.—Brown Séquard's famous elixir is, after all, according to one of our exchanges, but a variation of an old recipe. In an old work, entitled “Hunting with Dogs,” published by Eleazar Blaze, occurs the following passage: “When you

kill a boar do not throw away the testicular glands. If you be advanced in years, these glands, dried, reduced to powder, stirred into soup made from an old rooster, and taken when fasting by yourself and wife, will have marvellous effects: children will be born to you every nine months, and you will need no other recipe to restore matters to their original condition." The recipe came originally from "Julii Cæsaris Baricelli, a Sancto Mario, doctoris medici Hortulus Genialis, Genova, 1620."

The New York *Medical Times* says that a wineglassful of vinegar will immediately "restore his faculties and powers of locomotion to a man who is helplessly intoxicated."

There is a big call for the new edition of Boericke and Dewey's *Twelve Tissue Remedies*. It is a book that will profit any physician to own.

All communications and exchanges for the editor of the RECORDER should be addressed 1011 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

After much vexatious delay Messrs. Boericke & Tafel's new *Physicians' Catalogue* has appeared.

Among the new pharmaceutic preparations is an ointment prepared by Messrs. Boericke & Tafel from Skookum Chuck salts with Lanoline base. It is designed for cases of eczema.

Subscriptions to the HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER will be received by Messrs. Boericke & Schreck, 234 Sutter Street, San Francisco, Cal. The Pacific coast is invited to avail itself of this convenience.

Messrs. Roberts & Co., 1007 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., will receive subscriptions to the RECORDER; also any of Boericke & Tafel's pharmacies.

We have a number of excellent papers for the next number of the RECORDER, among them one from Dr. S. A. Jones, "On One of Our Remedies in the Rough."

Those receiving sample copies of this number are invited to send in their names and \$1.00 and become subscribers. The RECORDER, we think, is worth the small sum asked.

A number of our subscribers who are in arrears will confer a favor by remitting amount due.

With a few exceptions, back numbers of the RECORDER of any year can be supplied at 20 cents each.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

VOL. V. PHILADELPHIA AND LANCASTER, MAY, 1890. No. 3.

ONE OF OUR REMEDIES IN THE ROUGH.

I.

An observant reader of our periodical literature for the last thirty years cannot fail to note a significant change in its character, quality, and value. In our latter-day journals he will find far more of "science" and far less of art. This it is that has changed its character, impaired its quality, and lowered its value—as *homœopathic literature*. Of course, there is science and *pseudo-science*, and between these I do not care to discriminate because, in their *absolute value to Medicine as an art*, I would not give a bent pin for the choice.

I do not particularly desire to be misunderstood, but after some twenty-five years' experience as a writer I have gotten used to it—to bump against the extra-thick skull of some good-natured reader doesn't disturb my digestion at all—still, to avert misunderstanding, let me say in the words of Dr. John Brown, of Edinbro', "The word Science is used in the sense of information, as equivalent to a body of ascertained truths—as having to do with doctrines. The word Art is used in the sense of practical knowledge and applied power." The same author makes this subtle distinction: "Science * * * is lucid rather than luminous"—and whoso gets the pith and marrow of *that* will have no quarrel with me. But, as there are no pepsinoids for the aid of intellectual digestion, and as many readers decline to chew even a thought, it will be best to quote some of Dr. Brown's pithy antitheses to make clear what science and art, *in medicine*, are:

SCIENCE.

Studies the phenomena of poisoning.
Is diagnostic.
Has a system.
Speaks.
Is *post-mortem*.

ART.

Runs for the stomach-pump.
Is therapeutic and prognostic.
Has a method.
Acts.
Is *ante-mortem!!*

The *dictum* is as old as Aristotle that "the end of life is an action, not a thought;" and that ought to knock out "Science" in the first round. Of course, it won't do this with those who are nothing if not "scientific," and *therapeutically* the same though never so scientific. But, I am counting on those matter-of-fact fellows who "run for the stomach-pump;" the wide-awake *ante-mortem* chaps, not the *post-mortem* "scientific" specimens of which the History of Medicine is a very charnel house.

I much wish that those Homœopathic physicians whose writings are making our journals but a feeble echo of those of the old school, would ransack the old-book stores until they get a copy of *Van Swieten's Commentaries on Boeshaave*. Van Swieten will command their respect as the founder of the Vienna school of medicine. On reading, they will find him to have been a man of encyclopædic attainments, a "full" man, as Bacon would say. He represents the "science" of his day—a science as satisfying to him as ours is to us; a science that puffed up its possessor just as ours does to-day. When such an one has done laughing, I wish to ask him how he knows that the physician of 1990 will not laugh at our "science" just as we do at Van Swieten's?

Now, it is a fair question to ask: if the science of medicine fluctuates from century to century, yes, from decade to decade, and if a certain exposition of the art holds its own as the same yesterday, to-day, and to-morrow, then which of the two is the better possession? One is theory; the other is practice, and at the same time demonstration. Which is the better possession?

Much of the debasement of homœopathic literature that we deprecate is owing to the younger graduates in Homœopathy. This sounds like an Irish bull, but it is not such when we remember that we have colleges which are homœopathic only in title. As the fountain cannot rise higher than its source, so a student is not apt to transcend his teachers. If they limp he will stagger in the faith. I myself have heard a (nominal) professor of homœopathic materia medica tell his class that Hahnemann and his provers were a set of eager enthusiasts and that their provings must be read with many grains of allowance—taken as a whole, they were decidedly unsafe to follow; and yet, by these very provings our school had won its laurels and its place as a school!

I wish to say—and it has taken me all this while to get round to it, such is the garrulity of advancing age—that we are forgetting our beginnings, forgetting the therapeutic protagonist whom we *can* forget only to our shame. Think of his honesty of purpose; think of his relinquishing a profession because it was only a

blind groping in the impenetrable darkness. He could not do as his fellows did: pocket his fees and ask no questions. They had a "Science and Art of Medicine" in his day, and he was legally qualified, but he could not deceive his own soul—and he wrote no more prescriptions. There was a wife and children to clothe, and feed, and keep warm, and yet he dropped practice and took up translation, Poor pay always; poorer then than now. One day while translating *Cullen*, the divine hint flashed athwart the darkness; and then began a series of labors in materia medica that none of woman born has equaled. We are to-day enjoying all that he toiled for in poverty and in obloquy, and we repay him, the Light-Bringer, by forgetting him and filling our journals with *imitations* of modern "Science!" It is well to call a halt from time to time for the sake of taking a retrospect that shall show us our actual dimensions and teach us his; and this is the more needful for those physicians, called (and calling themselves) homœopathic, that have been graduated within the last eighteen years. It is about that time back since the unacknowledged appropriation of homœopathic therapeutic literature was begun by Sidney Ringer—whose example has begotten a breed of "conveyancers" of the *Cacus* character. The practical value of these appropriations, and that other benefit derived from Homœopathy, namely, the decrease in the dosage of the older school, have made the contrast between old school and homœopathic practice infinitely less pronounced than it was in Hahnemann's day. These younger graduates are not likely to be fully aware to what degree the advance of the old school is due, directly in positive therapeutics and indirectly in diminished dosage, to the genius of Hahnemann. In Hahnemann's day the difference in results between the old method and the new gave to his early disciples a steadfastness that is conspicuously missing in the callow graduate of to-day. I do not blame the callow graduate; for the sight of a hypodermic syringe in a "Professor's" *kit* denotes an "eclipse of Faith" wherein the blind lead the blind and both "fetch up" in the ditch.

I do not at this moment think of a better plan for such a retrospect as is desiderated than to take *One of Our Remedies in the Rough* and see what it became in Hahnemann's hands. But allow me a parenthesis before I carry out that plan. Well, then, you recollect Dr. John Brown said, "Science has a system; art has a method." Now let us proceed "according to Hoyle" and Webster, for we want to take the trick. *System* is "a complete exhibition of essential principles or facts, arranged in a rational dependence or connection." *Method* is "an orderly procedure

or process." On these definitions we base the assertion that the therapeutics of Homœopathy combine both science and art, having both a system and a method. That its system is based on "essential principles or facts" is shown by the power of *prevision* that is found in it, and in no other system of therapeutics. This prevision consists in defining under what conditions a given remedy will produce a specially designated result in a case wherein that remedy has *never before been known to have been applied*. This prevision depends solely upon the *data* derived from a knowledge of the effects of that remedy upon the human organism in health. This knowledge is obtained by "an orderly procedure or process" into which absolutely no hypothesis enters.

We are now ready for

The Remedy in the Rough.

II.

Pulsatilla is confessedly the consummate masterpiece in the Hahnemannian Materia Medica. If he had left only that and his *Orgascon* it would have sufficed to establish the truth of his system, and to have shown the way out of Egypt. Here follows all that the medical world knew of *Pulsatilla*, or *Anemone*, down to the Year of Our Lord, 1578.

"The roote of Anemone chewed in the mouth, draweth unto itselfe flemes, and causeth muche moysture to be auoyded out of the mouth.

"The same boyled in wine prepared (called in Latine *Passum*) and after layd upon the eyes, cleareth the sight, and taketh away webbes and spottes.

"The leaves and yong branches boyled with cleane husked barley, causeth Nurses (that drinke thereof) to haue abundance of milke.

"The same put under, as a Pessaric or Mother Suppositorie, stirreth up the menstruall flowers of women."

As late as A. D. 1710, it had attained the following dimensions:

"VIII. *The Qualities*.—They are hot and dry in the third degree. They cut, inside, attenuate, attract and inflame; are dedicated to the Head, Womb and Joynts, and Alteratives only in their Operation.

"IX. *The Specifications*.—They are peculiar cold and moist Dis-temperers of the Head, Brain and Womb, and to cleanse old Ulcers.

"X. *The Preparations*.—Tho' the shops keep nothing of this Plant, yet you may prepare therefrom, 1. *A Juice*. 2. *An Essence*. 3. *A Decoction*. 4. *A Gargarism*. 5. *A Saline Tincture*. 6. *An Oily Tincture*. 7. *An Ointment*. 8. *A Cataplasm*. 9. *A Masticatory*. 10. *A Pessary*.

The Virtues.

“XI. *The Juice*.—It is a singular good Errhine, for by snuffing it up the Nostrils, morning and evening, it Purges the Head and Brain of cold, thick and tough flegmatick Humors, whereby it prevails against Apoplexies, Epilepsies, Carus, Lethargies, Vertigos, Megrims and cold Head-aches, proceeding from a cold cause.

“XII. *The Essence*.—It has the same virtues used as an Errhine; but is most commonly given inwardly from ij. drams to half an ounce, mixed with a draught of Mead, Wine, or some proper Water, to open Obstructions of the Womb, and to bring effectually the Terms in Women, as also hasten the Birth, and bring away the After-birth. [Does that “to hasten the Birth,” corroborate the Homœopathic use of it to procure the evolution of the fœtus—as is claimed by many?]

“XIII. *The Decoction*.—It is not so hot as the former, and therefore not so strong, but yet is effectual for the same things the Essence is, but may be given in a larger Dose, as from ij. ounces to iij. sweetened with White Sugar.

“XIV. *The Gargarism*.—It is made of the Juice or Essence, mixt with an equal quantity of the Decoction, to 8 ounces, of which you may add iij. drams of pure Nitre, dissolving it therein. Used as a Gargle, it powerfully attracts cold and moist Humors out of the Head and Brain, and parts adjacent, and so it is good in the Cure of those Diseases, the Juice is said to be good against.

“XV. *The Saline Tincture*.—It more powerfully opens the Womb than the Essence does, and is used in inveterate Obstructions thereof when the Essence is not found powerful enough. It opens Obstructions of the Reins and Bladder, provokes Urin, and expells Sand and Tartarous Matter. Dose from j. dram to ij. in some fit Vehicle.

“XVI. *The Oily Tincture*.—Tho’ this may be used inwardly, yet its chief Use is for External Application against Weakness and cold Affections of the Nerves, Tendons, Ligaments and Joynts; against all sorts of Aches and Pains proceeding from Cold, or an Afflux of Cold Humors, as also against Numbedness, Tremblings, Cramps, Convulsions, Palsies, and the like Disaffections of the Nerves.

“XVII. *The Ointment*.—It has the Virtues of the Oily Tincture, but not so powerful, but is better for cleansing old running Sores, fœtid Ulcers, malign and rebellious Fistula’s, and taking away Scabs, Itch, Scurff, Morpew, and other like Defilements of the Skin.

“XVIII. *The Cataplasm*.—It has the Virtues of the Ointment, opens the Pores of the Skin more and prevails against Scabs, Scurff, Morpew, Leprosie, etc.

“XIX. *The Masticatory*.—It has all the Virtues of the Gargism, but is better to be used by such as cannot away with the other. It is made of the Root.

“XX. *The Pessary*.—It is made either of the Root or Juice, with Wax and Barley-flower, and is put up into the Womb to bring down the Courses.”

III.

The reader is now in possession of as much knowledge concerning *Pulsatilla* as was available for Hahnemann when he began his provings of this plant, if he will also include some two-dozen symptoms culled from Bergius, Hellwing, Heyer, Säur, and Stoerck. As *Pulsatilla* first came from Hahnemann's hand, in his *Fragmenta de Viribus, etc.*, it had 309 symptoms; in the first edition of his *Mat. Med. Pura* it had grown to 1073, and in the last we have 1154. O ye younger graduates who call yourselves “Homœopaths,” in simple justice to a dead man's memory (and *such* a man!) study his pathogenesis of *Pulsatilla*, thoroughly digesting his introductory observations and his foot-notes, and making all the comparisons of sequences and alternating effects, and then say in your heart of hearts if “ever man spake as this!”

Rise up from a faithful study of this pathogenesis filled with a conception of his depth of insight and unrivalled power of observation. He has touched the dry bones of Emperical Medicine and it thrills with life. He has pointed out the secret of a drug's puissance, and what it did for him it will do for you, to-day, to-morrow, and while time shall last. Of whom before him can this be said? Of how many after him? If after such a study of *Pulsatilla* you do not find your heart filled with fealty it is more than likely that you have spoiled a third-rate shoemaker in the attempt to make a fourth-rate doctor—I don't say *Homœopath*, which means a doctor *plus* the only approximation to a Law yet discovered in Therapeutics.

Lastly, my dear young graduate, leave “science” to the poor, pin-feathered “Regulars,” it is all they have, and what good does it do them or their patients! I lately saw *this* “science” prescribing quinine and whisky for the *grippe*—which means champagne and oysters for the undertakers. That is the way it worked in my vicinity. Leave *that* “science” alone; take in your hand the Hahnemannian clue and you will walk your rounds panoplied in puissance.

S. A. J.

ANN ARBOR, February 8th, 1890.

THE RECTUM.

Some of Its Diseases and Their Relation to Chronic Diseases.

Until quite recently but little has been known by the profession concerning the rectum or its diseased conditions.

Even now a majority of the physicians are ignorant concerning some diseases of the rectum, and those very diseases are the most mischievous, not from any local disturbance, but in their effects on the general system.

In order to understand the matter we must begin at the foundation and bear in mind one thing, viz: There is one agency by which our physical beings are developed and by which they are maintained, and through this agency must they be restored when broken down by disease. No matter what measures are adopted they must be directed to one thing, and that is, to promote a healthy circulation of the blood. It is well known that the circulation of the blood depends upon nerve force alone, so that whatever exhausts this nerve force tends to weaken the circulation with all the consequences incident thereto.

This nerve force is derived from the vaso-motor or sympathetic system.

The rectum, like all other tubes of the body, has a muscular coat composed of involuntary muscular fibers, and as is well known, all involuntary muscles receive their nerve supply from the vaso-motor system. The anus is guarded by two sphincters, the external receiving its supply from the cerebro-spinal system, and the internal sphincter, being an involuntary muscle, receives its supply from the vaso-motor system. Keep in mind the fact that the force controlling the circulation of the blood comes from the same source as does the internal sphincter and muscular coat of the intestines and you have the key to the situation.

The lesions of the rectum keep up a constant irritation, producing an immense waste of the vital forces and undermining the system.

Prof. Pratt makes this broad assertion: "In all pathological conditions, surgical or medical, which linger persistently in spite of all efforts at removal, from the delicate derangements of brain-substance that induce insanity, and the various forms of neurasthenia, to the great variety of morbid changes repeatedly found in the coarser structures of the body, there will invariably be found more or less irritation of the rectum, or of the orifices of the sexual system, or of both. In other words, I be-

lieve that all forms of chronic diseases have one common predisposing cause, and that cause is a nerve waste occasioned by orificial irritation at the lower openings of the body. These irritations induce a rigidity of the sphincters guarding the parts, which either continues sympathetically affecting the rest of the involuntary muscular system, and steadily draining the nervous power that supplies it, until the whole struggle terminates in a rigor mortis; or, tiring out in the hopeless grip, relaxes into the inertia of paralysis."

While this seems almost incredible at first, a thorough investigation will lead almost anyone to believe the statement.

The lesions of the rectum may very properly be divided into two classes.

1st. Those of which the patient is conscious; and, 2d. Those of which the patient is unconscious, because of the lack of local disturbances.

It is this latter class which produce the most serious results.

In the first class belong hemorrhoid or piles, fistula, fissure and ulcers.

Our books contain full instructions for the treatment of these troubles, and the reader is respectfully referred to them. In the second class belong pockets and papillæ. No mention of them is made in current literature, and until recently not even has the subject been mentioned in our medical colleges.

What are rectal pockets?

They may be present as long sacs, ulcerated at the bottom, or short pouches, with broad mouths, but whenever present they always produce irritation of the rectum and should be removed. There is a division of opinion as to whether they belong to the domain of anatomy or pathology, for they are by no means always present. There is only one way to determine positively whether they are present or not. Two things are needful, a blunt hook and a good rectal speculum, preferably a bivalve or trivalve speculum. Care is necessary, even then, or they may be overlooked by opening the speculum too much, thereby stretching the mucous membrane so much as to close the mouth of the pockets, and the hook will then glide over the surface without becoming engaged.

Very many of the internal, incomplete fistulæ, which have been treated by physicians in the past, were doubtless rectal pockets which had become ulcerated. Having become ulcerated it is only a question of time when they will develop into complete fistula. Papillæ are conical processes of mucous membrane, varying in size and location. When small, and transparent at

their apices, they seem to occasion the most trouble. Each is provided with a central artery, which bleeds viciously when cut off. The bleeding is of short duration and does no harm. In the treatment of pockets and papillæ there is only one course to pursue, and that is to remove them. Engage the pockets with the blunt hook and cut them out, using a double curved scissor for the work. Papillæ can be taken up with a tenaculum and cut off.

In all cases, after removing the pockets or papillæ, stretch the sphincters thoroughly, to give the parts rest. The effect of this treatment on some of these old chronic cases is marvelous. You ask how? Close the hand tightly and keep it clinched for one hour, never relaxing the muscles for an instant; and observe the amount of vital force that is required to do so.

The presence of pockets and papillæ in the rectum produce an irritation which causes the muscles to remain in a state of tonic contraction, day after day, week in and week out, continuing sometimes for years. Consider for a moment what an enormous waste of nerve force is constantly going on. Is it any wonder that "the whole struggle terminates in a rigor mortis; or, tiring out in the hopeless grip, relaxes into the inertia of paralysis."

The circulation of the blood, being dependent on this force, naturally becomes weak, and almost every organ and tissue in the body suffers.

The various organs become torpid; the liver is inactive; the stomach fails to digest the food; the bowels become constipated; the heart palpitates; the mind is diseased with the body; and the victim becomes an easy prey to almost any disease flesh is heir to. Hysteria, epilepsy, impotence, consumption, insanity, and in fact, every type of chronic disease.

Almost any physician can call to mind some case of impaired health where it has not been easy to discover any cause for disease. In such a case don't fail to make a thorough examination of the rectum. Remove every source of irritation and in a majority of cases the patient will be restored to health.

In the last number of the RECORDER some one mentions the painless treatment by injection "conceived while lost in the depths of Dante's Inferno." Now there are *some cases* of piles that cannot be injected without causing severe pain, external piles in particular or any other pile tumor which is of a fibrous nature or when badly inflamed. Cases of vascular tumors can be injected without causing the patient any discomfort. Care must be used so as to pass the needle *into* the tumor, and not *under* it.

That suppositories will relieve many cases I have no doubt, but that *all* cases will yield, I have doubts, and think that eventually they will have to be removed with the knife or by injection.

SOLON ABBOTT, M. D.

Biddeford, Me.

ON THE THERAPEUTICS OF THE PASSION FLOWER.

Passiflora Incarnata.*

This is one of the many species of the Passion Flower; and is at the same time the most showy of the various species found in the United States.

It is a climbing herbaceous plant and has its habitat over a wide area—including Europe, Asia, Australia and America. Its gaudy flowers are doubtless to be seen in the "Dark Continent" also. Even in Maryland we are not strangers to this plant. Whilst it flourishes in the "Sunny South," it wanders as far north as Pennsylvania and Illinois.

Thus scattered over the four quarters of the globe, it ought to be an herb of some importance to the human family; but so far as the writer is aware there has never been a proving made of this plant, and we are therefore left to the empirical method of gaining some knowledge of its properties and uses.

Hale, in his "New Remedies," quotes an article upon the plant extolling its virtues as an unrivalled remedy for Tetanus Neonatorum, neuralgias of all sorts, chancre, ulcers, syphilis, erysipelas, etc.

As to dose, it may be taken *ad libitum*, Dr. Lindsay declaring in the article referred to, that it is not narcotic but a most delightful hypnotic.

With a somewhat rare drug and one whose character shone forth with such radiance, is it any wonder that I was attracted to it and sought out opportunity to put it to trial and note results?

Trusting to Dr. Lindsay as to its non-poisonous property, I resolved to try its hypnotic power on myself.

First night I took ten drops of the tincture and retired to sleep, the sleep that knows no waking—*till the morning*. Alas, I was disappointed for I waked often by reason of hotel guests coming at unseasonable hours. Still I thought my eyelids felt heavier

*Read before the Homœopathic Medical Society of Delaware and Peninsula, at its meeting, November 14, 1889.

than usual and that I fell asleep easier. On the second night I took fifteen drops but without results of special significance. On third night I imbibed to the extent of twenty drops. Although I was awaked several times during the night, I cannot doubt the hypnotic power of the dose, and believe that under favorable circumstances the trial would have given the most satisfactory results.

In this way, I should probably have continued to experiment on myself, had nature or art—or any other man or *woman*—for that matter, brought about the “fitness of things:” but as there existed neither chancre, Syphilis, nor tetanus neonatorum, I cannot give you, gentlemen, further experience of the action of this admirable drug upon my own person. I take pleasure, however, in testifying to its merits in the two following cases—the one erysipelas, the other chorea. My erysipelatus case was a man of some 50 years.

When first seen was a-bed, high fever, facial erysipelas of the flaming, rampant sort, the one eye had disappeared, the other was in rapid retreat. Patient in great anxiety; sharp, stinging pains; could not rest. Was about to give Apis when I thought of my Passion Flower.

Gave two-drop doses of the tincture every two hours. Put one-half an ounce of same into one quart of water for local application, to be applied hot by flannels and oiled silk.

After six hours patient fell asleep; was awakened for medicine every three hours during the night; went to sleep easily after each dose. Said in morning he had had a night’s good rest. Found inflammation markedly reduced. I now changed the remedy—gave *Ham.*, both internally and externally. On next visit found patient every way worse. The disease had sneaked across the scalp and invaded the whole face. The case began to look serious. Returned to the *Passiflora* and kept to it with the most happy results.

My next experience was in a Chorea—a girl budding into womanhood, but in whom the menses had not yet appeared. Child was well developed for her years—14. I learned that for two or three years past the child had “fits,” varying at times from moderate to severe.

The neurosis was unilateral, the right side alone being affected. The child had had traditional treatment, “off and on,” for some time without manifest improvement.

I began with the *Passiflora* lx. dil., 10 gtt. doses every three hours. Kept it up for several days, the Choreic symptoms being not quite so violent; still I was growing anxious—wanted more

positive results. Added daily a five-drop dose of tincture. After a few days more the mother informed me that there had been a slight "show"—merely enough to stain the diaper, and that for the last two days there had been hardly any "fits." This was encouraging. I judged that the day of deliverance was nigh. Very little more of the drug was given until about the time for next menstrual flux. Then I resumed it with the most satisfactory results. No nervous symptoms save such as are more or less common to all women at the "periods" subsequently prevailed.

From an individual case too strong an inference must not be drawn; yet I think it is legitimate to conclude that the Passion Flower exerts a decided action not only over neuroses, but also over the female generative organs. I recommend this admirable drug to the kind consideration of members of this society and hope *some* may be induced to give it further trial and report. The foregoing experience has given me much confidence in the drug.

W. D. TROY, M. D.

CENTREVILLE, Md.

SCINTILLATIONS FROM OHIO.

A copy of the "Proceedings of the 25th Annual Session of the Homœopathic Medical Society," of Ohio, is acknowledged by the RECORDER. The meeting was held at Cincinnati, last May.

Dr. C. E. Walton, of Cincinnati: "The more Allopathy he [the Hom. physician] knows the better a Homœopath he is, and the more of Homœopathy he knows the less of Allopathy he will practice."

Dr. Allen, of the Bureau of Materia Medica said: "Out of forty-six provers engaged this last year on a drug, I have four partial reports."

Dr. O. A. Palmer, of Warren, speaking of asylums for the insane: "I never want myself or them [his friends] sent to an insane asylum with inexperienced men in charge; nor to an asylum treating allopathically; their mode of treatment is disgusting. The idea is that they must give something to quiet the patient, to deaden instead of correcting the wrong impression under which the patient is laboring. If there is any place on earth where ability is needed, it is an insane asylum."

Dr. R. D. Tipple, of Toledo: "When we consume water from

city wells, filthy rivers, and last but not least, water from old, slimy, muddy and filthy charcoal and gravel filters, the system soon clogs up with poison, and the germs of disease." He very strongly commended the porous stone filter which is so easily cleaned.

J. C. Fahnestock, of Piqua, treated of natural gas, when used in stoves and furnaces, "being a radiated heat, you can easily see that the oxygen of the air in the room is rapidly used up and the air thus heated becomes intensely dry and vitiated," and in many people causes "dizziness, pressure on top of the head, a dull headache continually, pressure across the lungs, and as some have told me, like a band tied around the chest;" also cases of sore throat. There is sulphur present, the doctor claims. "I have fully come to the conclusion that the only true way to use natural gas as a fuel is in a grate, with plenty of fresh air admitted into the room, also a free use of water near the fire, in order to keep the air moist."

Dr. E. R. Eggleston, of Mt. Vernon, inclines to the opinion that the day of the microbe is closing. "The drift of opinion sets very decidedly against the germ theory, and toward the wider range of causes precedent, leaving the germs as a later and less important element."

Dr. H. C. Allen, of Ann Arbor, Mich: "When Dr. Gann reported to me that a patient of his had discontinued the drug [*magnesia phos.*] because he believed that it had produced an attack of bilious fever, I wrote for particulars of that bilious fever. It was a peculiar coincidence that four of my provers had to stop the proving because of attacks of bilious fever between the fourth and fifth days; that is why I wanted a report of this from beginning to end. I have no doubt that this patient's attack of bilious fever was the result of *magnesia phos.*, from the coincidence of the three others of a similar character occurring about the same time of the proving. One of my provers wrote me that she had used the drug in nearly every case of dysmenorrhœa in the dispensary and with almost uniform success, but couldn't give me a symptom."

Dr. Baldwin, of Portland, Ore.: "I use it [*mag. phos.*] in cases of dysmenorrhœa that I formerly treated with *Ignatia*, *Pulsatilla*, or *Gelsemium*, and I have had most satisfactory results with it." "I have invariably used it in the sixth trituration."

Dr. Webster, of Dayton: "I have been watching this matter [post-scarlatinal nephritis] for many years, and think I have never had a case of nephritis after desquamation is completed, but it is always during the process of desquamation. As the

skin is covered with a cuticle just like varnish, the kidneys are called upon to perform extra duty. The best remedy I have yet found is Apis. I never resort to bathing. I keep the patient quarantined and give this remedy. We had an epidemic in our city, and my cases have all passed off without this trouble." Dr. Beebe: "The last five years I have never failed to produce a sweat every night for a week, beginning as soon as the fever leaves. Since following this course I have failed to have a case of scarlatinal dropsy. . . . Give the patients plenty of cold water to drink."

Dr. Lovett, of Eaton: "One great thing in preparing infant food is to use milk sugar for sweetening. It is a great error to use cane sugar. I have found that if you take pure milk, whether from one cow or many, and sweeten it with sugar of milk, you will avoid this frequent indigestion with which little children are bothered. The prepared infant foods are many of them good and they have their place; but we resort to them too quickly."

Dr. Duncan, of Chicago, speaking of the allopathic flood of "small sugar-coated pills, sugar pills, compressed tablets," etc.: "Nothing is so emphatically homœopathic as any of our pills below No. 30. I believe we should keep up our distinctive form of administering medicine. More than that, we should educate the people that it is something more than the form of the medicine."

Dr. Allen: "Individualization is going to make it [*passiflora incarnata*], by and by, a very fine remedy."

Dr. Allen: "Now I perfectly agree with my eastern brethren that malandrinum is not only a better preventive than vaccination, but that it is much safer, and if a case of smallpox had occurred, that it would probably be the best remedy known." [Cases were related where vaccination would not "take" when malandrinum had been previously administered.]

Dr. Palmer, of Warren: "I have come to believe that alcohol is no stimulant, but rather a narcotic poison."

Dr. Beckwith: "My friend [alluding to Dr. Palmer] knows more than Carpenter, who says that alcohol is a food. He is progressing very rapidly. The oldest man on record to-day alive is the man who took wine three times a day all his life long. Some years ago my brother and myself had charge of all the railroad surgery in our place. The first symptom in most all of the cases would be a chill, which a few drops of whisky invariably dispelled and recruited the sufferer. We found that we could bring our patients into better condition by the use of

alcohol. There may be something better than alcohol. But I know perfectly certain that my brother was as successful in railroad surgery as they are to-day."

Dr. Reed: "And I also find that Grauvogel says that after he began the use of arnica in or after confinement he never had a case of puerperal fever to deal with. This harmonizes with my own experience with the use of this drug. * * * It is now more than five years since I have had a case of this kind to develop in my practice."

Dr. Owens: "I never use antiseptics and I have not had a case of puerperal fever in twenty-five years. I never give any medicine after confinement except it is indicated, I give arnica for the soreness and bruised feeling."

Dr. Baldwin, Cleveland: "About a year ago, I read, if my memory serves me correctly, in the *Medical Era*, the statement that during gestation the mother's pulse is the same whether she be sitting, reclining, or standing. Since then I have carefully applied this test * * * and I am about ready to place it second only in value to the foetal heart-beat."

Dr. Ferris, (anent the "dry-heat" discussion): "I was born and raised in the Eclectic Institute, and they talk more Homœopathy there than has been talked here to-day. * * * This kind of business is like hunting after the flesh-pots of the Allopaths. You are not studying Homœopathy."

Dr. Beckwith: "You don't find any better success in the practice of to-day from what it was forty years ago, when the Homœopathic remedy was strictly adhered to."

Dr. Ferris: "I have always believed that the indicated Homœopathic remedy was all-sufficient * * * just as long as you go hunting for palliatives you are introducing that which will spoil your case and make your work nil."

THE SPARE HOUR.—No. 3.

[There is evidence, satisfying to historical critics, that in the following *maxims* we have some crystallized experience—commonly called wisdom—gathered during twelve centuries, i. e., from the 6th to the 18th of our era. In the original these maxims have a point and a pith that any translation wholly fails to render. If any reader doubts this, one sample may convince him. What does he say to this: "*Udgorn angau yw peswch sych.*" The words *peswch sych* are a terrible throatful for any

but a Welshman. The Welsh sounds for *ch* and *ll* defy verbal description, and when heard cannot be reproduced by a foreigner so that he shall not be detected as an alien; and yet, by means of the sounds of its single and double consonants, the Welsh language is phonographic; any one once learning its alphabet can correctly spell any word from its sound.

The maxim cited above in the original is the last one of this list, and translated idiomatically is: *Trumpet death is cough dry.*]

MEDICAL MAXIMS.

From the Book of Iago ap Dewi, an Ancient Welsh MS.

1. He who goes to bed supperless will have no need of Rhiwallon of Myddvai.*
2. A supper of apples—breakfast of nuts.
3. A cold mouth and warm feet will live long.
4. To the fish market in the morning, to the butcher's shop in the afternoon.
5. Cold water and warm bread will make an unhealthy stomach.
6. The three qualities of water: it will produce no sickness, no debt and no widowhood.
7. To eat eggs without salt will bring on sickness.
8. It is no insult to deprive an old man of his supper.
9. An eel in a pie, lampreys in salt.
10. An ague or fever at the fall of the leaf is always of long continuance, or else is fatal.
11. A kid a month old—a lamb three months.
12. Dry feet, moist tongue.
13. A salmon and sermon in Lent.
14. Supper will kill more than ever were cured by the Physicians of Myddvai.
15. A light dinner, a less supper, sound sleep, long life.
16. Do not wish for milk after fish.
17. To sleep much is the health of youth, the sickness of old age.
18. Long health in youth will shorten life.
19. It is more wholesome to smell warm bread than to eat it.
20. A short sickness for the body, and short frost for the earth, will heal; either of them long will destroy.
21. Whilst the urine is clear let the physician beg.

*Rhiwallon was the progenitor of a line of distinguished physicians reaching from the 13th century to A. D. 1845, when the last lineal descendant died in the 85th year of his age.

22. Better is appetite than gluttony.
23. Enough of bread, little of drink.
24. The bread of yesterday, the meat of to-day, and the wine of last year will produce health.
25. Quench thy thirst where the washerwoman goes for water.
26. Three men that are long-lived: the ploughman of dry land, a mountain dairyman, and a fisherman of the sea.
27. The three feasts of health: milk, bread and salt.
28. The three medicines of the Physicians of Myddvai: water, honey, and labor.
30. Moderate exercise is health.
31. Three moderations will produce long life; in food, labor, and meditation.
32. Whoso breaks not his fast in May, let him consider himself with the dead.
33. He who sees fennel and gathers it not, is not a man, but a devil.
34. If thou desirest to die, eat cabbage in August.
35. Whatever quantity thou eatest drink thrice.
36. God will send food to washed hands.
37. Drink water like an ox, and wine like a king.
38. One egg is economy, two is gentility, three is greediness, and the fourth is wastefulness.
39. If persons knew how good a hen is in January, none would be left on the roost.
40. The cheese of sheep, the milk of goats, and the butter of cows are the best.
41. The three victuals of health: honey, butter, and milk.
42. The three victuals of sickness: flesh meat, ale, and vinegar.
43. Take not thy coat off before Ascension day.
44. If thou wilt become unwell, wash thy head and go to sleep.
45. In pottage without herbs there is neither goodness, nor nourishment.
46. If thou wilt die, eat roast mutton, and sleep soon after it.
47. If thou wilt eat a bad thing, eat roast hare.
48. Mustard after food.
49. He who cleans his teeth with the point of his knife, may soon clean them with the haft.
50. A dry cough is the trumpet of death.

In the original the maxims are not numbered; they are appended here for my own convenience in regard to certain comments I would make on the text.

2. It will surprise the reader that apples should be advised for

“supper,” remembering that fruit is “lead at night” tho’ gold in the morning; but in this instance the maxim is based on the choice of the lesser evil. The nuts referred to in the text are the hazlenut, walnut, and chestnut, and Dr. Thomas Cogan’s *Haven of Health*, anno 1596, will tell us how these ranked as articles of food: “Hasil Nuts bee hoot and drie in the first degree, they be harde of digestion, they fill the stomacke and bellie with winde, they encline one to vomite, and as experience prooueth, they stuffe the breast full of flewme and cause a cough.” He advises against eating many of them, especially if they are dry—the dry being worse “because they are drie and oylie, by reason whereof they turne soone to cholera and engender headache.” He advises eating them after fish, “because nuts by reason of their drinesse let [hinder] the ingendering of flewme that is woont too come of fishe.”

He is substantiated by the learned Thos. Venner, M. D., who published his *Via Recta at Vitam Longam* in 1650, who says: “The common hedge, or Hasellnuts, especially if they be dry, are of an earthy and unprofitable substance; they are hard of concoction; and because they very slowly pass thorow the belly, they are troublesome and hurtful to the stomach. * * * They are only convenient for rusticall bodies.”

Dr. V. also says: “The Walnuts are only good for robustious bodies, and such as respect not wherewith they fill themselves.”

According to Galen the chestnut is, of all, the most nourishing, yet for all that, writes Venner, they are not approved for meat, except in time of penury, or for strong, rusticall bodies,” because they “abundantly ingender winde, bind the belly, and offend the head.”

Alas, there was also another nut—eaten from the penury of nature in those early days—the acorn. It was roasted under ashes, and eaten, and was of so binding a property that it was successfully used to stay the lask [dysentery].

Of such diet, one can understand why it was best managed by a vigorous, “robustious” morning digestion.

33. What is this “fennel” that it should be so highly prized? Its virtues are given in the old Welsh MS. as follows: “The fennel is warm and dry in the second degree, and is useful for diseases of the eye. It is good for every kind of poison in a man’s body, being drunk in the form of powder mixed with white wine or strong old mead. It is useful for tertain ague, and inflammatory fever; and if the seed or herb is boiled in water, till it is strong of the virtue of the herb, and the head, when subject to the headache, washed therewith, it will greatly

benefit and cure the same when the headache is occasioned by cold or fever. It will remove the headache very quickly." Surely, the early Britons were exceedingly thankful for small therapeutic favors.

39. Our colored brethren have discovered the January virtue of the hen, and they depopulate the roost accordingly, but all this in time of penury.

Dr. Thomas Cogan, *anno* 1596, writeth: "Hennes in winter are almost equal to the Capon, but they do not make so strong nourishment. The flesh of them is without superfluitie, as Haly and Mesues write, and is soone turned into blood. And they have a marveilous propertie to tempere mans complexion, and humours, and their broth is the best medicine that can be for Leapers (Lepers). And Auicen (Avicenna) affirmeth that the flesh of young Hennes augmenteth understanding, and cleareth the voice, and encreaseth the seede of generation. That Henne is best which as yet has never layed Egge. And a fat Henne full of Egges is not the woorst. The poet Horace in the person of the Epicure setteth forth a way to make a Henne tender upon the sodaine in this wise:

"If guesstes come at thee unawares, in water mixt with wine,
Souce thou thy Henne, she will become short, tender, nesh and fine."

"That ever Famous Thomas Muffett, Doctor in Physick," says in his *Healths Improvement*, edition of 1655: "Hens are best before they have ever laid, and yet are full of eggs; they are also best in *January*, and cold months, because long rest and sleep in the long nights makes them the fattest. Their flesh is very temperate (whilst they are young) of good juice, and large nourishment, strengthening natural heat, engendering good blood, sharpening a dull appetite, quickening the eyesight, nourishing the brain and seed, and agreeing with all ages and complexions; for they are neither so hot as to turn into choler, nor so cold as to turn into fleagm, nor so dry as to be converted into melancholie (and yet *Rhasis* imagineth them to have a secret property of breeding the Gout and Hemorrhoids) but turn wholly, or for the most part into blood, making a lively color in the face, and quickening both the eyesight and every sense."

But I must give my reader a note of warning lest he should get things sadly mixed in prescribing cocks and hens. "Galen saith that as the broth of a hen bindeth the body, and the flesh loosneth the same; so contrariwise the broth of a cock loosneth, and the flesh bindeth." Make a note of it!

I find a sadder warning on p. 80 of Dr. Muffett's treatise. He says that young cockerels are of all flesh the most commendable

for "nourishing strongly, augmenting seed, and stirring up lust. For which purpose *Boleslaus*, Duke of *Silesia*, did eat thirteen cock chickens at a meal; whereof he died without having his purpose fulfilled." Alas! poor *Boleslaus*, "thirteen cock chickens," and dying "without having his purpose fulfilled," and one little Brown-Sequard injection would have "filled the bill." So much for being born at the wrong time! He should have waited for the "Scientific Medicine" of the 19th century.

[How fully in accord with the eternal fitness it was that this Brown-Sequard endeavor should have its rise in the land famous above all others for what Matthew Arnold calls "the worship of the great goddess Lubricity."

And how "Science" is progressing when it can pack the *virile vis* of "thirteen cock chickens" in one little hypodermic syringe! But how short-sighted was the aged French physiologist when he forgot to seek his *Elixir Vitæ* in the cock sparrow. Will not some "scientist" try the essence of this feathered incarnation of Lubricity? Our rural cities are now paying a premium for the destruction of the sparrows: why not make them a source of revenue?]

S. A. J.

MEDICINE BOUNCED FOR CHRISTIAN FAITH CURE.

A Case from Practice.

One of the many aggravations that beset a doctor in his ministrations among the sick are the good people who have passed all the examinations of a religious life, and blossomed out with a license to raise the dead and heal the sick by prayer.

As long as these people don't believe in doctors and will not take their medicine the physician makes an ass of himself in signing their death certificates. Very certainly if we are good citizens and abide by the laws of our various States, it is our duty to let them sign their own death certificates, or refer them to the medical examiner or coroner.

Among some cases of this kind which have come under my observation, I will briefly go over the history of one:

In February, 1888, I was called eight miles over the hills to see Mr. B——, a married man, 26 years old, suffering from hip disease in the second stage. Previous history of the case showed the patient to have been lame during the fall and up to this time; going around limping, with at times one hand resting on

his thigh. There had at times been pain in the back and extending to right knee, aggravated in the morning and forenoon, better towards night. On his mother's side there was a scrofulous taint. He was from this time, the second week in February, confined to his bed about four weeks, during which time he suffered with much pain in the back and hips, extending to knee, there was considerable pain in the bowels, at times so severe that Morphia was needed to control it, constipation, retention of urine, relieved by the catheter, I used during this time, *Bell. θ.*, *Coly. θ.*, *Merc. v.* ^{3x} and *Rhus tox. θ* changing from time to time as each drug was indicated. Then appeared slight rigors with fever, evidently indicating the formation of pus, which was soon controlled with *Sulpho. Carbo. Soda* in grs. v. doses.

With a carefully ordered and nourishing diet I had the satisfaction of seeing my patient arise from his bed and get out doors to attend to his work the last of March. Indiscretion in work and a cold contracted brought on a relapse, and he was again confined to his bed; the same symptoms fought against for three weeks; and finally overcome, and by the middle of May I had the pleasure of seeing my patient out doors. I insisted upon a diet that would build up his system and prescribed the continued use of *calcaria carbonica 3x*. He was growing stronger daily, the soft and flabby muscles of the arms and legs filled out, and a healthy glow appeared in his face. He was now able to take care of his horse and cow, with reasonable exercise, and was walking or riding from daylight to dark.

About this time, the first of July, the village savings bank, which was leaning on his little farm, took possession of everything on account of unpaid interest, etc., and my patient and his excellent wife and pretty baby girl were set out in the street, while I, the physician, was left to whistle and sing for driving 400 miles to see him, besides furnishing medical skill.

Mr. B—— gathered together what was left after the financial crisis and moved to the other end of the State and opened a butcher shop, which he attended himself. Up to this time he had been under appropriate treatment, which was overcoming the tendency to hip disease. But now he passed from my influence and treatment into the hands of a Connecticut female Christian Faith Healer, who prevailed upon him to abandon all medicine, trust in the Lord, and be healed wholly, soul and body. And me thinks I can imagine the prayers and songs offered up while the mutton chops were weighed in the apothecarie's scales, and the porterhouse steaks sliced in the vicinity of the *medulla oblongata*.

Alas! the career of our butcher was in a few months cut short, for now a cane was called into requisition to help the Lord with, which was soon discarded for a pair of crutches, and they in turn for a spring bed.

In a few weeks a little band of hungry creditors, headed by the Sheriff, made an appearance, leaving our friend destitute, who, in the following spring was compelled to return to the paternal roof. Shortly after the father called me to see his son. I drove to the house and went in. Ah, what a sight met my eyes. On a bed lay this young man, a mass of skin, bones and sores. There were six discharging abscesses in the pelvic region. In weight he was reduced from 160 pounds to about 100. A pitiable object, indeed, in the last stages of this disease, and no prospect of recovery, as he was still clinging to his faith, declining to take any medicine.

In this case it will be plain to the well-informed physician that if, from the time the patient passed from under my care, he had been kept under appropriate medicines in suitable doses, in all probability the disease would have been held in check, the tubercular tendency overcome, and the victim a well man to-day, instead of languishing and wasting away on a sick bed under the mistaken idea that he was doing the Lord's will.

I cannot think of any punishment too severe or any hell too hot for the *Fiends* who are traveling this terrestrial ball in angel's clothing (so to speak), who are poisoning the minds of our invalids with this Faith Cure nonsense.

Whereas, if at the proper time the indicated Homœopathic remedy were used, many now hopeless cases would long since have been well, the hills and valleys full of the echoes of Old Hundred, and the winds wafting thanks to the Almighty for the means that cured them.

H. E. C.

Falls Village, Conn.

SOUTHERN FEVERS.

(Extract from a paper read by Dr. Jesse R. Jones, M. D., of Hazelhurst, Miss., before the Southern Homœopathic Medical Association.)

The irritation to these mucous surfaces in our malarial fevers,

NOTE.—Perhaps the prayers and faith had not been selected with that judgment and accuracy which the Homœopath uses in choosing the indicated drug.

as well as in yellow fever, is probably due primarily to the fever poison of which an increased flow of bile and disordered digestion (biliousness) is the first symptom. Digestion being slow we first have as morbid accumulations bile and crude ingesta in various stages of putrefaction, the flow of the former having been morbidly increased by the intestinal irritation. As absorption progresses and the irritation is increased the nervous system becomes so affected that we may have anything—that reflex action, chemical decomposition or the fever poison itself may produce—from a simple indisposition or dumb ague to a most violent attack of malaria hemorrhagica or congestion, etc.

A treatment that restores capillary action at the earliest moment requires but little in the way of further treatment to meet that condition denominated biliousness, or probably I may say also to antidote the fever poison. What *Aconite* and *Belladonna* followed by *Bryonia* have done in these fevers, especially in yellow fever, are too well known to require mentioning; but if there is a periodical complication, no matter how light the attack, a speedy recovery will not take place for me without also one of the following: *Verat. Vir.*, *Gel.* or Quinine. The latter I always use in such cases by fatty inunction. If the biliousness requires special notice I can in mild cases get along with *Merc. Sol.* 2 x., a few doses, say from three to six; but in a bad case I would exchange *Natrum Bicarbonicum* for nothing. * * *

Almost if not all the cases of congestion of the brain will be relieved by treatment directed to the stomach. Some of these cases I have greatly aggravated before I learned better by cold applications to the head—the cap of ice or pouring cold water from a height on to the head. I have reversed the treatment—enveloping the head in clothes wrung out of hot water, and, when the patient was sufficiently congested to require it, placing the patient on similar cloths reaching the full length of the spine and the same kind of cloths enveloping the feet and hands—and saved my patient.

When the surface would redden I would take away the cloths and resort to gentle fanning of the head, and when the patient would begin to get purple again return to the hot applications and so on alternately until such treatment was no longer required.

The remedies I have most frequently used, with especial reference to that condition denominated bilious, are *natrum bicarb.*, *nux vom.*, *merc. sol.*, *bryonia*, *pulsatilla* and the rhubarb compound. Other remedies as indicated (probably most frequently *aconite* and *ippecac*) have rendered it unnecessary to think

of this condition specially; but no matter how well the case is progressing, if the patient has a sour stomach, or probably other morbid manifestation of that organ before the cure is completed in chronic malaria, he will relapse. I never repeat a prescription if the patient has the second or third chill after it was commenced unless the paroxysms are growing lighter.

The Southern physician of any school of medicine is quite sure to do all he thinks may prove beneficial to his patient, thereby giving him his chance to test the action of a single remedy. Those not especially conservative in their practice will do so even if there is only a greater probability of doing good than harm, and censure us for our timidity. If there is a funeral it does him no harm; "he did all for it he could." The thought never seems to occur that he did too much.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TWO INTERESTING CASES.

EDITOR OF HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER :

In the winter of 1885 I was called to give "some relief" to a girl of ten years, living on a distant cross-road, not easy of access, in mid-winter, reported to be in the last stages of consumption. I found poor Minnie B. in a most deplorable condition, emaciated to the lowest degree, constant racking cough, expectoration free, of purulent sputa, stitching pains in lower lobe of left lung, clavicles very prominent, by the sinking of upper lobes of both lungs; exhausting night sweats, having but little sleep from the constant cough and expectoration; no appetite, the small amount of food taken but partially digested; bowels inclined to diarrhœa. Diagnosis of tuberculosis pulmonalis was too evident to be mistaken; corroborated by physical exploration of the chest.

Of course I could give the mother no rational ground of hope, nor remove her fears that before the melting of the snows her daughter would be laid to rest. After leaving such palliating remedies as were suggested, and whilst wrapping up to meet the wintry winds for my return, it occurred to me to ask the mother if her daughter had in babyhood been afflicted with a humor. The answer was instant: "A humor, sir; why, when a babe, her head was *one running sore!*" Laying aside my coat and reseating myself I asked: "Yes; and how about the case?" "A doctor

from Biddeford (allopathic) attended her for a long while; he kept her head smeared with ointments, and after months of external treatment cured her and she has had no return of humor since." Of course I am interested now. At once I laid aside the paliatives just prepared and left instead powders of Calcarea Carb. 6x trit. This remedy, after a few days, was changed for Sulphur, 12x; one powder each morning for a week; after which I returned to Calcarea C. This, after a few weeks, was changed for Calcarea Phos. The night sweats, *at first*, disappeared; appetite returned; food well digested; side pains disappeared; and soon a marked change was observed in the appearance of the sputa, no longer purulent; night cough less, with return of sleep.

Improvement began in less than one week from taking the first dose of Calcarea, and continued steadily from that time. For weeks and months infrequent doses of Calcarea were administered, followed by Placebos. Near the close of the following summer I was called to the office door by the bell. Standing there was a beautiful young miss, with florid cheeks and full form, with a smiling countenance, waiting to be recognized. "Do you not know your little patient?" was the laughing query from my consumptive girl, doomed to have been laid to rest beneath the *snows of a New England winter!*

In the early spring of 1887 Miss L. M., of this village, was under my care for pneumonia, the lower lobes of both lungs affected. The case progressed favorably for some days, but resolution was unaccountably deferred. In fact both lungs continued hepatized long after the time for the expected resolution to begin. The mother, a very intelligent lady, asked me one day, if I had noticed "how free Louise's arms and hands were from salt-rheum?" This to me was the first intimation of the prior existence of eczema. At once I changed my treatment, resorting to anti-psorics. Only twenty-four hours elapsed from this change before the mother called my attention to L.'s hands. Sure enough they were well covered with eczematous patches, extending also up the arm. From this time the case progressed to a favorable termination.

LYMAN CHASE, M. D.

Kennebunkport, Me., March 14, 1890.

P. S.—I would add, that my little patient (the one "in the last stages of consumption,") has been able to attend school since her recovery, and up to this date a healthy young lady, and has had no return of her malady.

L. C.

Farrington claims that *Zincum valerianicum* will always cure the fidgets in hysterical and nervous persons.

WATCH THE SYMPTOMS.

EDITOR HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

Three year old colt lame since September last in left hind leg (fetlok joint), don't know the cause. Was in pasture two months, came in lame. Some enlargement of the joint; for a while could get no "characteristics" to prescribe by. Lameness in no way affected by use; was about the same coming in from a drive as when going out. Gave *Rhes tox* a good trial; no improvement; then tried one or two blisters; afterwards liniments, bandaging, witch hazel, etc.; condition unchanged; was not very lame; not so but what I used him; did not show it all in walking, but *was lame*. I began to get discouraged; thought of disposing of him; finally I noticed, when in stall, a quite distinct *cracking* of that joint every time he moved it; looked it up; gave petroleum 3x three times a day for about ten days. Colt is entirely over the lameness now. H. K. LEONARD, M. D.

New Milford, Pa., March 10, 1890.

EUPATORIUM AND LA GRIPPE.

EDITOR HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

For the benefit of the younger physicians, who have yet to meet "La Grippe," Eupatorium Perfoliatum 3x. dil., or higher, will do the business by prescribing once, even when *delirium* is intense. Should the patient be aged some other drug will, after 24 hours, probably be indicated. Boyonia, Kali Carb., Kali Bichr. etc. Very truly, A. M. WHITON, M. D.

South Byron, N. Y., March 6, 1890.

THE INSTITUTE SESSION OF 1890.

EDITOR HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

As already announced by circular to the members of the American Institute of Homœopathy, the next annual session of this body will be held at "Fountain Spring House," Waukesha, Wisconsin, commencing at 7:30 P. M., on Monday, June 16th, and closing Friday, June 20th, 1890.

Waukesha—"The Saratoga of the West"—famous for its

“Bethesda,” “Silurian,” “Fountain,” “Clysmic,” and other mineral springs, is a town of 6000 inhabitants, situated about 100 miles north of Chicago, and 20 miles west of Milwaukee, and directly on important lines of railroad. The hotel in which the session is to be held is an immense stone and brick structure capable of accommodating 800 guests and furnished with all the modern conveniences. It is situated in a beautiful park of 155 acres, laid out with drives, shaded walks, flower gardens, etc., while the town itself presents numerous attractions to visitors in search of either health or pleasure.

The local Committee of Arrangements is making provision for the comfort and enjoyment of those who may attend the session, such as to render the occasion one of the most memorable in the Institute's history.

Under the new rule, the Bureaus will present a far greater variety of subjects for discussion than heretofore, and the papers will embrace more of the observation and experience of their writers. Important subjects of professional interest will be introduced and acted upon, and interesting reports will be presented by several committees.

Any paper, after being presented at the session, may be published in the journals at the discretion of its writer. With a view to such outside publication, writers are especially requested to have their papers prepared *in duplicate*.

Officers of homœopathic societies and institutions are urged to make prompt reports (on blanks which will shortly be sent to them) to the Bureau of Organization, Registration and Statistics. All hospitals and dispensaries, so reporting, will receive a pamphlet copy of the entire Statistical Report of the Institute.

It is desirable that the Institute should receive this year another large accession to its membership, particularly from the west and north-west, in order to secure a more equal apportionment of membership, as between the east and the west, and to augment the influence of our school in shaping legislation and defending the equal rights of homœopaths in public institutions, appointments, etc. It has been suggested that each state and local society should provide for a complete canvass of its membership in order to secure for itself a larger representation in the membership of the National Society. The initiation fee is \$2.00, annual dues, \$5.00, entitling the member to the annual volume of transactions. Blank applications for membership can be obtained of the undersigned.

The annual circular, giving full details of the session, the programme, railroad fares, hotel rates, etc., will be issued in

May. Any physician, failing to receive a copy by May 25th, can obtain it on application to

PEMBERTON DUDLEY,
General Secretary.

S. W. Cor. 15th and Master Sts., Philadelphia.

DYNAMIZATION.

EDITOR OF HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

The following is the extract from the third selection of the Golden Treatise of Hermes:

“The dead elements (which a spirit inhabits) are revived; the composed bodies tinge and alter or are altered; and by a wonderful process they are made permanent.”

“On this the scholiast comments thus:”

“The bodies of the metals are domiciles of their spirits . . . when their terrestrial substance is by degrees made thin, extended and purified, the life and fire hitherto lying dormant are excited and made to appear. For the life which dwells in the metals is laid, as it were, asleep (in senses), nor can it exert its powers or show itself, unless the bodies (that is, the sensible and vegetable media of life,) be first dissolved and turned into their radical source. Being brought to this degree at length, by abundance of their internal light, they communicate their tinging property to other imperfect bodies, transmuting them into a fixed and permanent substance, and this is the property of our medicine into which the previous bodies of the spirit are reduced; that, at first, one part thereof shall tinge ten parts of an imperfect body, then one hundred “then a thousand, and so infinitely on. By which the efficacy of the Creative Word is wonderfully evidenced, and by how much oftener the medicine is dissolved, by so much the more it increases in virtue; which otherwise and without any more solution would remain in its single or simple state of perfection. Here, then, is a celestial and divine fountain set open which no man is able to draw dry.”

“The very same teaching is to be found in Cap VIII. of the wellknown alchemical work, *Introitus Apertus*, Etc., and also in the *Opusculum of Trevisanus*.”

“The Golden Treatise is said to be the most ancient piece of alchemical writing extant; and whoever the author may have been . . . it has the impress of very great antiquity. The Scholia on it are Greek and of the New Platonists of Alexandria.”

Extract from article, *Antiquity of the Doctrine of Dynamiza-*

tion of Medicines by Dilution, by Fenton Cameron, M.D., London, in the Organon, Vol. I., No. 3, July, 1878.

Chicago.

* * *

LA GRIPPE IN JAMAICA.

The Grippe has been here, too, and is still. Though individualizing may never be neglected, I incline to think that *Eupatorium perfoliatum* does well for it. *Kali iod. c. Merc. iod* is also good, not too often repeated.

C. REINCKE.

Island of Jamaica, March, 1890.

MULLEIN OIL IN DYSURIA.

I have had a case of dysuria in which cantharis seemed to be well indicated, but failed to relieve. Mullein oil relieved it at once in five-drop doses. Yours,

E. H. HILL, M.D.

Tunkhannock, Pa., March 4, 1890.

SELECTIONS AND TRANSLATIONS.

SURGERY AND HOMŒOPATHY.*

BY DR. J. LEESER, OF RHEYDT (GERMANY).

Rudolf A., manufacturer, 50 years of age, having a strong constitution and a bloomingly healthy appearance; about 30 years ago he lost his right testicle in consequence of suppuration following a bruise. For 10 years he has noticed a gradual increase of size of the normal left testicle, which now is of about twice the size of a goose-egg. As he does not want to be operated upon he consulted me, October 10th, 1887. The scrotum was tensely elastic and translucent; the testicle felt hard and thickened.

Diagnosis: Hydrocele.

*Translated from the *Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung*, December 19, 1889, for the HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

The patient only complains of weakness of the sexual power, which in the last six weeks has increased to complete impotence; also of nervous sleeplessness and pruritus of the skin in general, by day as well as by night, otherwise he feels perfectly well. As neither painful points nor any other symptoms were to be discovered the patient received at once two powders of sulphur 200 C., one to be taken every eight days.

October 26th, 1887: His condition the same. Sacchar Lactis prescribed.

November 10th, 1887: The itching of the skin somewhat lessened, yet otherwise his condition the same. Sulphur, 200, one powder.

November 24th, 1887: The itching of the skin has nearly disappeared. The swollen testicle seems to feel somewhat softer. Sacchar Lactis.

December 9th, 1887: His condition is the same, on the contrary, now for the first time, two painful points are to be distinctly felt upon the neck in consequence of which the patient received seven powders of Chelidonium, 30 C., a powder to be taken every second evening before retiring.

December 29th, 1887: He sleeps much better, the itching of the skin has disappeared. The testicle feels decidedly smaller and softer. Chelidonium, 30, seven powders, as before.

January 18th, 1888: Further decrease of the scrotal tumor in size, the testicle itself is no longer so hard, the sexual desire has increased somewhat. The sleep now is seldom disturbed. Chelidonium to be taken as before.

February 2d, 1888: Further improvement; sleeps well; the medicine continued.

February 18th, 1888: The hydrocele only the size of a goose egg, the testicle softer. The medicine continued. On continued use of Chelidonium 30 there was continuous further improvement.

April 24th, 1888: Testicle normal, his sexual appetite and desire are as formerly. The patient was discharged as cured and has up to day, November, 1889, remained in good health.

Robert V. E., restaurant keeper, 45 years old, has suffered since eight years from left sided hydrocele, which has already been very frequently punctured, on an average every six months. Otherwise he is healthy. Consulted me August 3d, 1887, in order to again have the tumor punctured. As he will have nothing to do with internal treatment I punctured with the trocade.

July 9th, 1888, he had me called again. For eight days the

hydrocele, which had slowly increased in size, had become inflamed. The scrotum larger than ever, hot and reddened, the scrotum and spermatic cord very painful, feverish condition. He wanted to be punctured again, which I refused to do. I had hot poultices applied to the testicle, ordered him to bed and administered *Chelidonium* 30c. in water, one-half a tablespoonful every two hours.

July 11th, 1888: After profusely sweating, the pains have nearly altogether disappeared, the tumor decreased in size and the fever gone down somewhat. I ordered the medicine to be continued, one-half a tablespoonful every three hours.

July 13th, 1888: The patient has left his bed, the testicle is still sensitive to pressure, no fever; the remedy continued as before.

July 17th, 1888: Condition as before the inflammation, the hydrocele the size of a goose egg, no sensitiveness to pressure. Upon my advising him the patient allowed himself to be treated internally. *Chelidonium* 30c. seven powders, one every second evening.

July 31st, 1888: A great decrease of the tumor in size. *Chelidonium* repeated as before.

August 25th, 1888: Completely cured. No relapse up to now.

August S. Shoemaker, 40 years of age, called me October 19th, 1887. Eight years ago he acquired a gonorrhœa, which since that time always has returned with an interruption now and then. Four years ago the gonorrhœa disappeared, in place of which a left-sided orchitis made its appearance. I ordered poultices to be applied to the inflamed testicle, and *Chelidonium* 30, in water, one-half a tablespoonful every two hours.

October 21st, 1887: The testicle much smaller in size, scarcely painful now; the gonorrhœa has appeared again. Remedy continued.

October 24th, 1887: Testicle nearly normal; the flow from urethra is but very slight, mucous; on the contrary great painfulness on urinating, with frequent tenesmus. Remedy continued.

October 26th, 1887: The painfulness on urination has disappeared, the testicle normal, no flow from the urethra; on the contrary frequent and often drop by drop passage of the urine, the stream of urine extremely thin and often interrupted. Examination revealed such a contraction of the urethra in the prostatic region that I could not pass the finest bougie, a violin string. Instead of dilating the stricture mechanically, I administered, having in mind the itch, which he had had in his youth (these

were distinct psora-points in the iris (Peczely), Sulphur 200 c; one powder for him to take; this to be followed by alcohol.

October 31st, 1887: The urine is passed much better; no longer dropwise; yet the patient must frequently and hastily urinate; his condition the same. I ordered him to keep on drinking alcohol.

November 7th, 1887: Further improvement; the stream larger; a bougie (No. 13, French,) can be passed without difficulty. The alcohol was continued.

November 19th, 1887: Slight further improvement. Sulphur 200; one powder.

December 3d, 1887: Much better; the stream now is quite large, tenesmus less frequent. The alcohol continued.

December 14th, 1887: Further improvement. The urine is passed normally, only now and then a little tenesmus. The No. 18 bougie now passes without the least difficulty. The alcohol continued.

January 2d, 1888: He feels well, only the stream of urine is still somewhat thin. Sulphur, 200 C., in 150 grammes of water, a tablespoonful twice daily was given for four days and then allowed to act.

January 21st, 1888: Very well. The largest bougie I have, No. 24, passes without difficulty. A stricture can no longer be felt. The patient received another dose of sulphur, 200 C.

February 25th, 1888: He has remained well. The patient was discharged as cured.

Frau R., the wife of a cabinet-maker, 42 years old, came August 20th, 1888, into my care. For about the last six months she had noticed a growth gradually increasing in size in the left mammary gland: She had already consulted two allopathic physicians who regarded the tumor as cancerous and advised an operation. As the patient feared an operation she sought my advice. Examination revealed a swelling, nodose, hard and of the size of a walnut, in the upper part of the left mammary gland and also a hard swollen gland the size of a bean in the left axilla. Otherwise the patient was healthy and had neither pains nor any other symptoms. On account of the painful points I gave Chelidonium, 30 C., seven powders, one to be taken every second evening.

September 3d, 1888: Her condition the same; the remedy repeated.

September 30th: The tumor seems to have become somewhat softer, otherwise no changing. Remedy repeated.

October 4th, 1888: The patient thinks the tumor has become

somewhat smaller, which I cannot say with certainty. Remedy continued.

November 2d, 1888: Distinct decrease in size of the tumor; the axillary gland has also become flatter. With the continued use of *Chelidonium* in the manner mentioned. The axillary gland had by January 8th, 1889, disappeared, the tumor had become softer and diminished one-half in size.

May 15th, 1889: The swelling has entirely disappeared; the axilla is free; on the contrary the patient complains of stitches in the breast, running up to the axilla. *Chelidonium* 30, in water, one-half a tablespoonful every four hours, caused the pain by May 26th, 1889, to nearly disappear, when she received another dose of *Chelidonium*.

June 29th, 1889: The patient presented herself as perfectly healthy, which she has remained up to now.*

In confirmation of the assertion that Homœopathy is able to bring forward better results in the treatment of the so-called "external diseases" than operative surgery, for Homœopathy not only permits the diseased organs to return anatomically, but also functionally to their normal state, the following examples will suffice for the present. I give utterance to the wish that my colleagues may also bring up numbers of such cases from their practice, in order to finally put an end to the old superstition, which is generally so widespread, that operative surgery be not indispensable for the Homœopath. Hence I do not hesitate in asserting that the physician who most seldom undertakes a surgical operation through necessity is the most skillful, while he who most frequently has recourse to the knife, the worst Homœopath.

Acidum Lacticum in Arthritic Rheumatism.—We are by no means rich in remedies against arthritic rheumatism, and those which we do use lack the reputation of being reliable. A new and a reliable remedy will therefore be a welcome addition to this list. I say reliable, inasmuch as this remedy is truly Homœopathically indicated, for, according to Foster, of Leitz, Niemeyer's Pathology, 10th edition, 2d vol. pp. 561: "*Lactic acid in large doses and used for a long time will produce symptoms*

*I shall later report a case of cancer of the mamma, cured by *Silica*, as soon as the case is entirely cured. I have the patient about a year under treatment and the tumor, originally about the size of a goose egg and as hard as stone, has up to now been reduced one-half in size, is softer and the general condition of the patient has improved.

entirely analogous to arthritic rheumatism." We also find mention elsewhere that the use of lactic acid occasioned rheumatic pains in the thigh.

CLINICAL CASES.

1. A young girl *æt.* 15 was afflicted with acute arthritic rheumatism, she received acid Lacticum 2 x dil., a dose every 2 or 3 hours and was so much improved in two weeks that the pain had subsided, and for her remaining weakness China off. sufficed.

2. A nine-year-old girl was confined to her bed for three weeks with acute arthritic rheumatism. Acid Lacticum 2 speedily cured her.

3. A miner, B., had been afflicted over six weeks with acute arthritic rheumatism. The first dose of Acid Lactic 2 gave relief and a second dose cured the man.

4. In a case with swollen and very painful joints one dose of Acidum Lactis 2 sufficed to overcome the pain and the swelling. Against the remaining weakness China proved efficacious.

5. Arthritic rheumatism of the wrist vanished slowly after using Acid. Lact. 2 from two to three weeks.

6. A patient afflicted with arthritic rheumatism for four weeks, accompanied by copious perspiration, soon mended under the use of Acid. Lact. 2 and was entirely cured with two weeks.

7. Even in a case of chronic arthritis with inflation of the Epiphyses of Metacarpal bones and consequent partial displacement of the fingers. Lactic Acid 2 produced such a decided amelioration that two months later the report said: all pains are gone even the ankylosis has disappeared.

I have to add that sometimes the remedy fails, nevertheless above good results justify a trial.—*Dr. Tybel-Aschersleben, in Allgemeine Hom. Zeitung for March 13th, 1890.*

A Remarkable Case of Hydrophobia Cured with Agave Americana.—(American Aloes.)

A boy *æt.* 8 years was bitten by a dog on February 18th, the dog was shot on exhibiting suspicious symptoms. By March 5th the wound had healed leaving two small cicatrices and nothing abnormal was observed.

On April 17th, the boy was dismissed from the hospital to all appearances enjoying good health.

On July 7th, he became quarrelsome, excited, affrighted and sleepless; ate nothing and only by great exertion was able to force down a few morsels. Pulse small and frequent with great anxiety. In spite of Bromide of Potash and Chloral Hydrate all the symp-

toms of *rabies* were developed to such an extent, that his death seemed imminent on the 17th. The hapless boy had not tasted food for 72 hours and had to be tied down to prevent attacks on his nurses. As a last resort the doctors concluded to make a trial with *Agave Americana* with which the hospital grounds were fenced in. A newspaper having mentioned its efficacy. At the morning visit on the 18th a piece of *Agave* was offered to the boy, who, to the astonishment of all, eagerly bit in it and swallowed it greedily without scarcely masticating it, while before, even the view of drink and food sent him to rave. He presently reached out his hand for more and more was given him, and he hastily and greedily ate and bolted everything. All medicine was now discontinued and the boy received all the *Agave* he wanted. By evening a decrease in the violence of the nervous attacks became apparent although they were as frequent as ever, the same was the case on the whole of the following day during all of which time the boy chewed *Agave* unintermittently swallowing the juice.

On the 20th of July the change for the better was striking; the salivation entirely ceased; the dejections were unchanged; but the boy had slept for two hours, answered no question, and incessantly chewed the *Agave*, of which, however, he only swallowed the juice spitting out the rest. Slept almost the whole night to the 21st, and commences to take nourishment. On the 22d consciousness has returned but he still demands the *Agave*. On the 25th he only asked for *Agave* twice and on the 25th he finally declared that he did not want any more *Agave*, that it tasted too bitter and caused a burning in the mouth. As all other morbid symptoms had ceased the boy was dismissed cured.—*Fernandez Avila of J. d-Rena in El Siglo Medico.*

Tannin in Treatment of Burns.—“A correspondent of the *Pharmaceutische Zeitung*, speaking from his own experience says that Tannin cannot be too highly recommended as an application to burns, especially when very extensive, the skin being entirely removed. A five per cent. solution is squeezed from a sponge over the denuded surface, which is then dressed with some soft ointment either with or without Tannin. Pain immediately abates, and the healing process is wonderfully rapid. The Tannin solution must, of course, be freshly applied as often as the dressings are renewed.”—*Druggists' Circular and Chemical Gazette.*

Mullien Oil.—In the "Progress" department is a selected paper on the use of mullein oil. This agent is of value in more ways than are mentioned in the paper, and we hope to give a fuller report at no distant date. But in its use for deafness we had a rather ludicrous experience. A prominent business man of this city, and a constant patron of the writer's, had been gradually losing his hearing each year for some years until he was quite deaf. He had been under treatment with the prominent aurists of the city until he had spent a little fortune, as he said. While still treating with one of the very best of them, his wife called at this office to obtain advice for herself, and mentioned the fact with much concern that their little boy was rapidly becoming deaf like his father, and desired some simple treatment for him. We wrote for one ounce of mullein oil, three drops in the ear three or four times daily. A number of weeks after the gentleman called with a friend, and during the conversation we incidentally enquired how his hearing was improving under the treatment of Dr. ——. "I am almost well," he remarked, "better than for years, but Dr. — did not cure me; do you remember the drops you prescribed for the boy?" After a moment's thought we replied, "yes." "Well, I used the drops as you ordered for the boy, and improved from the first application, and stopped my visits to Dr. — very suddenly, thanks to your medicine."—*Chicago Medical Times.*

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

Allopathy.—After reading the following can any one doubt that there is a crying need for the homœopathic school, with the word HOMŒOPATHY in caps? The *Turf, Field, and Farm* is an excellent journal, but if it would give its Veterinary Department into the hands of a Homœopathic veterinary surgeon it would be a better one. Phytolacca internally and a cerate of the same externally applied would have been the proper remedy for H. D.'s cow.

"EDITORS TURF, FIELD AND FARM—One of my Jersey cows, three years old, and second calf dropped on the 9th inst., has a swollen udder so hard and hot that no milk will come through the teats. What shall I do to save and restore it to a natural condition. Please answer at once. H. D.

"ANSWER.—Give the cow one pound of glauber salts and

half a pint of molasses, in a solution made with hot water, and given when cool. Take tincture of opium and acetate of lead of each one; water 10 parts; mix and apply warm six times a day until the fever subsides; then bathe the parts twice a day with spirits of camphor, six oil of origanum and spike, of each one part; require her to take a little exercise, and feed sparingly for a few days."

To Destroy Lice on Animals.—A wash made of the water in which potatoes have been boiled is mentioned in the *Kolonial-waaren Zeitung* as a certain means of effecting this purpose. The first application is generally effectual, but had better be repeated a few times in order to destroy the eggs. The same means may be used against the parasites in which mange originates, and probably would remove plant lice also. This insecticide property of the potato is supposed to be owing to the solanine which is one of its constituents.

Thuja for Warts.—It certainly needs no more clinical evidence than has been published, to establish the curative virtues of Thuja for all sorts of warty excrescence in the human body. It is equally efficacious when given to animals, and the charm cure cannot be exercised in their case. I had a remarkable illustration of this characteristic action of Thuja on my horse. When I purchased the animal she had a large wart on the neck, fully as large as a silver dollar, which really disfigured her. She had always had this unsightly excrescence and nothing had ever been done for it. I determined to give homœopathic remedies, given internally, without any local applications whatever, a chance, and so I gave the animal, occasionally, perhaps three times a week, a lump of sugar on which I had dropped two or three drops of Thuja, first dilution. Within two weeks the wart began to crumble away from the circumference and at the end of a month every vestige of it was gone and her beautifully arched neck was no longer disfigured. Certainly the disappearance of this large wart cannot be attributed to any other cause than the direct action of Thuja on the skin and it shows that this remarkable drug acts as well on animals whenever the case comes within its legitimate therapeutic range.

W. B.

Traumatic Indigestion—Bovine.—B. Berger reports two cases of this not common disease, marked by an uneventful course. Yet they are quite interesting, for the usual course of foreign bodies swallowed with the food is to cause a chronic indigestion of the second stomach, and make their way out through the diaphragm to the heart, and to cause a traumatic pericarditis, re-

spectively myocarditis ending in death. These cases, however, were different, for they took another way, and, arriving at the surface of the body, were eliminated by the formation of an abscess.

The first course was diagnosed as a traumatic pericarditis. In the meanwhile a "very large swelling" formed upon the breast, discharging, containing a common sewing-needle. After removal, recovery took place. The needle had passed through the diaphragm, from the stomach, probably through the subpleural connective tissue, and the anterior mediastinum to the surface. Recovery.

In the second case, the case was diagnosed as "traumatic indigestion." Behind the fore-leg (elbow-joint) upon the chest walls, there formed a swelling, hard and painful, the size of two fists, which also suppurated, forming an abscess, which contained a nail, about two inches and somewhat curved.—*Bad. Thierarztl. Mitth., 1888.*

Dysentery in Parrots.—Dysentery carries off a great many birds—especially while they are young. One cause may be lack of gravel, which they need for digestion. A few pellets of *Mercurius corros.* two hours apart, will speedily cure them.—*Probatum est.*

Chicken Cholera.—I can fully endorse the curative powder of *Iodide of Arsenic* in certain forms of humid asthma, having been successful in a few cases. I want to speak of this medicine as a means of curing the summer complaints we often meet during the hot weather. Two years ago I lost almost all my chickens by chicken-cholera. Last summer a new lot of hens and chickens began to die off by the same disease. I thought it a good chance to try *Ars. Jod.* I mixed about two pounds of meal with two drachms of the remedy, and left the mixture in the chicken-house for them to take at will. It cured every case. I had a good lot of it left to throw away. In severe cases of cholera infantum it promptly cures when all our usual remedies failed.

—*Robert Boocock, M.D., in N. A. Jour. of Hom.*

A Silicea Case.—Two cats had a fight. One of them was *our* cat. *Our* cat gained the victory, but he received a wound in his left cheek, inflicted by the dirty claws of the other cat. The wound, being thus poisoned by the inoculation of septic matter, speedily degenerated into an ulcer, from which flowed *an ichorous offensive pus*. So offensive was the odor that we were obliged to exclude his catship from our highly desirable society—greatly to his surprise and displeasure. The ulcer also increased, it is

probable, by reason of his constitutional tendency to mange. He had only just recovered from an attack of the latter under Bell. 200c. For the offensive ulcer was now prescribed Silicea 200c, two doses. In three days the odor was entirely removed; in a week the ulcer was practically healed, and he was restored to his place in the "bosom of the family."—*Homœopathic Physician.*

Catarrh in a Parrot.—Mrs. V. C. requested me to call on her on account of her little favorite "Jocko," a beautiful parrot's serious indisposition. On my arrival "Jocko" sat in his beautiful house in a very much depressed humor; he would not listen to the lady's call, neither would he touch his favorite food, and only emitted snoring, rasping sounds. On examination the symptoms of a severe and persistent cold were apparent, accompanied, as is most always the case, by an occlusion of the nasal openings, rendering breathing difficult. Other veterinarians had ordered steam baths, in such a manner that the bird was placed on a cane-bottomed chair, underneath which was placed a pot with steaming chamomile tea and the whole arrangement covered with a cloth. It was not a success, for the bird had such suffocative attacks while in this steam-bath as to barely escape with his life. I prescribed Dulcamara 6x and Hepar sulphur 6x, in alternation twice a day 4 pellets of each remedy, and advised that oil of almonds be applied to his nostrils, with a view of loosening the adhered slime. Three days after I was greeted by the joyous lady with the report that "Jocko" was himself again. And when I stopped at his house he greeted me with a hearty "good morning!" followed by a "thank you." The bird was cured.

—*H. Fischer, Veterinarian in Berlin.*

Cough—Equine—Cured by Bryonia Alba.—Some time ago a friend of mine was asked to step down to the stable and see a favorite black horse, belonging to a patient of his. The equine patient a mare, had been suffering for a couple of days from a cough which seemed to be quite obstinate, and to resist the ordinary domestic remedies and means usually at hand. The animal was found with *a hacking deep cough, dry apparently, and seemingly aggravated upon moving about and going into the open air. Indeed, the slightest motion would set her to coughing.* Digestion was disturbed somewhat, with poor appetite, constipation also being present. Viewing the symptoms as a whole, he administered on account of the salient and prominent symptoms Bryonia alba, θ , 5 drops, three times a day and with the proper diet and care the cough disappeared gradually, the appetite increased to normal, the stools resumed their normal appearance and in about four days the animal was entirely well. [*Communicated.*] A. F.

Asthma—Equine—Lobelia Inflata.—A dray horse which which had been quite heavily worked, and which was apparently in good condition otherwise, had been suffering for some four or five years, from heaves. The functions of the animal were well performed, and hence the trouble was diagnosed and regarded as nervous in its origin, and on account of the prominent symptom *Lobelia inflata*, was given to the animal, in the form of the vinegar of the plant three times daily, with the happy result of producing a cure at the end of two days. The horse was then as serviceable as ever. [Communicated.] A. F.

Retention of Urine in Horses—Gelsemium semp.—Last summer Dr. G., while driving his horse one forenoon a long distance without stopping, noticed that towards the end of the drive the animal manifested signs of uneasiness and disquiet. On driving into the stable it became more uneasy, anxiously twisting itself about, pawing with its hind feet and glancing uneasily at its abdomen, in fact showing symptoms leading one to think of colic, with the difference, however, that it attempted often to urinate, passing, however, but little or no urine. If any urine was passed it was done with exertion and pain, the fluid passing drop by drop. Upon examination, rectally, the bare hand and arm being thrust into that tube, a tensely distended bladder was palpable, which pressed upon caused the animal to express pain. As he could not lay the cause of the retention to anything beyond the mere going so long without urinating, with the consequent results, he administered *Gelsemium semp*, 5 drops of the tincture in water every fifteen minutes. In the course of thirty minutes the animal passed a large amount of urine, after which it showed some interest in its surroundings, began to eat and in a few hours it felt apparently well. [Communicated.] A. F.

Nephritis Canine.—A young dog, the property of E. was thrown into a pond while the water was cold in consequence of which the animal caught a terrific cold, some force of which seemed to spend itself upon the kidneys. Upon visiting the canine patient, the animal was found to be feverish, the posterior parts stiff apparently from the manner which it dragged itself about; the lumbar region upon pressure seemed painful, the urine was passed with pain and strangury, it being of a darker color, more concentrated and bloody somewhat at times, especially after the disease had progressed a few days. The stools were passed at long intervals and were hard and dry.

As the diseased process had begun apparently from the wetting *aconit. nap.* was given every half hour, in water. The animal was well covered and given soft and unirritating food, fresh drink-

ing water and kept in a well protected place. The *aconit. nap.* ameliorated the primary symptoms somewhat and was continued to be given. Finally the slight hæmaturia appearing *cantharis.* was given in alternation, which two medicines together in the course of about ten days led to a cure. [*Communicated.*]

Hypericum Perf. as a Prophylactic Against Tetanus.—Dr. R. had the misfortune to have his favorite horse tread upon a rusty nail which happened to be in a board in the path of the animal. He alighted, extracted the offending splinter of iron, and found an ugly hole left behind in the hoof of the horse. He stuffed the hole full of cotton to keep out the dirt until he could get home, a short distance away. On getting home he immediately packed the place with cotton soaked in the tincture of *Hypericum perforatum.* A rest of a day with the packing frequently changed left the animal in good health, the wound healing kindly and giving no trouble. [*Communicated.*]

Arnica Montana in Traumatic Ulcer of the Cornea.—Mr. Z's. valuable horse was noticed one morning to have some trouble with its left eye. After coaxing and petting the animal it allowed one to open its injured eye, when a small gathering process upon the cornea was seen, which was undoubtedly due (confirmed later) to a snap of the whip. *Arnica* was given, internally, which seemed to hasten the process of absorption, and healing took place, leaving only a small and nearly invisible cicatrix upon the cornea. [*Communicated.*]

BOOK NOTICES.

Foods for the Fat: A Treatise on Corpulency and Dietary for Its Cure. By Nathaniel Edward Davies, member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England. American edition. J. B. Lippincott Co. 1889. Cloth. 138 pages. 75 cents.

The stubborn problem that confronts thousands in this age of good living—the adjective applies to the food at any rate if not to the eater—is how to get rid of their fat. Some adopt heroic measures and starve themselves; but that is uncomfortable; others take anti-fats or exercise, but generally to no purpose. Dr. Davies claims to have blazed out a road to leanness which, if it lead there, is certainly a royal one. This is what he promises: "Happily for such people"—the corpulent ones, of course—"science comes to their aid, and, without curtailing very much

the pleasures of the table, the diet may be so arranged that, without any danger to health or length of life, a person may slowly and safely reduce bulk and fat to a degree compatible with enjoyment." In other words, it is not so much the quantity as the nature of the food that tells. The book tells what may be eaten and drunk with impunity, and in looking over the twelve monthly bills of fare we think that any one who could not live on them must be a gourmand indeed.

Essentials of Gynæcology. With numerous illustrations. By Edwin B. Cragin, M. D., Attending Gynæcologist, Roosevelt Hospital, Out-Patients' Department; Assistant Surgeon, New York Cancer Hospital. Cloth. 192 pages. \$1.00.

Essentials of Diseases of the Skin. Illustrated. By Henry W. Stelwagon, M. D., Physician to Philadelphia Dispensary for Skin Diseases; Chief of the Skin Dispensary in the Hospital of University of Pennsylvania; Physician to Skin Department of the Howard Hospital; Lecturer on Dermatology in the Women's Medical College, Philadelphia. Cloth. 270 pages. \$1.00.

The Examination of Urine, Chemical and Microscopical, for Clinical Purposes. By Lawrence Wolf, M. D., Physician to the German Hospital, Philadelphia. Cloth. 66 pages. 75 cents.

These three books, published by W. B. Saunders, are very handy for students and, indeed, for physicians as well. They are well indexed and illustrated, and the text matter is in the form of questions and answers. Take, for instance, in first-named book, the part on "Displacement of the Uterus;" here the first question is, "What do we mean by a displacement of the uterus in a clinical sense?" Then, "What are the principal displacements of the uterus?" "What is the difference between a 'version' and a 'flexion?'" "What is the pathology?" "What is the etiology?" and so on. Opening book of the skin at random we find, "What is scabies?" "Describe the symptoms of scabies." "What do you mean by burrows?" Apparently every question bearing on the subject of each book is asked and answered in a clear manner. Perhaps the only answers Homœopaths will reject are those to the questions, "What is the treatment?"

Essentials for Forensic Medicine, Toxicology and Hygiene.

By Armand Semple, B. A., of London. Cloth. 196 pages. \$1.00.

This work, like the three preceding, is from Mr. W. B.

Saunders. We cannot, perhaps, do better than quote from the prefatory note: "Forensic medicine, medical jurisprudence, or legal medicine is the part of medical science in which the connection between law and medicine is treated. It also deals with cases which are connected with the administration of justice, and with questions that involve the social duties and civil rights of individuals. Toxicology is the name applied to the division of forensic medicine in which the nature and detection of poisons are treated, as well as the treatment of the poisoned. Hygiene includes the laws affecting the individual and social relations and well being of man—health and sanitation." From this it will be seen that the book, compacted as it is with information on these points, is one worth a place on the book-shelf. The book opens with "Medical Evidence," followed by "Personal Identity," "Age," "Sterility and Impotence," "Rape," etc. The part on Toxicology is very useful and handy; the symptoms of each poison are given together with amount required to destroy life, appearance after death, treatment and other points. It may not be uninteresting to note that under "Copper-Cupram," is the following: "The special symptom is *jaundice*, which is nearly always present." The italics are the authors. There is an index and also one hundred and thirty cuts.

The International Medical Annual and Practitioner's Index for 1890. Edited by P. W. Williams, M. D., Secretary of Staff, assisted by a corps of thirty-six collaborators. 600 pages. Illustrated. Cloth. \$2.75. E. B. Treat, New York.

This work is a compact *resume* of the progress, theory and experiments in medicine for the past year, and will prove a handy volume for those who wish to keep in touch with the medical world at large. Forty-five pages are taken up with "New Remedies," and Homœopaths will smile, perhaps, to see some of their old and time-honored remedies and treatments classed as things "new;" *sulphur*, for instance, in "very small doses," for a good many things, and among them "skin diseases." "Thermo-Therapeutics" succeeds and is followed by "Electro-Therapeutics," and this by "New Treatment," which department occupies 424 pages. "Sanitary Science" and "Life Insurance" close the book. In running through a work of this sort, dealing with things new, one is struck by the predominance the products of the chemist's laboratory over the simples of nature. Yet, nature's simples, rightly applied, are the best. The price of the book is \$2.75.

Practical Electricity in Medicine and Surgery. By G. W. Overall, M. D. 128 pages. 8 vo. Memphis. 1890. \$1.00.

The aim of this work, to quote from the author's preface, is "to give a short and concise summary of the practical uses of electricity as confirmed by numerous years of experience, and to demonstrate its value in certain diseases (such as the cure of stricture by electrolysis), the treatment of which, by this method, has been regarded with indifference by some and overrated by others." The book is largely made up of cases from the author's practice, and for those who employ electricity in their practice it will probably much more than repay its cost.

Homœopathic Therapeutics.—Third, rewritten and enlarged edition, by Samuel Lilienthal, M. D. Philadelphia. 1890. 1,154 pages. Cloth, \$7.00. Half Morocco, \$8.00.

This "third edition" is really a new work, being 319 pages larger than the second edition. It is dedicated to "Dunham, Farrington, Hering and Lippe." "Once I was young, but now I am old," says the faithful worker in his exceedingly brief preface: "My task is done; and if ever a fourth edition will be necessary I can leave that work now in conscientious hands." A work of this nature, and especially one so well known as "Lilienthal's Therapeutics," needs no comments beyond the announcement that it is now on the bookseller's shelves, that the type is good and also the printing.

A Hand-Book of Diseases of the Skin and their Homœopathic Treatment. By John R. Kippax, M. D., LL. B. Fourth edition, revised and enlarged. Gross and Delbridge, Chicago, 1890. Cloth.

After having been out of print for about two years a new edition is now offered, of 294 pages. "Advantage has been taken," says the author "of the opportunity afforded by the call for another impression to introduce a chapter on diet and hygiene and make such changes in the text as the continued advance in dermatology demands." The fact that the book has gone through four editions demonstrates that it is a valuable one, and we can only regret that the author has seen fit to introduce cuts, and rather poor ones, too, of instruments bearing the makers' names in rather bold type. We do not see how the cut of a corn knife with the maker's name on the blade is to be of value to the practitioner, This, however, will apply to a good many other books besides Dr. Kippax's valuable work.

Euphorbium is useful in caries and other diseases of the bones.

Corallia rub. may be found useful for a combination of syphilis and psora.—HERING. •

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Thlaspi Bursa Pastoris.—Dr. S. A. Jones writes us that he is preparing a paper on *Thlaspi* for the RECORDER. Our readers, we are sure, will look for its appearance with interest. If a tittle of what is said of this remedy is true it is one that should be largely used and could be with profit to the doctor and relief to the patient. Rademacher, among other things, says of it: "But the most important remedial power of this common innocuous plant I learned from no medical author; the knowledge of it was actually forced upon me by the following case: I was called to see a poor woman from whom, eight or ten years before I had brought away a large quantity of urinary sand by means of magnesia and cochineal, and thereby cured her. Now, the tiresome sand had again accumulated in the kidneys, and the patient was in a pitiable state. The abdominal cavity was full of water, the lower extremities swollen by œdema, and the urine of a bright red color, which formed, on standing, a sediment unmistakably of blood. I prescribed tincture of Bursa pastoris, 30 drops, 5 times a day, solely with the intention of stopping the hæmaturia as a preliminary; but imagine my astonishment when I found that the tincture caused a more copious discharge of renal sand than I had ever witnessed. Paracelsus' words occurred to me: 'A physician should overlook nothing; he should look down before him like a maiden, and he will find at his feet a more valuable treasure for all diseases than India, Egypt, Greece or Barbary can furnish.' I should certainly have been a careless fool had I, with this striking effect before me, changed to another medicine. I continued to give the tincture; I saw the urinary secretion increase with the copious discharge of sand: the water disappeared from the abdomen and extremities, and health was restored. I went on with the tincture until no more sand appeared in the urine, and I had every reason to suppose that the deposit of sand was completely removed. Since then I have used this remedy in so many cases with success that I can conscien-

tiously recommend it to my colleagues as a most reliable remedy. Among these cases was one which appeared to me very striking. It was that of a woman, aged 30, who came to me for a complication of diseases. I examined the urine for sand, but found none. I gave her the tincture of *Bursa pastoris*, and a quantity of sand came away. On continuing the tincture much more sand came away, and her other morbid symptoms disappeared."

There is one peculiarity about some of these remedies, like *Thlaspi*, *Mullein Oil*, and *Passiflora*, and that is, that they must be given in larger doses to obtain the best effects.

Statistics.—Dr. L. L. Helt, in *Hom. Physician*, furnishes the following figures, which are good food for thought for those who maintain that there is no longer any difference between Allopathy and Homœopathy: "In 1885, under Allopathic treatment, there were 39 deaths in the Ohio State Penitentiary, at Columbus. For the first seven months of 1886 there were 18 deaths. Governor Foraker then appointed a staff of Homœopathic physicians, among whom were Drs. Clemmer, Helt and Howell. Under the new *regime* the deaths for the remainder of 1886 fell to 3. In 1887 they were 18; in 1888, 19; and in 1889 but 20, though the population had materially increased. In other words, when the sick were put under Homœopathic treatment the death rate fell off over one-half. In the face of such returns how in the name of humanity—of common sense—of horse sense, can men maintain that there is 'no difference!'"

"**There's Millions In It.**"—The neatness with which German drug houses patent and trade-mark a medicine, and then make the doctors free advertisers for it, betokens a certain shrewdness in the German mind and vacuity in the American mind that is not credited to them respectively by tradition. When an American patented and trade-marked medicine goes to Europe it is quietly led to the door and the official boot-toe makes one vigorous outward sweep, there is a dull thud and—exit patent medicine. Antipyrin, Sulphonal, and other German patent medicines meet with quite a different reception in America, as every one knows, though perhaps every one does not know that they are virtually patent medicines. Mrs. Winslow, Castoria, S. S. S., "Dr." Pierce, Warner and other great medicine men of Yankeeedom ought to go to Europe and sit at the feet of their German brethren as pupils.

Nocturnal Enuresis.—Dr. I. J. Lane, of Sing Sing, N. Y., reports a case of nocturnal enuresis in the *Chironian*, which is very interesting for two reasons, the first of which is, that it

shows the power and *quick* action of a Homœopathic remedy properly chosen; while the second, but less satisfactory reason, is, that it reveals the weakness of those who seek for light outside the pale of *similia*. A little girl, five years, had the following symptoms: "Nocturnal enuresis, agg., during the full of the moon. Craves sweets; fretful; changeable; appetite changeable; don't care for meat or potatoes; urine very strong, staining yellow. Blond, rosy cheeks, nervous temperament." She had been treated by an Allopathic physician and a Homœopath, and both had finally dismissed the case with the remark, that "she will outgrow it." But the nightly flow of urine continued. A good Repertory was consulted, and amid a host of remedies (so confusing to the indolent temperament) *Sulphur* had the greatest number of the symptoms of the case. So *Sulphur* 30 was given on August 17th, and on November 10th "she has not had any return of her old trouble since the first night after taking *Sulphur* 30."

The Scientific Method—The New York *Medical Times* prints a case of cancer that eats seven pounds of beefsteak per diem; the provoider is externally applied and "when taken from the cancer there is nothing left of the beef but the tissue and tough parts of it." Boarding house beefsteak, it is plain, will not do. As long as the cancer gets its rations outside it lets the patient alone and the inference is that they live together quite amicably. But for all that we'll bet a cow against a Chicago beefsteak that when a cure is discovered for cancer it will be Homœopathic and not "scientific." Indeed "science," so-called, unguided by law, is like a ship without rudder or sails; it drifts with any current that catches it and, *mirabile dictu*, calls that movement Progress! There is but one Law revealed in medicine and that is summed up in the word Homœopathy.

"Once More Unto the Breach!"—Sir Knight Eccles, M. D., of the peaceable City of Brooklyn, and his faithful Squire, the editor of the *Druggists' Circular*, have had another merry joust at the Homœopaths. We noticed their last tournay in the RECORDER for September, 1889. The editor belabors "high dilutions" with his lusty cudgel with such robust thwacks: "The process is one of bottle washing pure and simple." Having pummelled high dilutions to his satisfaction, he turns his attention to those who use them and launches out thus: "Comparatively few of the so-called 'Homœopaths,' however, use 'high dilutions' to-day, the majority administering their remedies in the same way as regular physicians." He concludes with an

exhortation to the "regulars" to close in on the Homœopathic school and finish it up by absorbing it.

We mean no offence to the commercial metropolis, and hope it will not get "mad" at a country cousin for suggesting that at times it shows a certain provincialism found nowhere else. Thus, because a few metropolitan, erstwhile Homœopathic, physicians have left the fold of *similia* and gone over to the ranks of those who prefer to call themselves "scientific" physicians, there seems to prevail in the metropolis an idea that Homœopathy has passed into the category of things that have been but are not. No doubt the little hen, in Andersen's tales, who announced that the sky had fallen because a rose-leaf lit on her tail, firmly believed that she spoke the truth, but then the sky, for all that, did not fall and was rather bigger than the leaf. So is the United States a little larger than New York. Besides, there is the rest of the world in which Homœopathy is not unknown or unpracticed. We think that when the time comes for the "regulars" to swallow the Homœopaths, and they discover that they will have to swallow at the same time some twenty million sturdy laymen, they will be forcibly reminded of the rough, old adage: "Don't bite off more'n you can chew." And then there are the Eclectics, who are a tough lot!

So much for the editor. Now for the knight.

He, Knight Eccles, M. D., with visor down and lance at rest, rides most furiously at his ancient enemy, Dr. Swan. The Doctor has been fluttering a little four-page leaflet to the La grippe breeze, in which he warns the public against the danger of quinine, so freely prescribed by the regulars (and, we fear, by some irregular homœopaths), and asserts that of the 82 corpses, *all suicides*, at the New York morgue on January 6th, "many or most of these deaths could be accounted for by their taking quinine." And again, "I think if the truth were known, hardly a person died of the grippe, that has not taken quinine." Now, observe how the "scientific" lance of Dr. Eccles crushes through this Homœopathic heresy. "Very likely" replies Dr. Eccles, "We can also add that hardly a person has died of the grip who has not taken bread, potatoes, beans, meat or pie."

To such a "scientific," (to say nothing of self-evident) argument, there can be no reply.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

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AURUM METALLICUM AND SYPHILIS.

EDITOR HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

SIR.—I beg to forward herewith statements of two cases which I treated successfully by *Aurum Metallicum*, for an insertion in the HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER, with a hope that they may be of use to some of the numerous readers of your valuable journal.

CASE NO. I.—A gentleman, a broker, aged about 45, had Otorrhœa from *infancy*, affecting both the ears. In March, 1884, he had an attack of Syphilis, with buboes. He had *mercurial treatment* at the hands of an Allopathic physician. After the cure of the *primary-sore* and the *buboes*, symptoms of secondary Syphilis, affecting mostly the mucous-surfaces, made their appearance, on account of which the patient had sore mouth, sore throat, and sore in the nostrils. He had Iodoform application in the nostrils for about six months, with no benefit whatever. On the contrary the sores in the nostrils, mouth and throat, which almost prevented his swallowing even liquids, continued increasing. The Otorrhœa, which was in existence from *infancy*, also increased so as to threaten deafness. The brain too seemed to me to have been affected, on account of which the patient felt dizziness in the head, and Vertigo *constantly*. The gentleman consulted me in the beginning of March, 1887. On hearing the history of his case, I prescribed *Nitric Acid* 1x, in water, in one-drop doses; three such doses daily. After a week I saw the patient again, when I found sore mouth much improved, and the sore in the nostrils much better; but the Otorrhœa remained in the same state as when I saw him first. The nose and the ears emitted such a *fetid smell* that one sitting by him would be inclined to nausea and vomiting, not to speak of the great annoyance which the patient himself felt on that account. The discharges from the ears and nose continued as profuse and fetid as before. I ordered *Nitric Acid* 1x again, as before. After a week I saw the patient again. On examination I found no sore

mouth, no sore throat; but the Otorrhœa and ulceration in the nostrils continued in the same state as before, in spite of the above treatment. I now prescribed *Aurum Met.* 6., in water, three doses daily. There was no improvement either in the nostrils or the ears even after two weeks' treatment with this agent. I now prescribed *Aurum met.* 30, three doses daily, for two weeks. No improvement still. On the contrary, the nostrils became blocked up by the dried-up fetid discharges, on account of which the patient could breathe only through the mouth. The Otorrhœa also remained in the same state as before. Upon this I prescribed *Aurum Met.*, 200, a dose, every other day, at bedtime at night. I found no *change whatever for the better*, either in the ears or in the nose by this treatment even in four weeks. But one hopeful sign, which I noticed, was that the disease *did not increase*. I then thought of giving the case up as hopeless, and accordingly told the relations and friends of the patient my opinion and at the same time told them to change the treatment if they liked. But the patient who seemed to have been much disgusted with Allopathic treatment would not change the treatment, in spite of the very strong remonstrances from his friends and relations, and he insisted upon my treating him for a couple of months more. I now prescribed *Aurum Met.*, 2 x trit., in $\frac{1}{2}$ grain doses, thrice daily. On the eighth day I saw the patient again, and, on examination, I found Otorrhœa much better; ulceration in the nostrils much better, no fetid discharges either from the ears or the nose; the discharges having changed into a thin matter which was very small in quantity. The patient now felt no difficulty in breathing through the nostrils. He took his food well. He now felt little or no inconvenience either on account of the ears or the nose. I ordered *Aurum Met.*, 2x trit., again, a dose every other day, at bedtime at night. After a week, I saw the patient again. I found there were no discharges from the ears or the nose or any ulceration in them, but the patient complained of much *general debility*, so much so, that he was quite disinclined to speak even a word, and he wanted his friends and relations near him to let him alone. I stopped the medicine, and prescribed Cod-liver oil and generous diet, consisting chiefly of home-made bread, meat, some vegetables, disallowing him milk altogether, as, I believe, milk induces an increase in the pus-forming elements of the blood. Four weeks after this, I saw the patient again, when I found him quite well. His weakness had gone, he had felt no pain, no inconvenience, either in the ears or the nose, except a *little hardness of hearing* in the left ear, and a *little of nasal tone*

while speaking. He continued the Cod-liver oil and the diet for six months more. I saw him last in August, 1887. Since then he did not see me, because I was away from Calcutta for a year and a half. He saw me here in October last, when he said he had nothing to complain of except a little *nasal tone* during speaking and a little *hardness of hearing* in the left ear.

CASE NO. II.—A woman, aged about 20, had an attack of Syphilis in February, 1885. She said she was treated by a Nature Doctor, attached to a Coolie-Depôt, who, I understand, gave her *Mercurial preparations*, both *externally* and *internally*. The Primary Sore was cured in one month. In May, 1886, she consulted me. She said that she felt as if she had sores in her mouth, throat and the nose, with much fetor from the nose, which annoyed her and the people around her very much. I at once prescribed *Nitric Acid* 1x, in water, in one-drop doses; three such doses daily. On the fourth day from the commencement of my treatment the patient came to me. I examined her and found the sores in the mouth and throat much better. I ordered the continuance of the *Nitric Acid* 1x, as before, for a week. On the twelfth day the patient came to me again and said that she felt as if she had no sore in the mouth or the throat; but the sore in the nostrils grew worse and emitted a very fetid smell, which made her sick, and the discharges, which were very thick and profuse, almost blocked up the passages of the nostrils, on account of which she could breathe only through the mouth, which again, on account of the fetor, induced nausea and even vomiting. She also felt a depression at the bridge of the nose, which distorted the organ. I prescribed *Aurum Met.*, 2x trit., in $\frac{1}{2}$ grain doses, thrice daily, for two weeks, after which she came to me again, when I found, on examination, no discharges from the nose, nor any fetor from it; but thick crusts, formed by the drying up of the discharges, obstructing the passages of the nostrils, which again obstructed breathing through the nose, and she felt a kind of *burning* and *tensive* uneasiness in the nostrils. I advised the application of a piece of lint, soaked in Olive oil, to the nostrils and to see me the next morning. The next morning, on examination, I found that the crusts were softened. By means of a pair of forceps I took off the crusts from both the nostrils and found that the ulceration there had almost healed up. I continued *Aurum Met.*, 2x trit., a dose daily at bedtime, at night, for a week, after which the patient came to me. I then found no ulceration in the nostrils and the patient said that she felt no pain or inconvenience whatever, except a *nasal tone*, which she felt during speaking and that she felt very weak. I advised her to

take Cod-liver oil, three drops at noon and three drops at night, *after meals*. She continued Cod-liver oil till June, 1887. I did not see her till September 12th last, when she came and told me that the object of her present visit to me was "to thank" me for a very "*marvellous cure*" of her "disease."

On the 8th of October last she came to me and said that she felt much pain in the region of both the Ovaries and that the pain she felt was of an *intermittent* and *throbbing* character, and it troubled her so much that she said she often thought of committing suicide during its paroxysms. On examination, I found the *ovaries* much *swollen* and *indurated*, feeling like a *Chondroma*. She also felt much tensive uneasiness in the eyes. On examination, I found that she had Conjunctivitis, looking like what we generally see in Syphilitic patients. On inquiry I learned that she had this complaint since the attack of Syphilis. She also complained that she was "gradually getting blind." I sent her to the Ophthalmic Hospital of the Medical College here for a careful examination of her eyes. After examination, the hospital authorities granted her a ticket in which I saw it stated that her case was one of "Chronic Conjunctivitis and Opacity of the Cornea," "probably of a Syphilitic origin." She also complained of bone-pain, especially at night, and also a shooting pain in the regions of both the kidneys which tormented her beyond measure. The eyelids were found *œdematous*. This last symptom led me to suspect the presence of *Albumen* in the urine. On a careful examination of a morning urine, I detected a very *appreciable quantity* of Albumen.

Now, on a careful study of the Pathogenesis of *Aurum*, I found that the symptoms of the drug almost corresponded with the symptoms which the patient complained of. So I *at once* prescribed *Aurum Met.* 2x trit., in one-grain doses—three such doses daily. In two weeks' time all the trouble she complained of was over—the *Opacity of the Cornea* had gone, and no pain or inconvenience was felt in the eyes; there was no pain, hardness or swelling in the ovaries; the menstruation which remained suppressed for a long time, reappeared; the bone-pain (I think Periostitis) also disappeared. On examination, I found no trace of Albumen in the urine. I undertook the treatment of the case of this woman for the second time on the 13th of October last, and on the 10th of November last I saw her, when she said she was *all right* and that she had nothing to complain of except a little general debility on account of which I prescribed Cod-liver oil as before during her convalescence after the first illness. Yesterday I saw her again and found her very easy and comfortable.

I have cured many very bad cases of Ozœna of a Syphilitic origin by *Aurum Met.*, which, I believe, has a *specific action* on the nose, especially when the affection of the organ is of Syphilitic or Mercurial origin; but I have never treated a case, in the course of my 17 years' practice as a Homœopath, of Otorrhœa of Scrofulous or any other origin with this agent as I did in Case No. 1 above mentioned. So I would like to see this agent given an extensive trial by the profession in the treatment of Chronic Otorrhœa, be it of any origin, whenever any occasion offers. I believe from experience, that *Aurum Met.*, in Potencies above the 3x trit., is not likely to do much good in the treatment of diseases, especially of Syphilitic, Mercurial, or Scrofulous origin. I also believe, from experience, that Cod-liver oil, which is supposed to contain some trace of Iodine in it, removes the *constitutional* taint, such as that of Syphilis, Scrofula, etc., which may, and, I believe, does, retard the action of remedies in the treatment of diseases of a chronic nature. I have always found it a great *auxiliary remedial measure* in the treatment of chronic diseases of a constitutional nature, and I would recommend its trial accordingly by physicians of *all schools*. The dose of the oil must on no account exceed 5 drops at a time, twice daily, after meals. Care should be taken, when prescribing the oil, that the patient for whom the oil is prescribed may not have any stomach or bowel complaints, as in that case they will feel *decidedly worse*. The oil is decidedly prejudicial to patients suffering from Diarrhœa or Dysentery, whether Acute or Chronic.

Yours truly,

R. K. GHOSH.

38 Simlâ Street, Calcutta, February 25th, 1890.

A SOUTH AMERICAN REMEDY.

EDITOR OF THE RECORDER.

I answer with much pleasure yours of October 24. I will tell you something more about *J. Gualandai*. It is a remedy very much used by the natives of this country for the cure of atonic and syphilitic ulcers. It is a powerful disinfectant and microbicide. I believe it will kill the syphilitic microbe, because the prostitutes are very fond of it. I have cured many cases of acute blennorrhagia with the mother tincture, and many ophthalmias with third dilution taken internally. I prefer it to any other in the ophthalmias with nocturnal agglutination of the lids. It pro-

duces diarrhœa and vertigo when the dose is very strong, v. g., 1 oz. I inclose you with this the proving of *jacaranda*.

Yours fraternally,

JULIO F. CONVERS.

Bogota, March 24, 1890.

Proving of *Jacaranda Gualandai*.

Dr. Jose M. Reyes, of Bogota, S. A., of 21 years of age, solemnly declares, that enjoying good health, and at the request of Dr. J. F. Convers, he took the mother tincture and dilution of *Gualandai*, with the object of ascertaining its effects.

On the 2d and 3d of February, 1885, he took 12 drops of the tincture, prepared from the dry leaves, and he only felt at night pain between the sacrum and coccyx. On the 4th he took 26 drops and only felt vertigo on raising the head after stooping, with momentary loss of sight and weight on the forehead. On the 5th he took 2 grammes twice a day, and he continued taking the same dose until the 9th without feeling but a diminution of the memory. On the 10th he commenced to take 5 grammes twice a day, and on the 11th a diarrhœa, of a dark mulberry color, made its appearance, which persisted till the end of the proving. On the 13th he took 10 grammes without any other symptoms but an increase of the diarrhœa. From this date until the 16th he took 10 grammes every twelve hours with only the mulberry-colored stools, debility of memory and a great deal of pain in the glans penis.

On the 24th of February, 1885, he began to take the 3x dilution, 12 drops every 12 hours, and on the following day he experienced pain and irritation in the eyes, which became red, with a sensation as if there be sand between the lids and the ball of the eye. The ophthalmia was worse in the left eye; but both eyes became agglutinated during the night by the excessive secretion of the meibomian glands. After two days he felt pain in the larynx on reading and on laughing, and swelling of the left tonsil.

On the 28th he discontinued the experiment, getting slowly better of everything, except the diarrhœa. On the 2d of March he again took the 3x, with a reappearance of the ophthalmia. To cure the diarrhœa *Arsenic* 12 was insufficient, but it disappeared under Merc. sol.

Aranea Diadema.—Violent pains in the teeth of the upper and lower jaw *only* in the night, as soon as she lies down in bed and which continues for some time. *Grauvogl*.

A STUDY OF SANGUINARIA*.

Prof. Wm. E. Leonard, A. B., M. D. University of Minnesota at Minneapolis.

This drug, *Sanguinaria Canadensis*, the blood root, is closely allied to its botanical relatives, *Opium* and *Chelidonium*. It is indeed, a lesser opium, depressing the cerebral functions, causing stupor, irresistible desire to sleep, frightful dreams, while, like *Chelidonium*, it produces constant pain in the right hypochondrium and, later, a bright yellow, bilious stool, with, however, more nausea and vomiting than either of its relatives cause.

Its physiological action, in general, and from large doses, is upon the mucous membranes of the stomach and air passages where it produces irritation and inflammation. This irritant action evidently extends to the pneumogastric and causes derangement of the liver and digestive tract. But the study of this abnormal physiology, while of some use to the student in grouping medicines for study, is of little or no use in aiding his knowledge of their symptomatology. The moment one begins to catalogue the characteristic symptoms of a drug, its physiological action is forgotten.

For instance, with *Sanguinaria*, the following picture of the migraine, which it so often cures, is not made any more clear or more easily remembered by the foregoing statement as to its physiological action: the day of the sick headache, "The Typical *American Sick Headache*," may begin with irritability, "She could break things in pieces without cause;" or there is anxiety followed by bitter vomiting. There is often terrible vertigo on rising or turning the head quickly, with a rush of blood up into the head, whizzing in the ears and flushed face. The actual pain may begin without these preliminaries, as an aching on awaking in the morning; beginning in the occiput and spreading rapidly upwards, settles over the right eye; it increases with the day, being worse about noon and declining in the afternoon. Such periodical neuralgias are apt to be worse under *Sanguinaria* every seventh day (as under *Sabad*, *Silica* and *Sulphur*) and are accompanied by vomiting of bile, dread of light, motion or noise, and are relieved by sleep and a profuse flow of urine. The location of the pains may vary somewhat, occasionally the vertex, temples or the forehead, (always right side) being affected, but the constant and characteristic condition is the aggravation, increasing and ending with the daylight. Enlarged veins about

* Read before the Minnesota State Homœopathic Institute, May 1890.

the head and soreness of the scalp generally accompany the *Sanguinaria* conditions. The pains are like electric shocks, boring, tearing, or, more commonly, bursting.

Spigelia is worthy of comparison here as causing a similar headache, beginning at one point and radiating in different directions; generally worse upon the left side, and, like *Sanguinaria*, increasing and decreasing with the daylight. The pains of *Spigelia* are tearing, jerking and severe as in *Sanguinaria* and more apt to come on in stormy weather. *Iris Versicolor* and *Mellilotus* also cure similar severe nervous headaches.

Sanguinaria has a record in the cure of nasal polypus when accompanied with pain about the root of nose and frequent attacks of acrid, fluent coryza. It may then be used locally in a dry powder, dusted upon the parts and with the internal administration of potencies. In colds or during influenza, when there is much soreness in the roof of the mouth, extending to the pharynx, right side of throat and even down to the lungs, as if parts had been scalded or burnt, *Sanguinaria* is very apt to be the remedy. If, with the burnt feeling, there is rheumatic soreness of the muscles of the palate, much dryness down the air passages, loss of taste and smell, *Sanguinaria* is doubly well indicated.

With, or without, these catarrhal symptoms the cough which I have seen the *Sanguinaria* cure is a constant, dry hacking, from tickling behind the sternum, awakening from sleep.

Sanguinaria has also relieved œdema of the glottis, croup, aphonia and kindred troubles when the cough was dry, harsh and rasping, worse when lying down, with scanty, glairy expectorations, as in *Rumex*, *Spongia*, etc.

Its local action upon the air passages is the opposite of *Tartar Emetic*, *Stannum*, *Ipec.*, and like remedies, in that it dries up rather than promotes or increases the secretions.

Occasionally *Sanguinaria* is called for in *Pneumonia*. It is of the so-called typhoid or hypostatic form, sub-acute, and *the patient is always better when lying upon his back*. His face is livid and dark red (as in *Opium*), the hands show the engorged circulation by their enlarged veins; the cheeks especially show dusky red flushings and the pulse is full, soft, vibrating and easily compressed. Besides these, a strong indicating symptom is *a circumscribed burning in the chest*, commonly followed by heat through the abdomen and diarrhœa. The cough will be dry and teasing, with the characteristic dryness of the air passages, and tenacious rusty sputa. *Sanguinaria* most nearly resembles *Veratrum Viride* in the early stage of *Pneumonia*, the latter

remedy showing, perhaps, greater engorgement, a stronger but more intermittent pulse, and being better suited to such congestions of the lungs in children, than is *Sanguinaria*.

Later, in pulmonary phthisis, *Sanguinaria* is the remedy when the above circulatory disturbances are present with hectic, offensive breath and expectoration, weak pulse and frequent palpitation and perhaps hemoptysis. Here *Phosphorus* is a very close analogue.

In females *Sanguinaria* is indicated in a metrorrhagia of black blood, with cough, sick headache, flushed face, etc., or an amenorrhœa with similar accompaniments, or, occasionally, as *Sulphur* or *Lachesis*, for the flushes at the climacteric, other indicating symptoms being present.

In rheumatism *Sanguinaria* meets those odd cases in which the *right shoulder and arm* are the parts affected, being worse at night in bed, like *Magnesium Carb.*

Its gastric symptoms are not as decided as those of its analogue *Chelidonium*, and from its exhibition in the nausea of pregnancy, and gastric ulcer, are found to be characteristically accompanied with heat rising up into the head and *relief of the nausea, etc., from vomiting.*

This by no means exhausts the symptomatology of *Sanguinaria* but includes its leading and well authenticated uses.

Its most common form of use is in dilutions, made from the fresh American tincture of the root, or, as some prefer, triturations of the fresh root. I have found it just as efficacious in the 30th and 200th dilutions as lower, especially in neuralgias and cough.

This brief study shows that the Blood Root has a larger range than we are apt to accord it. If the profusion with which nature spreads the pure white petals of this beautiful early spring flower in our woods every year is an index of its general applicability, it should be an everyday remedy.

PHYSIOLOGICAL AND THERAPEUTIC ACTION OF STRYCHNINE ON THE CEREBRO-SPINAL SYSTEM.*

By J. Antonio Terry, M. D.

One of the best known drugs in the Homœopathic Mat. Med., is *Nux vom.*, and one also which is most extensively used by the practitioner; but its principal alcaloid, strychnine, is not often

*Read before "The Hom. Med. Society of the C. of N. York," April 10, 1890.

employed in spinal affections, for which it is a valuable therapeutic agent.

It is the main object of this paper to call attention to the sphere of action of Strychnia and to define its Homœopathic application in various diseases of the spinal cord, proceeding from the physiological to the clinical experience with the drug.

The experiments on animals and cases of poisoning in persons furnish ample field wherein to gather important data about the toxic and physiological effects of Strychnia, which, if considered in their totality, the resemblance to tetanus is quite striking and remarkable. When a lethal dose has been taken its rapid effect is soon followed by tetanic convulsions in which nearly all the voluntary muscles become engaged; the paroxysms, although intermittent, rapidly succeed each other, the mind remaining unaffected until death ensues by asphyxia or by exhaustion. During the convulsive paroxysms, general tonic convulsion occurs; the limbs are stiffened, the hands clinched, the toes and feet incurvated, the head is thrown backwards and the body is arched in an opisthotonic position. The muscles of respiration are fixed, the abdominal muscles are rigid and tense, strong erections of the penis with involuntary emissions of semen, urine, and fæces often take place. The countenance assumes a ghastly grin, *risus sardonius*. Perfect quietness retards these paroxysms, and any slight external irritation, particularly unexpected, will reproduce the convulsive phenomena. These are the principal features that we all know are followed by an average poisonous dose of Strychnine; but when the quantity of the poison is too large, death supervenes very rapidly, and many of the described symptoms do not then take place.

The post-mortem researches have shown congestion of the cerebral and spinal meninges, together with dilatation of the vessels, and sanguineous extravasations in the gray matter of the spinal cord (medulla oblongata); but it is also at the seat of the motor functions belonging to the cord where the principal action of Strychnia is developed, although the irritability of the motor nerves is not destroyed, but simply exhausted by over-stimulation. This may also happen to the sensory nerves, if they do not remain unaffected.*

In that manner the reflex functions of the spinal cord are exalted, and the muscles through the irritation of the motor nerves

*Cl. Bernard stated that the sensibility of sensory nerves was destroyed, but after the motor functions had ceased. Busch, more recently, has supported the statement of Bernard. Strychnia either destroys or spares the excitability of both sensory or motor nerves, according to the size of the dose.

are fixed in a state of tonic contraction ; the irritability of their fibres, by over-stimulation of the cord and motor nerves, is exhausted, but the muscles preserve their contractility.

Not only Strychnia exalts the irritability of the reflex motor center, but it also stimulates the vaso-motor center or centers in the spinal cord. As it has been stated by Spitzka, "its vaso-motor effect is to increase the blood-pressure and the rapidity of the blood-current by contracting the arterioles ; this effect being independent of the central nervous system." However, a large dose of this poison will *paralyze* instead of stimulating the vaso-motor centers in the medulla, and prevent thus any rise of blood-pressure and other characteristic phenomena of the drug.

We also owe to Spitzka valuable observations on chronic poisoning by Strychnine, with the remarkable results of obtaining symptoms of a diseased cord, *partly from an insular sclerosis, partly as an hæmorrhagic or non-hæmorrhagic myelitis*. The symptoms developed by chronic poisoning are: a diminution in the energy of the spasms, the occurrence of an ataxic state, with tremors and papillary myosis. It is obvious that the value of those experiments, considered from a homœopathic point of view, is one of great importance for the use of Strychnia in diseases of the spine, particularly myelitis, paralysis of spinal origin, progressive locomotor ataxia, etc.

If we turn our attention to the provings or symptoms of Nux Vomica in the homœopathic mat. med: we find in the department of the lower extremities striking symptoms, which are remarkably significant of spinal affections. For example: "Tottering and unsteadiness of the lower extremities; knocking under the knees; drags the feet." "Paralytic drawing in muscles of thighs and calves, painful on walking." "Numbness and deadness of the legs; cramps in the calves at night." (These symptoms are quoted from Cowperthwait; some appear as if clinical, others as if pathogenetic.)

In Allen's *Hand-Book* we may read: "Lower extremities." "Sudden sensation of holding back when walking, so that she must often stand still; with electric shocks in the legs." (These seem as the fulgurant pains of tabes dorsalis.) "Uneasiness in the legs before midnight, with an intolerable sensation (almost voluptuous, and agreeable) but preventing sleep, and forcing him to draw up and stretch out his legs." "*Paralytic drawing in muscles of thigh and calf, painful on walking.*" "*Tensive pain in calves.*" "*Spasmodic drawings.*" "Easy dislocation of ankle when walking, with giving way." "*Falling asleep of soles of feet (deadness).*" If we consider moreover the stiffness of the neck and

muscles of back, with tearing pains; the dorso-lumbar pains and aching; the painful erections, of the parietic state of the rectum; the irritability of the neck of the bladder, and the great weariness and relaxation of the limbs after exercise, with loss of power, as leading symptoms of the physiological action of *Nux Vomica* and their relation to the developing diseases of the spinal cord, we must conclude that its homœopaticity is great.

An alcaloid has a more direct and intense action often than the original drug from which it is extracted or isolated, and it will be seen at a glance, in examining the toxicological and physiological effects of *Strychnia* and the pathogenetic of *Nux Vomica* the direct action manifested by *Strychnia* on the cerebro-spinal axis with exclusion of the vegetative system in which much of the action of *Nux Vomica* is diverted. This direct and exclusive affinity of *Strychnia* is very important, and it brings the drug to the foreground as one of the few and more conspicuous therapeutic agents to be preferred in treating diseases of the spinal system.

Let us now enter into the limited clinical field of *Strychnia* and examine its therapeutic application in that region called the cerebro-spinal system of nerves, the principal object of this paper.

Beginning with the old-school experience of the drug we find *Strychnine* recommended by Trousseau in paralysis agitans. Vulpian cured a well developed case of paralysis agitans in a man of fifty-nine years, who was already very weak and worn-out. The effect of *Strychnia* was kept up for four months; during that time the incontinence of urine and fæces ceased, the patient could feed himself, which he was unable to do previously, he got out of his chair, walked around, gained strength and asked to be discharged from the hospital. A slight trembling of the hands remained, but he could work and earn his living.

The morbid anatomy of paralysis agitans in the old is generally due to induration of the pons, medulla, or cervical portion of the cord. Recently, microscopic examinations have revealed blocking up of the central canal of the cord by increase of the epithelium of the ependyma and pigmentations of the ganglion cells. Also cortical sclerosis of the right lateral column of the cord and miliary changes in the white matter of the corpus striatum and hæmispheres.*

What were the real lesions in Vulpian's case, we do not know, but *Strychnia* undoubtedly cured homœopathically. The dose is not stated. If more extensive results have not been attained by the traditional school in the treatment of spinal affections

*Ross—Diseases of the Nervous System.

with this medicine, it is due to the comparatively large doses generally employed, which, causing aggravations, hampered the clinical issue.

The treatment of Chorea, recommended also by Trousseau, was followed by success in several cases, and Hammond called attention to its use, although in the last edition of his work on "Nervous Diseases," "he is not disposed to recommend it in view of the excellent results obtainable by the use of Arsenic, except in special cases, where the latter could not be tolerated."*

It is in these *special cases* where we will probably find a lesion of the cerebro-spinal system. Although we may consider Chorea as a functional neurose, there are undoubtedly cases where Dickinson found hæmorrhages into the substance of the nervous tissues, dilatation of the smaller vessels, and in chronic cases sclerotic changes in the course of the vessels. Other observers have found decided lesions of the cord, particularly in adults; the cervical and dorsal regions were usually more affected than the lumbar. Strychnia is very likely the remedy in those organic cases where the spine is the seat of the morbid process, and individualization to apply this medicine in such cases is as necessary as with other maladies and drugs.

Let us consider now the disease which mostly resembles the toxic effects of Strychnia, namely, Tetanus. That the drug has been seldom but successfully employed by the old-school is clearly shown in a paper on Strychnia written by Hale and reproduced in his work on "New Remedies," 1875.† I have not been able to find any more clinical data of tetanus than those few cases cured in 1847 by Dr. Fell, of New York, with Strychnia, from one-eighth to one-sixteenth of a grain for a dose.

When in the island of Cuba I attended a number of patients affected with idiopathic and traumatic tetanus; this last variety was treated, since my first case, with Strychnia 3c tritum.

I noticed very soon the specific action of the medicine with relations to tetanus, and decided success followed in the majority of instances, even when given up to die by the allopaths. My experience extended there for twelve years, and I claim that its use in the traumatic variety is attended with far better results than other medication. Some of those cases were published in a medical paper, "El Hahnemanniano" 1878 and 1879, where attention was called to the fact that I had been the first there to cure tetanus with Strychnia. In the spontaneous variety (tetanus a frigore), Aconite gave me better success than Strychnia,

*Hammond—"Diseases of the Nervous System."

† These are the cases cited by Dr. Stille in his *Mat. Med.*

particularly when unconsciousness was present, which is generally the rule in severe cases of idiopathic tetanus, and a marked contra-indication for Strychnia, which is best suited to those cases where the intellect is unimpaired and a clear cut or a punctured wound by nails or splinters, etc., has been the exciting cause in damp and wet weather. If tetanus develops on account of extensive laceration of the tissues, then Hypericum is a better remedy when Strychnia fails.

Michaud considers tetanus to be an acute inflammation of the gray tissues of the cord. Hammond says: "The spinal cord is both an organ for the generation of nerve force and for conducting impression to and from the brain. In tetanus it is the first-named function which is deranged, and this is shown by the great exaltation of reflex excitability which exists. Everything capable of causing a reflex movement of the slightest kind, and even excitation which in health would be altogether unperceived by the cord, augments the intrinsic action to a great extent where tetanus exists." "Now, we are able to produce a similar increase of reflex action by Strychnia," and I will add that its homœopaticity is beyond question, and that Strychnia in very small doses will cure more cases of traumatic tetanus than the other remedies recommended for it.

Dickinson, Fox, Allbut, Michaud, etc., found enlargement of the blood-vessels throughout the gray substance of the cord, with perivascular exudation, ruptures of the blood-vessels in many places, hæmorrhages, and granular disintegration. These pathological lesions of a hæmorrhagic myelitis correspond exactly with the experiments of Spitzka in slow poisoning with Strychnine and it is a conclusive proof of the relation that our remedies must bear with pathological conditions to be thoroughly and homœopathically indicated.

Before closing these remarks, allow me to relate two cases of spinal disease where Strychnia proved to be the curative agent and which brought health to the patients. I will refrain from entering into extensive details, fearing to make this paper too long and tax your kind attention.

A widow, about 46 years of age, came to see me with a spinal complaint, and with a diagnosis from other physicians of *Myelitis Spinalis*. Her history was that of having taken a severe cold a year past, after which she was confined in bed with severe pains in the back, fever, loss of sensibility of the dorso-lumbar muscles, formication in the legs, and paralytic feeling in the lower extremities. She was blistered, cupped and burnt with hot irons, but the disease passed into a chronic form.

Examination revealed pain and sensibility to pressure over the lumbo-dorsal region of the spine, aggravated by passing over a sponge with cold, iced water, sensibility diminished in the muscles of that region (anæsthesia), heaviness of the lower extremities with anæsthesia, numbness and formication, numbness of plantar surfaces, making locomotion uncertain, but not tottering, sensation as if a band constricted her waist, more to the right side, patellar reflexes somewhat diminished, and electric irritability of lumbar muscles more so. She could stand straight with her eyes closed and walk few steps without staggering.

The diagnosis of partial sub-acute myelitis was made and Strychnia, in granules of one milligram each, was prescribed. She took one granule before each meal, and reported at the end of the week that a slight improvement was noticed. Two granules were advised to be taken at each meal (four a day). The amelioration was very marked at the end of three weeks, and during the consecutive two months she was kept under the effect of Strychnia, two granules in the twenty-four hours. The final result was a return to health and the normal use of her limbs.

What tissue or tissues of the cord were affected in this case it is difficult to assure; but my impression was that the posterior columns, and perhaps the white and gray substances were involved in the morbid process. Whether there was sclerosis, softening, or *only chronic inflammation*, my opinion is that the therapeutic favorable result speaks more in favor of the latter, and that tissue disintegration had not extended very deeply.

One more case will end this paper. A medical student, about 26 years of age, dark complexion and short in stature, came to my office. On entering it he was exhausted after climbing slowly and with much difficulty a flight of stairs. He could not tell me what was the diagnosis from his professor, although he had asked, and the reason was obvious after I examined him and found symptoms like those of *Locomotor Ataxia*. The cause of his trouble could be traced to sexual excesses, and no syphilitic antecedents were found. He began some months previously to feel something wrong in his feet, loss of sensibility and as if pins or needles would stick him. The ground he felt was becoming softer until he thought he was treading on cotton, then his gait became irregular, he tottered and felt as if he would fall when walking if not fixing constantly his sight on the ground. Could not walk with his eyes closed, nor could stand straight without looking at his feet; patellar reflexes were abolished. These symptoms have been appearing gradually for the last twelve months, together with cramps, fulgurant pains,

like shocks, and other symptoms referable to marked disturbances in the functions of the spinal cord, very much like those produced in *tabes dorsalis*. His intellectual faculties were rather dull and clouded.

Strychnia, in granules of one milligram each, were prescribed, to take one at each meal (two a day). This treatment was kept up for two months, when the dose was reduced to one granule daily for another two months. Smoking, to which he has also been addicted, was stopped entirely, and sexual excitement or indulgence absolutely prohibited since the beginning of treatment.

The result was unexpected and most satisfactory. The patient gradually improved and was able at the end of the cure to resume his studies. You will notice, I said that symptoms were found *like* those of *Locomotor Ataxia*, and a doubt always remained in my mind as to whether the essential and real trouble was only *functional disturbances of the cord*, producing ataxia.

When we observed the rapid effect of the medicine in producing a permanent cure in four or five months, it is not likely that I should feel inclined to be positive in assuring that the lesions were those of posterior spinal sclerosis. The intellectual condition of the patient prevented a more accurate history of the case. His memory was impaired to a great extent.

Very likely if that condition of the spine would have been left unchecked, those, to all appearances functional disturbances, would have led probably in the course of time to a decided case of *tabes dorsalis*.

By the clinical results and the pathological conditions considered, we may come to the natural conclusions that Strychnia is one of the most important therapeutic agents for the treatment of spinal diseases, either acute or chronic, and that different tracks of the spinal medulla with its cervical portion are embraced in its sphere of curative and physiological action. The cures obtained in Chorea, Paralysis Agitans, Tetanus, Myelitis, Functional Ataxia, Infantile and Spinal Paralysis, proves that its clinical scope is not confined specially to a limited portion of the spinal axis or its tissues, and moreover that it is a functional remedy as well as a medicine of value when tissue lesions are present.

Its superiority over *Nux Vomica* is evident when a direct and specific action upon the spinal tissues is necessary, and when combined with Phosphorus, (the Phosphate of Strychnia) it seems that its sphere of action is still enhanced. It is my opinion that we can rely implicitly upon this combination of drugs as one of the most effectual in disease of the crebro-spinal system.

The symptomatic indications which led me to prescribe Strychnia are very much like those of Nux Vomica, aside from the pathological lesion of myelitis, either acute or chronic, which it seems to cover specifically, particularly when the anterior or motor tract of the cord is more affected.

I fear I have detained you rather long, but before closing let me say, that useful lessons and valuable experience are often derived by analyzing clinical cases with regard to the physiological and therapeutic action of drugs in their relation to pathological changes or lesions.

If I have succeeded to accomplish this end to-night, although in a limited manner, I feel that time has not been lost. Let me thank you for the kind attention bestowed upon these humble thoughts of mine contained in this paper.

PASSIFLORA INCARNATA.

In calling attention to the *Passion Flower* and the doses in which I have given this remedy I may incur the condemnation of many of my brethren, especially those who are firm advocates of high potencies. I make the claim right here that *Passiflora Inc.*, is one of the few medicines that will not act satisfactorily in any other preparation than the tincture.

The following cases will show what a valuable remedy it is and the varied uses I have made of it :

On May 14, 1887, I was called to Mr. O., age 29. German. Machinist. Found him with the jaws firmly set, inability to take anything but liquid food, and even that was troublesome to give. Convulsive jerks, every two or three minutes, of first one set of muscles and then some other, with complete opisthotonos, so that the space between his back and the bed was large enough to pass a pillow under him without touching. He had been in this condition for over twelve hours without medical attendance.

The history of the case is summed up in few words: Ten days before my visit he had accidentally run a rusty nail through his boot into his big toe, but the wound having bled considerably and carefully cleansed, he thought he had nothing to fear. The wound healed in three days and had been forgotten until I recalled it by inquiry.

Here was evidently a case of Tetanus and my prognosis was guarded. I immediately put him on *Passiflora*, five drops of the

tincture every two hours. In eight hours I again saw him; he was worse in every way. Increased the dose to twenty drops every two hours. In twelve hours after he was no better; increased dose to forty drops every three hours. The next day seemed to be improved as to tonic spasm, but otherwise same, except the temperature, which had now risen to 104°.

I again increased the dose and gave sixty drops of the remedy every three hours, with the result that general improvement followed and continued until the patient was discharged, on May 21.

After this experience with *Passiflora* I came to the conclusion that in order to get *immediate* results, the remedy must be given in appreciable doses, and the results have justified or borne out my opinion.

In April, 1888, was called to an infant, 14 months, convulsions, caused by dentition, symptoms called for *Belladonna* of which the 1x dil., 5 drops in half a glass water, teaspoonful every 15 minutes until better, then once an hour. The child improved from start and the convulsions ceased in one hour from commencing the medicine. The next day child appeared in usual health and the *Belladonna* was given once in 8 hours and discharged from further attendance. Thirty-six hours after I was recalled, the child was in another spasm. No *Belladonna* symptoms being present I gave 5 drops of *Passiflora* tincture every 15 minutes with the results that it never had another spasm from that day to this. The child slept soundly all through the night and awoke the next morning in its usual good health.

Since then I have prescribed it for the sleeplessness of Dentition without a failure, giving it usually in from 5 to 10 drops a dose, to be repeated every 15 minutes until sleep. I never give it during the day for this purpose, but begin at bedtime.

In the Insomnia of adults, from whatsoever cause, I always give 60 drops at bedtime, and if not asleep in half an hour I give the same dose.

Experience has taught me that to give it in smaller doses is a waste of time and disappointing to the patient. Two such doses, i. e., 60 drops a dose, are almost absolutely sure of giving the patient a natural and refreshing sleep. The old school seem to have been forced to resort to "Sulfonal" (whatever that may be) as the *only* thing capable of producing sleep, and yet judging from reports in their journals it does not seem to "fill the bill." Were they to ever give this a trial we would not hear so much of Morphine, Chloral, Bromides, and the like.

I have never used *Passiflora* in Erysipelas, having always been able to discharge my patients in from two to four days by giving them *Jaborandi*.

In Neuralgia and Headache it has acted with wonderful rapidity, even the headache of Uterine displacements being brought under its influence. It is almost a daily occurrence to have people whom I never saw before come miles to my office for that "sleeping medicine made from the passion flower."

In conclusion let me say to the brethren, *try it*. But give it in appreciable doses. Don't be afraid of it. I would not hesitate to give it in four drachm doses, *if required*. But why give four when one will do?

C. A. WALTERS, M. D.,
111 Milton Street, Brooklyn.

P. S.—Since writing the foregoing I have used *Passiflora* in two cases of Delirium Tremens. It acted like a charm in both cases, sent them to sleep in half an hour, and when they awoke 12 and 14 hours after they were themselves again. 60 drops of tincture a dose, 2 doses in each C. A. W.

GILA MONSTER (HELODERMA HORRIDUS).

A Suggested Remedy for Paralysis Agitans and Locomotor Ataxia.

The following interesting letters from Chas. D. Belden, M.D., were addressed to Messrs. Boericke & Tafel, and explain themselves. We omit only paragraphs not bearing on the subject:

FIRST LETTER.

"At about this season of the year we hear much of the injury done by poisonous reptiles. In this section are several species of considerable repute. One genus is much talked of and is an exceedingly repulsive animal. It is the 'Gila Monster' (Gila is pronounced Hee-la). It is known as the *Heloderma Horridus* and by other names. Prof. Sir John Lubbock has written of it, an article appearing in the *Scientific American*:

"This animal does not bite frequently, but when it does it is understood that the result is a benumbing paralysis like to *paralysis agitans* or to *locomotor ataxia*. There is no tetanic phase—being, as I apprehend, a condition almost reverse in objective symptoms to Hydrocyanic Acid or Strychnia. These animals are about to open up for the hot season, in this similar to the rattlesnake, and a few have been captured lately. They are only found in this hot section of the desert in and near the Gila River, from which they take their name.

"I write you to inquire if you will give me any directions or suggestions as to obtaining some of the poison and preserving it and for its use afterward. Any suggestions will be gladly received.

"Yours truly,

"CHAS. A. BELDEN.

"*Phoenix, Arizona, May 5, 1890.*"

SECOND LETTER.

"I am not confident that I shall make a success of an attempt to extract the poison from this venomous reptile. It appears that others have hunted for a poison bag or pouch and have failed to find it. The method attempted has been to irritate the animal sufficiently to cause it to spout a liquid upon a glass or porcelain dish.

"I am of the belief that you or your skilled agents can do this handling far better than I can, and the results will be far more satisfactory to the ordinary practitioner, such as I am. I have implicit confidence in your preparations, and prefer that I obtain this from the same source. You say you will gladly bear all expense in this matter. I can get a live animal and send it on by express or by freight. It will cost but a few dollars. I am afraid that the express company will refuse to carry it. If it must go by freight it may be a month on the trip. As it can live a long time on very little it may get through alive—but if not, then I will attempt to get the venom myself and send it on to you by express.

"I send you a couple of papers, *The Tucson Citizen* and *The San Francisco Chronicle*, with a short article upon this subject which may be of interest to you. It seems to me that it (the poison) differs in so many points from all present known venoms that it is worth our having. In the first place it is alkaline and all other poisons of reptiles are acid. Second, its effect is not always sudden but is lasting—causing sickness for months and death even after a year. Again, although it does produce paralysis it is not the tonic spasm, but rather the slow creeping death from the extremities. It does not seem to excite but to depress. For these few facts I am not to be hailed as a 'Discoverer' as you suggest. Please draw that part of it mildly. I am merely guiding attention toward what I have casually gleaned in a promiscuous way from the natives of this region. I will notify you when I ship the animal.

"Yours very truly,

"CHAS. D. BELDEN.

"*Phoenix, Arizona, May 21, 1890.*"

THIRD LETTER.

“After addressing my last letter to you I carefully boxed a fine specimen of the Gila Monster, *Heloderma Horridum*, or ‘suspectum,’ first in a tin box well perforated, and then in an enclosing wooden box also well perforated. But, notwithstanding the carefulness in packing, neither the express company, the U. S. Mail, nor the railroad company would permit the package to be received at their offices. I therefore will trust to the chance of inducing some traveler to carry it in his trunk if I find any such obliging friend. Yesterday I had an opportunity to work over three of the ‘monsters.’ My plan of operations was to catch one by a slip noose, hold him, and attempt to catch some of his saliva, in the hope that it might be impregnated with the poison. The mouth of the animal is quite dry. I held a watch glass with nippers firmly in and between the jaws; the animal broke a few of the glasses. But upon the thicker ones I obtained a few drops of a pasty yellowish fluid. It quickly dried upon glass. I sprinkled sugar of milk upon it to absorb it, and with a clean steel I removed it from the glass into two small vials, one containing alcohol, 95°, the other sugar of milk. I am certain you have at least 2 drops of the animal’s mouth fluid, gathered as it was attempting to bite, in each of the vials. It may be that the quantity is three drops, but as I could not obtain it in such quantity as to drop it I cannot be accurate. I tested three animals. I would kill and dissect one if I believed it the better plan. Will you make any use of the enclosed or do you want me to go further and attempt more?

“Yours very truly,

“CHAS. D. BELDEN.

“*Phœnix, Arizona, May 29, 1890.*”

The following are the newspaper articles referred to in the letters:

“THE GILA MONSTER (*Heloderma suspectum*).

“In view of the accident which happened a few days ago to Hon. Walter L. Vail, through the bite of a Gila Monster, we publish to-day an extract of a paper written by our townsman, John A. Spring, and published in the April number of *Chambers’ Journal* (London and Edinburgh), relative to the venomous nature of this mysterious lizard. Lack of space forbids us to reproduce the whole article.

“‘The long-debated question as to the venomous nature of the Gila Monster, which the scientists have named *Heloderma horridum*, was brought up at a late meeting of the College of

Physicians at Philadelphia. Drs. Mitchell and Reichart had on hand live, vigorous specimens of the lizard. Dr. Mitchell caused one to attack the edge of a dish, and some of the saliva was caught in a watch-glass. This was first tested. The venom of poisonous reptiles is acid, but this was alkaline. A minute quantity was then injected into a live pigeon, which died in less than nine minutes. Other experiments were tried, which demonstrated the dangerous character of the poison. According to these learned doctors, a rattlesnake's poison is a mere bagatelle in comparison.'

"A few years ago the following well-authenticated fact occurred in the Huachuca mountains. A woodcutter who had laid down in complete health to sleep, wrapped up in his blanket, failed to arise in the morning when his co-laborers called him. Upon uncovering him, they found him stone dead, and near his body a Gila Monster, which, in the bustle and confusion of the moment made good his escape. As the body of the man bore no marks of a bite or other wounds, we must suppose that his death was caused by the mere exhalation of the lizard.

"Near Magdalena, Sonora, a man was hunting rabbits with a dog. The latter inserted his snout into a rabbit hole, but immediately retreated, uttering fearful howls, while he was trying to shake off a Gila Monster, which had fastened its teeth into the dog's nose, and, although snarling and spitting without interruption, could not be made to let go its hold till it was killed, and even then its jaws had to be forced apart with an iron rod. The dog very soon began to act strangely, and showed something like the same symptoms a horse does when suffering from 'blind staggers,' but soon began turning around itself around in a circle, and in about twenty minutes fell down dead. The same actions before death were observed in a mule, only this animal was bitten in a hind leg, and lived for several days.

"A young miner while prospecting was bitten just above the shoe. Although previously in the best of health, he at once began to lose flesh, became melancholy, and died in a few months in the manner of those who succumb to what in Germany is called the galloping consumption.

"Many similar cases might be enumerated but suffice it to say, that among the natives who have an abject fear of this lizard, the universal belief is that the spittle or saliva, and even the mere breath and exhalation of the animal in an excited state is deadly poison.

"Where this deadly venom is really located, and by what process of nature it is produced, remains an open question. When

I dissected the first Heloderma, I found, to my great surprise, that notwithstanding the evident outer resemblance to that of the rattlesnake, there were no fangs, no venom bladders, no visible receptacle for venom; and furthermore, that whereas the jaws of venomous snakes are simply held in position by a number of elastic skins, which allow their throats to stretch to a great extent, and thus enable them to swallow bodies of a much greater circumference than themselves, the jaws of the Heloderma are well locked or hinged like those of the Mamalia, and contain two rows of very sharp teeth on each side, those of the upper jaw being considerably longer than the lower.

“The vitality of the Gila Monster is something wonderful, aye, incredible; it will not die by drowning, nor by strangulation nor by laceration; still it has one soft spot, where a moderate, short knock with a hard substance will cause instant death. This spot is on the back part of the skull, where the latter joins the vertebræ. One should always be careful to ascertain positively the death of the animal before attempting to handle it, for its aptitude of feigning death is as great as its vitality.

“JOHN A. SPRING.

“*Tuscon, Arizona, Daily Citizen, May 15, 1890.*”

“THE GILA MONSTER—THE KIND OF LIZARD THAT BIT W. L. VAIL AT PANTANO.

“‘Is he poisonous?’ said a young man behind the newspaper stand at the Nadeau. ‘Well, I should say he was. It isn’t his breath, though. A man from Arizona said that the forked tongue was the sting.’ ‘You’re wrong,’ said a listener, ‘his breath is what kills people. I heard a woman say that a single blast of its breath was sure death.’

“‘That may be,’ said another, ‘but I saw a man die from the bite of one, and that is the secret of it. I’d rather have a rattler bite me any day.’

“‘Where was it?’ queried a startled listener.

“‘Over in Arizona,’ was the reply. ‘A friend of mine had one in a box just outside of a saloon, and one day a chap came along who was so drunk that he was ready to eat up the earth. He was afraid of nothing, and when he saw the box and the sign “Hands Off—Poisonous,” he swore he could handle it, and before they could prevent him, he ripped off the slats and made a grab at it. The thing twisted around and bit him on the finger, and, to make a long story short, I saw him die in the middle of the street a short time after.’

“The subject of all this conversation was a pale yellow-and-

black, blunt-headed lizard, about a foot in length, that rested upon a bed of sand in a small wooden box. It was the famous Gila Monster of Arizona, the only poisonous lizard in the world, and as ugly and disagreeable a looking creature as one could possibly imagine.

“The head was long and blunt, the eyes black and bead-like, the tail half the length of the body, thick-set and club-like. The entire body seemed encased in a thinly coated armor, marked curiously with yellow and black.

“The Gila Monster is sluggish and slow of movement, in this respect being entirely different from the tribe in general. In its own country the animal shows more activity, especially in the dry, hot regions contiguous to the Gila river. In confinement it has the habits of a young alligator more than anything else. The interest which centers in the *Heloderma* lies in the poison that is supposed to lurk in its bite, and perhaps no animal has given rise to so many weird and wholly imaginary stories.

“The natives and some ignorant whites suppose that its breath is poisonous. Others think to have one touch the body is a bad sign. The *Heloderma* is simply a lizard and the only one known that can poison other animals by its bite; a discovery made a few years ago by some naturalists who were traveling through the country. The story was not at first believed, but several were sent East where the poisonous properties were soon demonstrated. A naturalist at the Smithsonian was bitten, the poison taking effect so quickly that he had barely time to call for help. Small animals soon died after being bitten, and it was shown that human beings, under certain conditions, might easily die from the effects of the bite.

“The poison of the *Heloderma* has been carefully examined by Messrs. Mitchell and Reichert, the experts, who announce that the physiological action of the poison is entirely different from that of snakes. The latter destroys life by paralyzing the respiratory center, while the poison of the *Heloderma* at once attacks and affects the heart, paralyzing it.

“Among the interesting experiments that of injecting the poison subcutaneously has been tried. There was no local effect, the heart being at once affected, slowly contracting, the spinal cord finally becoming paralyzed.

“It is probable that the condition of the victim or his general health would have much to do with the question of death. If a man was in a poor condition and run down he would possibly die, while a healthy man would not be seriously troubled.

“Specimens sent to Europe were experimented upon by Sir

John Lubbock. A frog bitten by the lizard died in a few seconds in convulsions. A guinea pig bitten in the hind leg passed away in three minutes, and other animals died equally as quick, creating in the minds of the observers a decided respect. If the teeth of the specimen at the Nadeau House are examined they will be found to have curious fissures, and a further and closer look into the mouth of the monster will show at the base of the grooves small dents from which the poisonous saliva flows. The Heloderma is an interesting creature, and while not always sure death, it is well to keep it at a distance and handle it with the care and respect due its unsavory reputation."—*Los Angeles Tribune*.

PICKINGS FROM PENNSYLVANIA.

The Transactions of the Twenty-fifth Session of the Homœopathic Medical Society make a volume of 320 pages. The frontispiece is a portrait of Dr. W. B. Trites, since deceased, who was President of the Society at the time of this meeting.

What answer shall be made, asked Dr. Trites in his annual address, to the charge that the Homœopathic medical profession are abandoning the teachings of Hahnemann? The answer: "I hear it swell from your hearts: 'The experiences of these years have confirmed our belief in the truth of the law and proven the efficacy of small doses.' This is the answer we of Pennsylvania make to the slanderous charges that the Homœopaths of to-day have deserted the teachings of Hahneman." Again: "The fact that we represent a system which, if generally adopted, would make life both more enjoyable and safer, should inspire every true disciple to renewed energy in the work of spreading the truth." The President also urged the importance of every Homœopathic physician joining a State society. The subject of medical legislation was also treated very fully, and it was shown that Homœopaths must be up and doing if they wish to retain their liberty.

In his paper on Herpes Zoster, Dr. Trites said the occurrence of several cases about the same time had led some dermatologists to class the disease as infectious, but "so far as my own observations have gone I am inclined to the belief that the disease is due to atmospheric conditions." From the paper, and discussion, *Rhus tox.*, seems to be the remedy oftenest called for by

herpes, though *Ranunculus bul.*, *Arsen*, *Mezereum*, *Staph.*, and *Rhododendron* are at times indicated.

Dr. G. Maxwell Christine drew a sad and gloomy picture of the terrible increase of abortion: "Whether chastity is becoming less a virtue among single women," he said, "I cannot aver, but that among this class abortions are now more the habit than formerly can be attested by any physician of much experience. Even among the married there are few wives who do not know of some means to destroy the fœtus before it comes to full term, and who have not at some time applied one or more of these means in their own cases. The abortionist lucratively plies his or her trade in nearly every town and hamlet, and is rarely interfered with. Aside from the higher point of view the physical evil from abortion is most lasting and direful. 'No matter how carefully applied and observed the treatment after abortion, no woman ever fully recovers the natural tone of her womb.'" Dr. A. W. Chandler, he said, a physician of twenty-five years' experience, maintains "that more than one-half of the human family dies before it is born, and that probably three-fourths of these premature deaths are the direct or indirect result of abortion by intent." Dr. Christine thought that the aid of legislators should be invoked, and read a paper on the subject from J. B. Scattergood, Esq., a member of the Philadelphia bar. In the discussion which followed Dr. Betz said that he always notified the coroner when he was called upon to treat a woman suffering from the effects of abortion, but that official only moves when the woman dies under the operation.

Dr. E. R. Snader very effectually exploded the famous "red line along the gums as a diagnostic sign of phthisis pulmonalis." In a long array of cases in the Hahnemann Hospital he showed that "the line was observed twice in non-phthisical to once in phthisical patients. He demonstrated very conclusively that the line is due to improper care of the teeth; to the "excessive accumulation of tartar, or to the general systemic bone and tissue relaxation (past or present), of which the red line is simply a local manifestation." Dr. Johnston confirmed this by what a dentist (Dr. Coolidge) had told him on the subject, namely, that the line was "due to an accumulation of tartar."

Dr. Bartlett read a paper on "some forms of œdema not dependent upon disease of the heart, loin or kidneys." He described one case of a lady attacked suddenly with a severe headache, swelling of the entire body, and high fever; afterwards feeling extremely sore as if bruised, extremely sensitive to the touch, with urine scanty but with heavy deposit of urates.

Apis ix was prescribed, and in a few days the patient was well. In the discussion, Dr. Mohr related a case to illustrate the extreme care a physician should use. The patient came under his care fully persuaded that he must die. *Lachesis* was prescribed to the symptom, "extreme sensitiveness of the neck to pressure." For ten days the case was closely watched, and Dr. Mohr became convinced that the extreme œdema of the lower extremities, present in the case, was due to the fact that the patient had not changed his sitting posture for months. *Sac. lac.*, and persuading him to lie down effected a cure in a month. Dr. Harriet J. Sartain reported a case of a boy with marked œdema of the upper lip, but no other symptom. *Bovista* cured.

Dr. W. J. Martin related some cases proving the superiority of homœopathic over pathological prescribing. One was a man who vomited blood in large black lumps; pale, weak, with deathly nausea. A few doses of *Ipecac*, 200 cured. Diarrhœa followed; *Arsenic*, 12 completely cured, sickness due to whiskey. In another bad whiskey case the patient repeatedly vomited blood of the same character as preceding, but with no nausea; he craved whiskey and water but the guiding symptom was "the patient exhibited no alarm or anxiety concerning the hæmorrhages." *Hamamelis*, 10 drops in water, a teaspoonful every hour with cracked ice *ad lib.*, cured. He also related two cases of cholera morbus; one, a woman, pains in the bowels, diarrhœa, vomiting, cold as a corpse and covered with sweat, and the added unique feature of being completely crazy, all pointed to *Veratrum alb*, and it quickly cured. The other case was a man who, after drinking ice water felt as though a stone lay on his stomach, followed by severe pain in the bowels and diarrhœa; he took sundry patent medicines which were quickly vomited up; very thirsty, but drink vomited up at once; not perspiring, but skin dry and warm; *Arsenicum* promptly cured.

Dr. E. C. Parsons read a paper on Typho-Malarial fever, demonstrating from clinical cases the importance of *Potassium phosphate* in enteric fevers with malarial complications, or *vice versa*. In one of these cases the Allopathic doctor who had "opened" it, as the lawyers would say, finally pronounced it fatal; the Homœopath closed the case by curing it with *Potassium phos*.

Dr. W. A. Haman's paper was on a singular physiological fact and one which, the Doctor thinks, Jack the Ripper may be acquainted with. He went with his friend, Dr. Marks, to see a patient suffering from mania-a-potu; when they entered the hotel room three porters were desperately struggling with the maniac; Dr. Marks walked to the bedside and placed his hand on the an-

terior cervical region of the patient, whereupon he immediately fell over and apparently slept, but in reality was unconscious. This lasted two or three minutes, during which he did not move. He then opened his eyes, appeared dazed for a moment and was then immediately perfectly rational. Dr. Marks called me aside and explained the mystery. He had placed the palmar surface of the distal surface of his right thumb upon the upper rings of the trachea, a sudden firm but momentary pressure, with the immediate results described. The mania returned and Dr. Haman found that by this means he could control the man as easily as a child. Dr. Marks said he had often had recourse to this means for controlling excessive violence and had never observed any evil after effect from it.

Dr. Mohr's paper on ovarian tumors did not claim that they could be cured by medicines, but simply gave two cases in which they appeared to be cured; one by *Apis*. In the discussion Drs. Betz and Sartain thought that such tumors could not be cured by medicine, while Drs. Jones, Skeels and Burgher inclined to the belief that they could, and cited cases from their own practice where they apparently had been cured. The remedies quoted were *Apis*, *Arsenicum*, *Calcarea*, *Magnesia phos.*, and *Calcarea iodatum*.

From "The Year's Work" compiled by Dr. J. Richey Horner, we take the following points:

"For varicose veins of pregnancy, *Vipera* 3x."

"For a case of diabetes mellitus—urine free, dark brown, cramps in the calves of the legs, rapid and excessive emaciation *Caprum met.*, 8x was given, and was followed by rapid improvement."

"A catarrhal condition, commencing in the nose and extending rapidly to the throat, larynx and trachea, calls for *Arum triphyl.*

"A case of a scrofulous child, weak and illy developed, blue veins, thick neck, large head, with profuse sweating, resisted all remedies in the ordinary potencies, but became rapidly stronger and better under *Calc. carb.* 50^m."

In his paper on "Diphtheria," Dr. Chandler Weaver said, "You cannot let up on the medicine in this disease on the first improvement as in most other diseases; you have to keep up repeating the remedy until the throat is nearly healed up, or the membrane will recommence growing, and your patient will become worse."

Dr. C. A. Wilson reported a bad case of epilepsy that yielded to *Enanthe croc.*

In his paper on Enuresis, Dr. John Cooper mentioned, among many other remedies our old friend *Mullein Oil*. "This is the latest remedy for enuresis and difficult urination. It is of undoubted value." Dr. Martin thought that *Sulphur* would cure nearly all cases of enuresis in children, and Dr. Mohr endorsed him.

In his paper on the Eye, Dr. J. B. Sullivan mentioned *Symphitum* "as very valuable for all injuries of the eye resulting from external violence. Therefore, if the infant's eyes be bruised or injured by the obstetrician, *Symph.* might be tried with benefit." The θ in water as a lotion and 3x internally soon cured a young man's eyes injured by a base ball.

There were many other interesting papers, but more in the specialist's domain.

THE SPARE HOUR. NO. 4.

A Glimpse of an Alchemist.

On the evening of Wednesday, the 3d of September, 1651, Oliver Cromwell led his army to the last conflict of the civil war—the battle of Worcester, "as stiff a contest, for four or five hours, as I have ever seen." At 10 o'clock that night though "so weary, and scarce able to write," he nevertheless did send to Speaker Lenthall a brief account of his victory, "a very glorious mercy." And while he wrote, the fields on both sides of the Severn were dabbled in clotted blood, and the moon shone on fourteen thousand men that nevermore should look upon her face. On rode the trooper through the night, and the groans of the wounded and dying grew fainter and fainter in the distance, and on the Saturday the spires of London greeted his sight, and the weary horse was spurred for a final effort, and the letter is in the Speaker's hands, is read in Parliament, and all London is at once ablaze; bells ringing, people shouting, hats flung in the air; one universal delirium of delight; and on the banks of the Severn fourteen thousand fellow-men insensate, cold and stark.

Into the shop of *Richard Cotes, Printer*, burst a breathless apprentice with the tidings. Down went composing sticks, and out went the men, Richard Cotes himself not the last to reach the door. He soon returned, and addressed a grave-looking gentleman in a long black gown. "Pardon, good doctor, but we can toil no more to-day; the bells of St. Clement Danis are

pealing a holiday, and not a varlet will be back." "Aye, take the sheets with thee, and welcome."

John French, "Dr. of Physick" left the shop bearing with him a "page proof" of several sheets of his "Art of Distillation, or a Treatise of the choicest Spagyricall Preparations, etc., etc., etc., etc. I say "etc." because the whole title-page contains 119 words, delectably printed by the cunning of Richard Cotes, in black and red. It was honest printing work, for after nearly two-and-a-half centuries the colors are fresh though time has made the paper dingy.

From Dr. French's "Epistle Dedicatory," I think he was glad for an excuse to leave the shop of Richard Cotes and join in the "generall" rejoicing. He dedicates his book "To the Right Honorable Philip Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery." This nobleman was the son of that other Philip Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery whom, at his death, Oliver Cromwell succeeded as Chancellor of Oxford University—a zealous Parliamentarian who declared "the Commonwealth Great Seal as good as any King's ever was."

Dr. French assures his noble patron, "as long as I have sense or reason, I shall improve them to the honor of art, especially that of Alchymie. In the perfection thereof there are riches, honor, health, and length of days; by it *Artesius* lived 1000 years, *Flammell* built 28 hospitals with large revenues to them, besides churches and chapels," etc.

"In the perfection of this art, I mean the accomplishing of the Elixir, is the sulphur of philosophers set at liberty, which gratifies the releasers thereof with 3 kingdoms, viz., vegetable, Animal and Mineral, and what cannot they do, and how honorable are they that have the command of these? They may command Lead into Gold, dying plants into fruitfulness, the sick into health, old age into youth, darkness into light, and what not?"

A fervid believer was Dr. John French; one delightful to meet in these days of scoffing unfaith in everything. How *naïve* is the illimitable "and what not" with which he classes his category of splendid impossibilities. How calm he is withal; it is no mirage that is deluding him; right before his noonday vision shines the El Dorado of which he writes, and the next fire in his furnace may find him "accomplishing of the Elixer"—then shall he turn his old age into youth, "and what not?"

And how he exalts his calling—as every honest workman should and *will*: "This Art of Alchemy is that *Solary* art which is more noble than all the other six arts and sciences, and if it

did once throughly* shine forth out of the clouds whereby it is eclipsed, it would darken all the rest (as the Sun doth the other six planets) or rather swallow up their light. This is that true naturall philosophy which most accurately anatomizeth nature & natural things, & occularly demonstrates the principles & operations of them. That empty natural philosophy which is read in Vniversities is scarce the meanest handmaid to this Queen of arts." [Ah, Dr. John French, by that token, across two-and-a-half centuries, we can smell the sack in thy breath. Thou art vapping, John, like a coffee-house wit.] "It is pity there is such great encouragement for many empty and unprofitable arts, and none for this and such like ingenuities, which if promoted would render a Vniversity far more flourishing than the former. I once read or heard of a famous Vniversity beyond sea that was falln into decay, through what cause I know not; but there was a general counsel held by the learned, how to restore it to its primitive glory. The *Medicine* at last agreed upon was the promoting of Alchymie, and encouraging the artists themselves. But I never expect to see such rationall actings in this nation, till shadows vanish, substances flourish, and truth prevail: which time I hope is at hand."

Thou dear old 17th century optimist, that time is not yet "at hand," nor are there any now so simple as to hope for it. Our electric lights make the shadows darker than ever, semblances are still flourishing, and truth could not prevail though the devil died to-morrow. Yet are we all shadows that vanish—as thou hast, as the great Oliver did in that night of storm, as the fourteen thousand on the banks of the Severn at Worcester. Just *beyond* the vanishing point truth does at last PREVAIL—a fact to be forgotten at the soul's peril. O spark imperishable that once wast "Dr. John French," would that thou couldst speak!

Our dead and vanished author, although a graduate of Oxford, was duly modest; he felt a diffidence in putting forth his book; "when I considered what a multitude of Artists there are in this Nation, from which more and better things might be expected than from myself, I was at a *nonplus* in my resolutions, fearing it might be accounted an unpardonable presumption in me to undertrke that which might be better performed by others. But for the avoidance of this aspersion, be pleased to understand that I present not this to the world under any other notion than of a rough draught (which indeed is the work of the more unskillful, and therefore of myselfe without exception), to be pol-

*An error in proof-reading due solely to the exciting news of the battle of Worcester!

ished by the more expert Artist. I rejoice, as at the break of the day after a long tedious night, to see how this solary art of Alchymie begins for to shine forth out of the clouds of reproach, which it hath a long time undeservedly layen under. There are two things which have a long time eclipsed it, viz., the mists of ignorance, and the specious lunary body of deceit." [Thanks, honest John, for a felicitous phrase—the *specious lunary body of deceit!* It is of no use to open our Webster or Worcester; there is no sap in "lunary" as *they* understand it; they cannot tell us what a splendid *periphrasis* for the D—— lies curled up in thy phrase like an oak in an acorn. We have lost sight of the special meaning, John, but we have got the thing itself improved by 250 years of added experience.]

In a day when the *Zeitgeist* had taught men the grand secret that "kings had a *lith* in their necks," as Boswell's father phrased it, we should expect a revolt against authority *merely as authority*; an assertion of the right of individual research and of independent thought. The Cromwellian spirit cut off more than king Charles' head; it severed servile bonds far more than it knew. Let us return to Dr. French's text to see how this is exemplified. "If men did beleieve what this *Art* [of Alchymy] could effect, and what variety there is in it, they would bee no longer straighten by, nor bound up to *Jurare in verba Galeni vel Aristotelis*, but would now subscribe a new engagement* to be true and faithfull to the principles of *Hermes* and *Paracelsus*, as they stand established without *Aristotle* their prince, and *Galen* and *Hippocrates*, their lords and masters. They would no longer stand dreaming forth, *Sic dicit Galenus*, but *Ipse dixit Hermes*. I desire not to be mistaken as if I did deny *Galen* his due, or *Hippocrates* what is his right, for indeed they wrot excellently in many things, and deserved well thereby; That which I cannot allow of in them is their strict observation of the quadruplicity of humours (which in the schools of *Paracelsus*, and writings of *Helmont*, where the anatomy of humours hath been most rationally and fully discussed, hath been sufficiently confuted) and their confining themselves to such crude medicines, which are more fit to be put into Spagyricall vessels for further digestion, then into mens bodies to be fermented therein."

There is the spirit that protests against authority merely as such. A graduate, who had subscribed to be true and faithful to the principles of Hippocrates and Galen, begins to think for himself, and then he is no longer bound by the *Sic dicit* of another.

* Alluding to a college oath sworn on being graduated.

Dr. John French was a mental vertebrate—a species very seldom found in medical colleges, unless as a dried specimen that, unhappily, doesn't lecture!

We get an inkling of how slight a knowledge of the capabilities of chemistry obtained in our dead alchemist's days from his assertion that he knew "divers that will not beleve that common quicksilver can of itselfe be turned wholly into a transparent water [a dissolved bichloride], or that glasse can be reduced into sand and salt of which it was made, saying that *fusio vitrificatoria est ultimo fusio*, or that an hearb may be made to grow in two hours, and the Idea of a plant to appear in a glasse, as if the very plant itselfe were there, and this from the essence thereof, and such like preparations as these."

Our good doctor waxes warm in defence of "the Elixir"—that every true disciple of Hermes, was ever and always to uphold and defend. Here follows the testament of John French's discipleship:

"And for the possibility of the Elixir, you shall as-soon* perswade to beleve they know nothing (which is very hard, 'nay an impossible thing to doe) than to beleve the possibility thereof. If there be any such thing (say they) why are not the possessors thereof infinitely rich, famous, doe many miracles and cures, and live long? These objections, especially some of them, scarcely deserve an answer; [Ah, John, no dodging, no affected contempt; it is an *argumentum ad rem*, and you must grapple for life or death. Observe the smile of calm self-possession on his face as he goes on, undismayed] yet shall I to shew the vanity of them make some reply thereunto. Did not *Artesius* by the help of this medicine live 1,000 years? Did not *Flammell* build fourteene Hospitals in *Paris*, besides as many in *Boleigne*, besides churches and chapels with large revenews to them all? Did not [Roger] *Bacon* doe many miracles? and *Paracelsus* many miraculous cures?" [Four plump knock-downs straight from the shoulder, thinks our honest John.]

Moreover, to possess the secret of "the Elixir" was not without its peculiar peril, and our good doctor becomes actually radiant in showing this: "what saith *Sandivogius*? I have, saith he, incurred more dangers and difficulties by discovering myselfe to have this secret, than ever I had profit by it, and whomsoever I would discover myselfe to the great Ones, it always redounded to my prejudice and danger. Can a man that carrieth alwaies about him 10,000 pounds worth of jewels and gold,

*After many years' reading in curious English texts I have never else where seen this form of as-soon.

traveled every where up and downe, safe, and not be robbed? Have not many rich money-mongers been tortured into a confession where their money was concealed? Did you never heare of a vapouring fellow in *London*, that pretended to the knowledge of this mystery, was on a suddaine caught aside by money-thirsters, and by them tormented with tortures little lesse than those of hell, being forced thereby (if he had knowne it) into a discovery of it? To say nothing of being in danger of being subjected and enslavèd to the pleasure of Princes, and of becoming instrumentall to their luxury, and tyranny, as also being deprived of all liberty, as once *Raimundus Sullius*."

Verily, Dr. John French, thou hast more than reconciled me to the drudgery of visits at \$1.50—*collect if you can!* Yet, O John, I would like to try a little of the "torture" that befalls "money-mongers" just for a change.

John French's last volley at the "vanity" of these scoffers is a rain of red hot cannon balls, as witness: "The truth is, the greatest matter that Philosophers aime at, is the enjoyment of themselves, for which cause they have sequestered themselves from the world, and become *Hermites*. Well therefore and like a philosopher spake *Sandivogius* when he said, Beleeve me, if I were not a man of that state and condition that I am of, nothing would be more pleasant to me then a solitary life, or with *Diogenes* to live hid under a tub; for I see all things in this world to be but vanity, and that deceit and covetousnesse prevails much, that all things are vendible, [O John, was the market so full even in thy day?] and that vice doth excel vertue. [Ah, John, wipe your spectacles! 'Vice doth excel vertue?' Only when the devil is weighmaster, and that is not yet.] I see the better things of the life to come before mine eyes. I rejoyce in these."

Thus lifted up and strengthened by *Sandivogius* the good John continues, *in propria persona*. "Now I doe not wonder, as before I did, why Philosophers when they have attained this medicine [the Elixir] have not cared to have their daies shortened (although by the virtue of their medicine they could have prolonged them) for every Philosopher hath the life to come so cleerly set before his eyes as thy face is seen in a glasse." [That, O John, is indeed the "Elixir," the divine "projection"—Jerusalem the golden shining into the eyes through all the dust and din of Vanity Fair.]

With one fell swoop Dr. French descends from the celestial to the terrestrial. One would even imagine that he had in mind those latter-day pharmacists who strain their slender wits to

cheapen tinctures and triturations! He says: "There is another sort of men by whom this Art hath been much scandalized, and they indeed have brought a great Odium upon it by carrying about, and vending their whites, and reds, their sophisticated oils, and Salts, their dangerous and ill prepared *Turbithes*, and *Aurum vitæ*. And indeed it were worth while, and I might doe good service for the Nation, to discover their cheats, as their sophisticating of Chymical oils with spirit of Turpentine, and salts with salt extracted out of any wood-ashes, and such like, but here is not place for so large a discourse as this would amount to. I shal only at this time relate to you how *Penotus* was cheated with a sophisticated Oil of gold, for saith he I gave 24 duckets for the processe of an *Aurum potabile* which was much cryed up and magnified at *Prague*, but at last it proved to be nothing but a mixture of oil of Camphine, Cloves, Fennel-seed, and of Vitrial tinged with leaves of Gold. I know I shall incurre the displeasure of some, but they are sophisticating, cheating mountebanks, who indeed deserve to be bound to keep the peace, because many men, I dare swear, through their means go in danger of their lives. But better it is that their knavery should be detected, than a noble Art through their villany be clouded and aspersed."

So wrote Dr. John French in 1651, but the breed of "sophisticating, cheating mountebanks" flourished, for two centuries later England's poet laureate in scourging his day said:

"While another is cheating the sick of a few last gasps, as he sits
To pestle a poison'd poison behind his crimson lights."

[This paper has already overran the limits of the *Spare Hour*, and yet it was purposed to have given some curious preparations of Gold, and a list of its "vertues" as taught by Dr. French. This would supplement Dr. Burnett's pleasant little book on Gold, and its uses, and also furnish some empirical evidence of the truth underlying our applications of this remedy.

To give this paper something of a practical value let me quote a passage that defends Dr. Swan's much-abused remedy, *Luna*. I give a *bona fide* quotation from Dr. French's 141st page.—

"TO EXTRACT A WHITE MILKIE SUBSTANCE FROM THE RAIES OF
THE MOONE."

"Take a concave glasse and hold it against the Moone when she is at the full in a clear evening, and let the raies thereof being united fall upon a sponge, and the sponge will be full of a cold Milkie substance, which you may presse out with your hand, and gather more.

"*De-La-Brosse* is of opinion that this substance is of the sub-

stance of the Moone: but I cannot assent to him in that, only this I say, if this experiment were well prosecuted, it might produce, for ought I know, such a discovery which might be the key to no small secrets.”

S. A. J.

SELECTIONS AND TRANSLATIONS.

Allium Sativum in Rabies.—In the “*Revista Homeopatica de Barcelona*” of February last, formerly called *El Consultor Homeopatico*, we read the following: “We have received a 24 page pamphlet from our colleague, Dr. Terreira Monthino, of Lisbon, in which he reports several cases of hydrophobia cured by the tincture of *Allium Sativum*, and through which he offers his services to the government of his country, compromising himself to cure as many cases as may present themselves, and treat them under the rigorous inspection of a critical committee appointed to that effect. Besides the above remedy, he also employs in the treatment of rabies: Bell., Hyosc., Canth., Stram., Xanthium, Spinoso, etc.

Saw Palmetto.—The *Saw Palmetto*, says Goss, acts “much like the hypophosphites, or the tinct. of oats. But in addition to this very marked tonic and nutrient action, it has a special affinity for the glands of the generative organs of men, and also for the reproductive organs of females. It is a good vitalizer, directly increasing the action of the secretory organs of the male, and promoting the activity of the ovaries of women, and the testes and prostrate gland of men. In the wasting of the testes after mumps, or of old masturbators, or in those cases that follow varicocele, or those cases connected with impotency. In females, it may be often used with success to promote the growth or development of the mammæ, where they develop slowly. And atrophy of the ovaries will be much relieved by the regular use of this article, if continued several months. And, as a remedy for chronic enlargement of the prostate glands, I have found this a very positive remedy. This is a very common affection among old men, and gives them much trouble, causing almost constant desire to urinate in the day, and causing them to have to get up frequently at night, breaking their rest. For this very annoying disease, the saw palmetto is one of our most trust-

worthy remedies. Even in cases of prostatic enlargement and irritation from improperly treated gonorrhœa, the extract of the fruit of palmetto seldom fails to give speedy results. I have not failed to relieve any case of difficult and painful micturation from enlarged prostate gland; and in cases of dribbling of urine, from want of force in the bladder, this is a positive remedy. And in sexual debility—from excess or from debility—this remedy gives quick relief. It invigorates the nervous system generally, and allays irritation of all the mucous surfaces, especially those of the nose and throat. It is a valuable remedy in chronic bronchitis, and a fine tonic in *phthisis pulmonalis*.' Like *Passiflora* it should be given in large doses to get the best effect.

Solanum Carolinense, (Called Horse Nettle, Tread-Soft).

—This is one of an extensive family of plants; many of which are medicinal. This variety is a common pest about the farm in this country. It grows in fields and about the lots and road sides, and has sharp prickles along the stalk, stems and mid-ribs of the leaves, so as to be very much in the way in the harvest field, and in the grass and clover fields. But some recent investigations by physicians are confirming the assertions of the non-professional, and proving this plant to be one of our most efficient remedies in convulsions, epilepsy and catalepsy. It is also regarded as a very soothing remedy in coughs of winter and spring, if prepared in the form of a syrup.

In the transactions of the medical association of South Carolina, for 1889, Dr. J. L. Napier, of Blenheim, S. C., says that during the summer of 1887 he had read of horse nettle and heard of it having been used among the negroes for fits and epilepsy. To test it, he used it in the case of a woman who had epilepsy most of her life. During the menstrual flow she was generally in an epileptic condition. And after trying various remedies for her condition without success, he gave her horse-nettle, steeped in whiskey; a tablespoonful three times a day for several months. The third day after commencing its use she was threatened with a convulsion, but has not had any sign of the disease since. He states that he has used it in four other cases with marked benefit. In two cases there had been no return of convulsions. And he used it in the case of a dwarfed, ill-formed child, that had had epilepsy all its life. Some time previous the child had had typhoid fever from which he had not recovered, but went into decline. Its convulsions became harder and oftener, having repeated attacks in the day and night. He tried the bromides,

but they had no effect whatever. Finally he put the child upon the tincture of horse-nettle, and after that it never had any more convulsions. He also states that he used it in the case of a pregnant woman successfully, who had convulsions in this state. He also found it beneficial in hysterical convulsions in a woman who had the attacks at her menstrual periods.

Dr. Francis Peyer Porcher, of Charleston, S. C., in his work entitled "Southern Fields and Farms," details some cases of tetanus treated by this remedy. Dr. Valentine gave the juice of five or six berries, increasing the dose daily, but did not have sufficient amount to fully test it in tetanus. Professor Porcher says that it is used by the negroes in South Carolina as an aphrodisiac. It has considerable reputation among the people in Georgia, as a cough remedy, in the form of a syrup.—*Dr. Goss in Virginia Medical Monthly.*

Amygdalus Persica.—Some ten years ago I had a little patient whose principle difficulty seemed to be an inability to retain anything whatever upon its stomach. It would vomit up promptly everything I gave it, and I had given it everything I had ever heard of and also had eminent council, but it was no go; I was literally at my rope's end. At this juncture an elderly lady neighbor, one of "the good old mothers," timidly suggested an infusion of peach bark. Well, as it was any port in a storm, I started to find the coveted bark, which I was fortunate enough to procure after a long tramp through the country and two feet of snow. I prepared an infusion, gave the little patient a few swallows, and presto! the deed was done, the child cured. * * It fills all the indications of the leaves and many more. It fills the indications of hydrocyanic acid, ingluvin, ipecac or any other anti-emetic. It will more frequently allay the vomiting of pregnancy than any remedy I have ever tried. And nearly every case of retching or vomiting (except it be reflex) will promptly yield under its use. * * * For an adult the dose is five drops, and in urgent cases repeat every five to ten minutes until the symptoms subside, after which give it at intervals of one to four hours as indicated. After ten years use I am thoroughly convinced that any physician once giving it a thorough trial will never again be without it. Of course, it is not a specific for all "upheavals of the inner man," but will I think meet more indications than any other known remedy of its class.—*C. C. Edson, M. D., in Chicago Medical Times.*

Rhus Tox. Corners of mouth ulcerated and sore.—**RAUE.**

CORRESPONDENCE.

SKOOKUM CHUCK AND ECZEMA.

TO THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

The following bit of successful experience with "Skookum Chuck" may possibly interest some of the readers of the HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

Mrs. X. had, for several years, an eczematous eruption upon the dorsal surfaces of the fingers. There were several small patches upon the back of each hand. The skin of the affected areas was dry, red, and scaly. There were shallow fissures, and a slight serous exudation. The subjective symptoms were: Itching, slight smarting and a feeling of stiffness upon moving the fingers.

The modalities were: Worse in cold weather and worse from washing hands. The lady was under treatment for some months, during which time a number of remedies were prescribed for her general symptoms including those of the skin.

Her health improved much, but the eczema remained the same.

She was therefore put upon the 2x trituration of *Skookum Chuck* (B. & T.) and the *Skookum Chuck Cerate* applied externally each evening before retiring.

One month of this treatment cured her.

OLIVER S. HAINES, M. D.

Philadelphia, Pa.

MOBILE, MAY 8, 1890.

EDITOR RECORDER:

Dear Sir:—Please state again in your journal that as the law now stands in Alabama any one who has a diploma from a regularly chartered college can practice here if he will have his diploma recorded in the office of the Judge of Probate in the county where he intends to practice. But those who contemplate moving to Alabama had better do so before November next, as the Legislature will meet then and the Allopaths will make every effort to patch up their infamous laws.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE G. LYON, M. D.

Nux Vom. Awakes at 3 A.M., lies awake for hours, with a rush of thoughts, falls asleep with the bright morning with troublesome dreams, and gets up more tired than in the evening.

—HAHNEMANN.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

Ringbone.—Dr. Moore highly recommends a liniment consisting of 60 grains of *Mercurius Corrosivus* dissolved in one pint of hot water as an external treatment for the reduction of splints, bone-spavins and ringbones. Rub the parts affected night and morning with this liniment and at the same time administer 10 drops of the 6th dil. of *Mer. Cor.* internally.

During the first or inflammatory stage of ringbone, when the animal is evidently suffering every time the joint is moved, and the parts are exceedingly hot, tender, and more or less swollen, the arteries throbbing violently, as may not uncommonly occur after a sudden rick or sprain of the joint, the development of ringbone may be entirely prevented by the internal and external application of *Aconite*. To one part of the tincture of *Aconite* add six parts of water, saturate a linen rag and bind it round the parts, keeping continually moist until inflammation subsides, giving *Aconite* internally at the same time.

Erysipelas.—On January 20 I was called to a one-year-old filly which was afflicted with erysipelas of the face to such a degree that both eyes were nearly closed by the puffed up eyelids, respiration through the nostrils, likewise swelled, was much impeded. Two doses of two drops each of *Apis 3d*, on a small wafer, cured within 24 hours.—*Dr. C. Bohm, Berlin.*

Hoarseness in a Canary.—Mrs. Z. requested me to prescribe for her pet canary, which seemed to be very hoarse since several days. Found the little patient sitting with ruffled feathers on his perch, head low; seemed to have lost his voice altogether. *Causticum 3*; three pellets dissolved in the drinking water cured him within three days.

Leucorrhœa in a Mare.—A white mare æt. 5 years in the beginning of March was in heat, but was not taken to the stallion, and about April 1st a yellowish thick secretion was discharged from the vagina, the membranes of the pudenda had a yellowish-white color and were relaxed and wrinkled. Whenever her flanks were touched she assayed to urinate but only a small quantity of seemingly normal urine is voided followed by a slimy fluid accompanied by lively motions of the clitoris. On receiving *Cannabis 1st* twice daily the discharge ceased after 5 days, and as she became heated she was taken to the stallion whom she readily accepted. But after a few days this same discharge recommenced for which she then received drop doses of *Sabina*,

when after a few days she was cured and had no recurrence of these symptoms since then.—*Dr. Boehm, Veterinarian. Pop. Zeitschr. für Hom. Vol. IV.*

Spasmodic Lameness in Dogs.—A fine New Foundland dog saved the little brother of its owner, who had broken through the ice, from drowning, by jumping in after him and holding him above water, by a supreme effort, until both were rescued by means of ladders and boards. But, while the boy seemed none the worse for his icy bath, the dog sickened and evidently was in pain. He would drag himself along, taking little notice of any one, even though petted. Four or five times daily he was beset by cramps, always when moving about; the dog would then stand still and wince, his hind legs would twitch, and he would alternately raise one then the other. The embrocations and liniments of the veterinarian proving of no avail. *Belladonna* and then *Cocculus* were administered, but the hoped-for relief did not come. The dog was failing fast when at last *Nux vom.* 3 was administered, one dose a day, and after eight doses the dog was cured, barring a slight lameness. In other respects the dog is in as good spirits and as healthy as before.

—*Pop. Zeitschr., für Hom.*

BOOK NOTICES.

Boeninghausen's Therapeutic Pocket Book: New Edition.
 Edited by T. F. Allen, M. D.

It gives us real pleasure to be able to announce that this valuable book, so long expected, is in press and will be ready for delivery by September. Boeninghausen's works are all classical but none has come so near to the daily life of the practitioner and proved so constant and reliable a companion as the *Therapeutic Pocket Book*. It unravels, analyses, and systematizes the maze of Symptomatology and enables the physician to find readily the indicated remedy in any given case in the shortest and simplest manner. It is the only repertory that is a key to the whole *Materia Medica*, unlocking its treasures and making them available for practical application. In this new edition, Dr. Allen has added the large number of remedies that have been introduced since the days of Boeninghausen and thus brought the book up to date, adhering strictly however to the admirable and thoroughly practical arrangement of the original. The book will be a complete repertory and yet not too large to be carried in the pocket, which form still further adds to its usefulness.

The Homœopathic Treatment of Alcoholism: By Dr. Gallavardin, of Lyons, France. Translated by I. D. Foulon, A. M., M. D., L. L. B. Hahnemann Pub. House. Philadelphia, 1890. Cloth. 138 pages. \$1.00.

Here is something new under the sun, and if others can do what Dr. Gallavardin has done, and is doing, it means that another flower of Homœopathy has burst into bloom and will soon bear fruit for the healing of ills hitherto deemed incurable, save by the afflicted one's "moral" force which, it is needless to say, is an element usually remarkable for its inertness. Dr. Monin voices the Allopaths when he says of alcoholism that "the desire for drink is a kind of mental perversion beyond the rational resources of morals and medicine." Dr. Gallavardin puts it that "Hitherto Homœopathic medicine has proved itself quite as unable to cure drunkenness because, with rare exceptions, Homœopathic physicians, not knowing how to utilize the wealth of their materia medica, have failed to follow these two precepts of their master, Hahnemann." The two precepts are given, and the doctor says that by obeying them "I have been able to cure inebriates of their vice in one-half of my cases," when not hereditary. Differential indications of fourteen remedies "which clinical experience has proved to be efficacious against inebriety" are given in full, and also much valuable matter relative to the nature and effects of the various drinks. Here is a picture of the *Pulsatilla* patient: "People who imagine they strengthen their stomachs by drinking, and whose digestive organs are really insufficient. Sad while they are drunk. Desire for cider. Chlorotic women and girls, who drink for the purpose of gaining strength. Jealous, and still more envious, inclined to hate. Spendthrifts through ostentation. Timid, even cowardly." That picture is drawn by a master hand. The book will be found to be fascinating reading and one that will amply repay the time devoted to it. It is a book that broadens the mind.

A Dictionary of Domestic Medicine: Giving a Description of Diseases, Directions for their General Management and Homœopathic Treatment with a Special Section on Diseases of Infants. By John H. Clarke, M. D. Keene & Ashwell, London. Boericke & Tafel, New York. 1890. 291 pages. Cloth. \$1.25.

This new claimant in domestic medicine is printed with good type on the fine and clean white paper that seems to be peculiarly English. The author says of it: "Many non-medical readers of the *Prescriber* having requested me to bring out a more

popular and elementary work on the same lines of arrangement, I have used such leisure moments as I could find during a number of years in preparing such a work, and the present volume is the result." In the preparation of the *Dictionary* "Dr. Constantine Hering's *Domestic Physician*, the most original of domestic treatises, and the author's *Prescriber* are the works which have been most largely used." Physicians desiring to recommend a well written, reliable and compact work should bear this one in mind.

Philosophy in Homœopathy: Addressed to the Medical Profession and to the General Reader. Charles S. Mack, M. D. Gross & Delbridge. Chicago. 1890. 174 pages. Cloth. \$1.25.

A little work, made up of eight papers, dealing with the philosophy of Homœopathy, and an appendix concerning the New Church, or Swedenborgian, view of Homœopathy. One of the papers consists of an essay, which is a revision of an earlier pamphlet by Dr. Mack, appearing originally under the title, *Similia Similibus Curantur*. "A medical man is (or should be)," says Dr. Mack, "because of his education and experience, better able than his patient to apply principles in medical practice, and to judge of evidence in medical questions; but education, experience and evidence are not *reason*, and as to the *reasonableness* of theories upon which practice is based the patient may be as competent to judge as is his physician." *Philosophy in Homœopathy* appeals to the reason only.

A Cyclopædia of Drug Pathogenesis. Part XII.

This part embraces from page 577 to 760 inclusive, completing the article on *Phosphorus* carried over from Part XI., and ending with *Sabadilla*. The editors say: "With this volume we begin to see the end of our task. As far as we can estimate, Vol. XIII. will not only complete our alphabetical series of drugs, but will leave space for the Index." Three volumes are now complete and, bound in half morocco, cost \$7.00 per volume, or in paper \$1.50 per number.

How to Preserve Health: Louis Barkan, M. D. New York, 1890. American News Co. Cloth. 338 pages. \$1.00.

This book seems to be an effort at furnishing the laity of "regular" persuasion with something analogous to the Homœopathic family books or "domestic physicians," but when compared with any of these it seems rather barren. It contains much good advice on sanitary matters. Some statements are open to discussion and others of a rather self-evident character; among the latter we may mention, as a sample, the proposition that "good bread will not have a sour taste." The description

of "prime wheat flour" answers well to what might be given of flour that is the most difficult to sell "on 'change" because of its inferiority. Dr. Barkan is not afraid to commend good wines and beer, but is a little skittish about ice and says: "When cold water is craved (although cold water really interferes with digestion), it should be boiled and filtered and cooled in bottles on ice." What is the use of advice of this sort? No one will take trouble to follow it, and then boiled water is about the flattest thing a man can drink. We will take our bacteria raw rather than in soup form—if we must take them. The reviewer's private notion is that it is within the bounds of possibility that the bacteria or microbe hunters may do more harm to the patient than their infinitesimal game. But after the worst is said Dr. Barkan's book contains a great amount of valuable matter, and it is written in an interesting style.

Skookum Chuck.—The fame of Dr. Gentry's *Skookum Chuck* takes an ever widening circle. The *Chicago News* quotes a Boston paper to this effect: "Twenty-five years ago a Frenchman crossed the continent with a large flock of sheep, says a correspondent of the *Boston Pilot*. He lost great numbers while moving through the arid region, and when he arrived in Washington the sheep that still lived were covered with various skin diseases. One evening as he was preparing for an encampment he got a glimpse, through the woods, of a beautiful lake, and he hastened forward to its shores. The sheep rushed into the water and began to drink copiously. He was still more astonished when he tasted the water and found it bitter and disagreeable, as well as dissimilar to anything he had ever tasted. Fearing the sheep would be poisoned he drove them out of the water, but in spite of his efforts they returned again. The sheep were in such a condition from disease that he had small hope of their recovery, so he ended by allowing them to drink what he believed to be the poisonous waters as plentifully as they would. Next day he could not drive the sheep away from the vicinity of the lake, and in a few days more he was utterly astonished to find that his sheep were restored to a wonderfully healthy condition." Needless to add that this lake is the lake whence comes *Skookum Chuck*.

Sarsaparilla. Mercurial affections of the head are often wonderfully relieved by *Sarsaparilla*.—NEIDHARD.

Calc. Carb. When a horse is overdriven and doesn't eat.

Hepar. Preferable after the abuse of mercurial or other metallic preparations.—HERING.

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"*Bellis perennis*," remarked a well-known physician, not long ago, "is the best remedy we have for the mental, moral and physical ills that result from the practice of masturbation." This remark set us to rummaging among the books but only in the *Cyclopædia of Drug Pathogenesis* is much said about this remedy. There about two pages are devoted to it. In three provers boils, pimples, and "many little boils with mattery heads" resulted; none had been subject to these before. Many of the symptoms seem to confirm the remark quoted above. "Brain getting muddled." "Giddiness." "Looks haggard and careworn." "Sight dim." "Heart flutters; is quite out of patience with everybody and everything." "Tongue coated with yellowish fur." "Mind confused and memory getting weak." "Spirits getting dull; cannot tolerate noise, music disagreeable," and many other symptoms. The true *Bellis perennis*, needless perhaps to remark, is an imported tincture.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM JAMES, of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., requests of the RECORDER "the publicity of your pages to aid me in procuring co-operation in a scientific investigation for which I am responsible? I refer to the *Census of Hallucinations*, which was begun several years ago by the "Society for Psychical Research," and of which the International Congress of Experimental Psychology at Paris, last summer, assumed the future responsibility, naming a committee in each country to carry on the work." If any one cares to assist in this work the Professor will be most happy to supply blanks on application. Here is a rare chance for having your hallucinations scientifically classified and ticketed which will be very comforting. The work is one requiring an unusual degree of skill, as the average man with an hallucination is so cock-sure that his isn't a hallucination at all, that it will require a high order of ability to smoke him out. What is the Professor to do with the hallucination of the man who knows it all, or of him who thinks he can sing and

cannot, not to mention ten thousand others? This, of course, is taking the word in one of its subordinate meanings; but take it in the sense of "seeing" things; is it not begging the whole question to class unexplainable sights as "hallucinations?" After all who knows but that the "snakes" certain convivial gentlemen at times see are not after all more real, as they surely are more terrifying, than the tangible snake which can be killed with a blow? There may be more in a lively "hallucination" than professors dream of.

THE *Journal of Homœopathics*, 40 pages, monthly, \$5.00 per annum has concluded not to die and No. 1, Vol. II., comes up smiling and pugnacious. "It is the ambition of the editor to make the Journal the best Medical Journal in the world, but in order to do so, it is essential that each Homœopathician shall give his or her aid by sending papers for publication." In this the editor is open to the charge of plagiarism, at least it seems to us that we have read something very like this before. He claims the reward offered by the *Homœopathic Physician* for a journal purporting to be Homœopathic which is not "prostituting the fair name of Homœopathy for the sake of a few dollars," and goes to the length, not of offering to bet a new hat, but of giving one to the *H. P.* men, if their journal can show as clean a Homœopathic bill of health as his. He also pays his respects to the *Medical Advance* and asks if the dropping of one of the "o's from the word Homœopathy is an indication that it is "tending still further away from Homœopathy pure and simple?" Dr. Conrad Wesselhoeft gets a slash as also Dr. T. F. Allen, but there has been so much hacking and hewing lately that we are becoming callous. We welcome the revived comrade but warn him that there are some heavy hitters on the Homœopathic literary nines, and that sometimes even a renowned pitcher (in) has been knocked out of the box. (Remember kindly reader that it is mid-summer and the national game's vocabulary is in the air).

Sanicula Marilandica (*Canadisher Sanikel*), or Blacksnake root, is a very old remedy, mentioned in all the dispensaries, that has been popular among the people as a remedy for intermittent fever, chorea and sore throat for many years. It has never been proved, and, we believe, is not mentioned in any of the Homœopathic materia medicas; nevertheless, there is a small demand for it and it may be had at most of the Homœopathic pharmacies, which, for the accommodation of the medical profession, accumulate many an odd tincture or trituration that are not proved. Among

the comparatively new remedies in Homœopathy is the *Sanicula* introduced by Dr. Gundlach; it is the water of a mineral spring in Illinois, and may be obtained in potencies of the water or in triturations of the salts of the evaporated waters. A correspondent of the *Homœopathic Physician* (June) seems to think he has discovered a great mare's nest because a doctor seeking for the *Sanicula* of the spring was able to buy a "novel 'mother tincture' (of a mineral water!)." Afterwards he found, "by reference to the books," that it was, "indeed, a '*Sanicula*,' but the *Sanicula Marilandica* vulgarly known as snake root." This is quite accurate, but hardly news to any well informed pharmacist or physician who has a knack of keeping informed on these outside and rather obscure medicines.

ONE OF THE REMEDIES mentioned the *Encyclopedia* is *Euphorbia Lathyris* and it may now be obtained at the pharmacies. This is all that is said about it in the work named: "Eye. Brilliant eyes (after five hours). Staring look. Pupils dilated, with wide open eyes. Face. Deadly pale. Stomach. Retching and vomiting. Suddenly seized with violent vomiting and bloody stools. Abdomen. Abdomen drawn inward. Stool. Copious, frequent. Pulse. Pulse small, irregular. General Symptoms. Whole body stiff, icy cold. Uneasiness (after five hours). Fever. Skin burning hot (after five hours). Glowing hot cheeks after five hours." This, we believe, is all that is said about it in the books.

IN THE PREFACE to his work on *Leucorrhœa*, Dr. A. M. Cushing says, well and truly: "Study, learn, prescribe. If low dilutions fail you, don't be afraid to go up." After reading the very interesting paper published in this number of the RECORDER, which Dr. Ghosh sends us from far away India, one realizes that there seem to be times when the reverse of Dr. Cushing's formula is the proper course to pursue; when high preparations of an indicated remedy fail don't be afraid to *come down*. The cures Dr. Ghosh made with *Aurum* 2 x are very striking.

IN HIS paper read before the Ill. Hom. Med. Association, May 15, and printed in *Medical Era*, on the "Treatment of Carcinoma," Dr. J. S. Mitchell says: "Most of my cases have been best treated with the 2x trituration *Arsenicum*. For disinfecting and dressing purposes I use carbolized oil, one part carbolic acid to twenty parts of linseed oil. Inasmuch as the purity of carbolic acid is essential, it is well to use Declat's nascent phenic acid. Cleanse the ulcer first with the carbolized oil, then dust on a portion of the *Arsenicum* trituration, enough to lightly cover the

part. The quantity to be used varies. The susceptibility to *Arsenic* is very great in some patients and they bear only a very minute application, others will tolerate a large quantity of the 2x One physician writes me that a patient of his was unable to bear even the fifth trituration locally. Be careful in making the application to carry the powder well to the edge of the ulcer. After dusting on the powder cover with a layer of gauze, moistened with carbolized oil. Over this place a wad of absorbent cotton and hold in place with rubber adhesive strips; apply once or twice daily; if patient is sensitive make daily application only in the morning. I usually prefer to dust the powder on the surface to be treated, but you will find in some situations it will be better to put the powder on a piece of gauze moistened with carbolized oil." Also: "While pursuing the local treatment give internally *Arsenicum*, notably 3x trituration, and other indicated remedies, for internal treatment is even more favorable at times than those already cognizant of its value fully realize. Give *Arsenicum* for periods of a week or ten days, also as high as the 6x and 30x."

OUR ESTEEMED contemporary, "New Remedies" casting about for these has found one, advocated by a Los Angeles midwife, who says "that in cases of retained after-birth of abortion a sure cure is to have the patient sit over a chamber in which an old hat has been burned." If this "sure cure" does as all other sure cures do, fails, the readers of "New Remedies" might try on the following. Pull the hair from the tip of the tail of a black Thomas cat at midnight in the full of the moon and wear it in the left stocking. This cure was *never* known to fail. (It hasn't been tried yet.)

SOME YEARS AGO Dr. Neidbard made the remark that a desire for bacon or fat ham was an indication for Calc. phos. A one-year-old boy was under my treatment all last summer for summer complaint, and I had much trouble to keep him alive. After a time Hydrocephaloid complicated the case, the body became cold and respiration was scarcely perceptible, even after soft stools fainting spells would follow. Phos. 200 acted marvelously but a relapse after three weeks only partly yielded to Phos., while *Arsenicum* seemed to give new life. Soon after on one of my visits I found the little patient with a piece of raw bacon in his little fingers greedily tearing at it with its small teeth. This recalled Dr. Neidbard's remarks to my memory. I gave the child Calc. phos., and from that time convalescence progressed uninterruptedly.—*Dr. Bruckner in Populaere Hom. Zeitung.*

THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

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A PROVING OF PARAFFINE.

Translated by W. F. Robinson.

(The following proving was made by Dr. Wahle, of Germany, who was the chemist of the great Hahnemann. He never published it, but gave the manuscript to his son, who in his turn gave it to Dr. Held, now a practising physician in Rome. Dr. Held at the request of his colleagues translated it into Italian and it appeared in the medical journal *L'Omiopatia in Italia*, from which this article is translated and slightly condensed. The remedy is used by the Homœopaths of Rome and found to be valuable in uterine and other troubles, indicated by the proving. It is particularly serviceable in constipation.)

Proving of Paraffine.

HEAD.

Weight in the head.

Head heavy and stupid.

Bruised feeling in the left side of the occiput.

Knocking and hammering in the head as if all the pulses were beating.

Head heavy and dull; a feeling when leaning forward as if a weight fell toward the forehead.

Pulsation in the head.

Pressing pain in the head, extending from the vertex toward the forehead as if something would come out.

Pricking, stinging in the head, extending to the left temporal bone.

Pain as of a contusion in occiput.

At 9 o'clock in the morning there comes a pain in the left side of the vertex as if a nail were being driven into the head, with extension of the pain to the left lower jaw.

Touching the left side of the head causes pain as if the part were crushed and a feeling as if the whole side of the head were soft and spongy.

Twisting and wrenching in the sinciput so that he must lie down; having lain down a quarter of an hour, and having placed the right hand under the head, there was experienced a feeling of painless shock so that the hand under the head was drawn away and the legs were thrown down from the sofa. Soon afterward occurred severe palpitation of the heart.

Twisting and wrenching in the whole head, as well as the face.

Feeling as of knife stabs under the right temporal bone extending into the right eye and becoming worse on bending over. On the outside of the forehead a pressing pain which seems to thrust inward, passing, in half an hour into the inside of the head.

Painful pulsation in the forehead which gradually disappears when lying down but becomes worse when bending over.

The left side of the head and face suffer most; pains stinging and twisting, often going and returning at the same time.

Twisting in the left side of the head and face; the teeth of the same side ache as if they would fall out.

On touching the vertex the skin pains as if it were suppurating, in the afternoon.

Sticking in the forehead extending into the nose.

The skin of the head feels soft on being touched or as if supuration was going on underneath it.

Falling out of the hair.

EYES.

Throbbing and sticking over the right eye-brow laterally and from without, extending into the lower jaw and there disappearing.

Stinging pains above the left eye and toward the temple.

Raised spots upon the cornea.

The eyes seems as if there was a veil before them in the morning.

In the morning the eyelids are closed with mucous; dry mucous in the internal angles of the eyes.

Itching in the internal angles of the eyes which ceases a moment on rubbing but a sore pain remains and very soon the itching returns again.

Pressing pains under the right upper eyelids as if some foreign body had gotten in.

Pain under the upper eyelids as if from the prick of a needle.

The eyelids are red, as after crying.

Pain as of a wound in the external angle of the left eye, in the morning.

Itching of the eyelids, lasting the whole day. Rubbing relieves only for a short time.

A feeling in the eyes as if they had fat in them.

A feeling in the eyes as if they were always moist.

Eyes moist and tearful.

The mucous in the internal angles of the eyes is cold and viscid.

Lachrymation and itching of the eyes in the morning on rising.

In the morning the left eye is closed with mucous and seems to have a veil before it.

A veil before the eyes or they feel as if they contained fat observed on rubbing the eyes.

The eyes are dim, she sees nothing, but feels everything; has sensation as if all the limits were numb for five minutes toward evening.

The eyes are pale; things seem to be seen through a veil. Little black flies are seen before the eyes.

Short vision on account of the many little black flies before the eyes.

On fixing any object for some time, the eyes become moist, as if a cold wind was blowing into them, with a gentle itching.

In the open air there seems to be a black veil before the eyes; objects seen seem to be pale, with short vision.

She sees objects as if in a mist.

The white of the eye is full of blood; worse toward the external angle.

FACE.

Itching in the face as from urticaria, smooth red spots come out on the face.

EAR.

Roaring in the right ear like the rumbling of a mill wheel, in the afternoon.

Gurgling in the left ear like the beating of the pulse.

Ringling in both ears, in the morning.

Stinging and twisting in the left ear with a feeling as if it was stopped up.

If she thrusts inside with the handles of anything then the feeling of stoppage ceases, but returns again in a short time.

The odor of cordials is perceived.

The nose is moist and there is frequent desire to blow it, but without sneezing.

Blood from the nose of a dark red color.

TEETH.

Tearing in the teeth on the right side of the jaw, extending to the ear on the same side. It is not relieved until support is given to the painful cheek.

Stabbing pain in one of the left lower molar teeth.

Twisting in the teeth with stinging in the ear which after some hours affects the whole left side of the head and face, down to the lower jaw.

Twisting pain in the lower teeth of the left side, affecting also the temporal region, sleep is rendered thereby impossible.

MOUTH AND THROAT.

In the evening there appeared under the upper lip, upon the gum, a hard painless tumor which broke of itself during the night.

Mouth full of saliva; she was obliged to spit constantly, lasting for twenty-four hours.

Voice hollow and harsh.

Mouth feels sticky.

Dryness of the throat, the fauces are as if they were dried up but without thirst.

Sense of suffocation in the pharynx.

The mouth is without taste and the appetite fails.

Bitter taste in the mouth.

Tongue slightly coated; dirty-white in color; chill, followed by dry heat with thirst, which is soon followed by sweat, lasting a long time.

STOMACH.

Acid eructations some hours after eating.

A constant feeling of satiety.

Appetite good but nothing seems to taste as it should.

Inclination to vomit at 9 o'clock in the evening.

After eating, repeated urging to vomit with expulsion of the ingested food.

Disturbance of the stomach with increase of saliva in the mouth as if emesis must occur with stinging pains in the forehead and cold over the whole body, without thirst or feeling of heat following.

Hunger almost all the time.

Pain across the stomach as if a blow had been received.

The pain persists even after thirty-six hours.

On account of the severe pain in the stomach can only breathe slowly and carefully.

The pains in the stomach extend to the chest, causing op-

pression thereof and then pass into the shoulders, with much belching, and alternating pains in the throat and in the spine.

Great sensibility of the stomach; cannot draw the vest together.

In walking, a feeling of relaxation in the region of the stomach as if there was a sore in it which was causing pain.

Smoking soon causes pain in the stomach and tobacco is distasteful.

Pain as if from a beating in the region of the stomach; she wished to gape and was obliged to support the region of the stomach with the hand, thereupon arose a fixed pain in the left hypochondrium as if some of the parts were being twisted.

Chill, heat and sweat, frequently alternating. The stomach swells up like a ball and forces itself upwards; hard and very painful to the touch; there is also very little appetite.

When the pains in the stomach subside, those in the teeth also disappear as if there was a causal relation between the two.

Weight in the stomach as if there was a stone placed upon it, in the morning, evening and after dinner during the time of digestion, that is from half an hour to an hour after meals.

Sometimes there occurs palpitation of the heart in connection with these stomach symptoms, so severe that he is often incapacitated from doing anything whatever.

After breakfast, between 9 and 10 o'clock, griping and drawing with crawling in the stomach, which extends into the chest and between the shoulders, causing oppression of the chest with a sense of heat.

The face and hands become hot and red and there is hot sweat upon the upper part of the body, especially upon the forehead.

ABDOMEN.

Sense of lassitude in the abdomen which grows less when the parts are supported.

Swelling of the abdomen and nausea as if about to vomit.

Feeling in the abdomen as if he had been disembowled; he wishes to walk fast which causes the parts to pain severely.

Cutting pains in the abdomen so that he was unable to sleep the whole night.

In the morning at 9 o'clock, colicky pains in the abdomen which ceased after some minutes and a quantity of white mucous issued from the vagina; these attacks are often repeated.

Under the umbilicus, a cutting pain as if caused by a sharp knife, extending downward to the genitals.

Colicky pains for some hours internal to the umbilicus with a

painful sensation as if a cord was bound around the abdomen above the stomach, lasting ten minutes.

A griping sensation in the region of the umbilicus extending to the spine.

When sitting, spasmodic pains in the lower portion of the abdomen extending into the rectum and coccyx. After long sitting the pains are relieved but walking makes them worse so that the body must be held in a slightly curved position.

Toward six in the afternoon, griping and cutting internal to the umbilicus with nausea, afterward vomiting of acid water and at the end a little food, with twisting pains in the vertex and temples; dryness of the mouth with much thirst.

Wrenching pains in the calves extending into the toes and preventing sleep the whole night; she does not know where to put her legs.

At 10 o'clock in the evening without having supped, the abdomen suddenly swelled as if she had eaten to excess; before and during the attack flat and viscid taste in the mouth. She went to bed in this condition and on waking in the morning, the attack was entirely gone, the bowels, however, refused to move.

Painless swelling of the abdomen lasting twenty-four hours.

Abdomen hard, tense and swollen with painless rumblings unaccompanied with belching of wind; he goes to bed with these symptoms but they are gone in the morning.

However, there remains a constrictive pain below the ribs, passing across the stomach with much thirst. Five hours later there occurred alvine discharges, the first was very hard with much tenesmus, so that the whole abdomen was retracted; the last discharges were fluid, abundant and without tenesmus, in consequence of which the swelling of the abdomen went down a little.

The pains disappear, however, with redness of the face, alternating with cold sweat.

Standing and walking soon bring back the symptoms again.

Pressing the arm against the stomach and squeezing it relieved the pain and then she was able to breath deeply, which she could not do otherwise.

Stomach swollen in the afternoon: went to bed at 10 o'clock and slept one hour, awoke with urging to vomit and soon after threw up acid water and the food taken the preceding day.

Griping in the abdomen, extending down into the rectum with a feeling as if this organ was ligated; she feels so weak that she has to support herself to keep from falling, with cold sweat in the face, lasting half an hour.

Severe itching in the abdomen which ceases and is always followed by copious white expectoration, with flashes of heat in the face and great weakness.

At first coldness in the feet, then stinging and pressing pains in the right hypochondrium. From here the pains pass to the stomach with swelling of the abdomen; then they extend up the spine to the shoulders.

Spasmodic stabbing pains, one after the other, in the Mons Veneris, when standing on her feet she has a desire to put one foot over the other.

A spasmodic pain in the left inguinal region as of incarcerated wind, which extends upward across the abdomen, causing a painful spot in the region of the spleen.

STOOL.

Bowels confined for two days and very hard; the evacuation occurs in small pieces.

No evacuation for three days, the abdomen seems very full, as if much had been eaten, with loss of appetite.

Evacuations accompanied with stinging, cutting pains in the rectum which persist more than an hour, with vehement tenesmus.

Obstinate constipation in children is readily cured.

The child has a movement only once in three or four days, accompanied with severe pain in the anus.

Frequent desire for stool without result.

Stools hard but occurring every day.

After going for three days without stool he is obliged to remain an hour before expelling anything and becomes very much fatigued.

Evacuations hard as nuts expelled with much difficulty, with spasmodic pains in the intestines; the feces escape in small pieces.

Chronic constipation with hemorrhoids and continual urging to stool without result.

URINARY ORGANS, ETC.

Often passes much urine.

Frequent desire to pass urine after cramps in the stomach.

Was obliged to urinate three times in the space of four hours, but only a small quantity each time; otherwise she only urinated once during the same length of time and with strangury.

Urine very hot and light colored.

Passes much urine and after a quarter of an hour passes an equally large quantity although she had drunk but little.

Slight itching and burning in the vulva when not urinating.

Feeling of heat in the vulva.

Very hot urine causing heat at the vulva.

Very hot urine with burning pain at the vulva.

The menstruation appears several days too late.

The blood is black and abundant.

The menstrual blood is reddish-black.

The menstruation comes on six days too soon, when on the feet the blood flows continuously.

During the menstruation she feels cold externally and hot internally and must drink a great deal.

Cutting pains through the body on the second day of the menstruation.

White fluid discharge like milk coming away in drops.

Very profuse white discharge, leaving white and gray spots on the linen, with itching in the abdomen.

The white discharge has a sweetish odor.

A chronic rattling in the throat causes a dry cough.

The whole chest pains as if compressed, and when breathing, sharp stabbing pains traverse the chest, worse on the left side.

Stinging in the chest which prevents him from taking a long breath.

Pain in the region of the diaphragm as if it was inflamed; when gaping, drawing pains under the right ribs, extending as far as the spine; they come and go frequently and are aggravated by respiration.

Stabbing pains one after another in the upper portion of the left breast, worse when breathing, lasting half an hour.

Stinging pains under the false ribs on the left side which grow on lying down, on external pressure and on deep respiration with flashes of heat.

Twisting pains in the left breast.

The nipples pain on touching them, as if they were sore inside.

BACK.

Pains in the spine, extending into the lumbar vertebrae and then into both sides above the crests of the ilia and into the inguinal regions where a pain as of inflammation is felt.

The dorsal pains are increased by bending.

Pains in the spine as if it had been injured, as bad during repose as when in motion.

Drawing and stinging between the shoulders with oppression of breath.

Drawing pains between the shoulders, extending downward along the spine, toward the liver and upward into the chest;

then the respiration becomes oppressed and frequent shooting pains traverse the entire body.

In the left axilla, an electric shock which shakes the whole body, and in all the joints there occurs a trembling, such as might be produced by an electric machine, and which causes each time a sensation of fear.

UPPER EXTREMITIES.

The whole right arm, but principally the axilla, feels as if it had been dislocated by a blow.

Stabbing pain under the right arm toward the breast.

The right arm feels heavy and she cannot lift it well; feels a sensation of numbness as if the clothing was too tight with turgescence of the veins.

The muscles of the fore-arm seem to grow large and have a feeling of stiffness.

Wrenching pains in the elbow joints.

Wrenching pains in the joints of the left hand.

Pains as if from fatigue in both loins, when ascending the stairs.

Drawing and cutting pains from one iliac crest to the other as if a knife had traversed the abdomen; often intermitting and always returning.

LOWER EXTREMITIES.

Painful tension in the muscles of the thigh as if a long walk had been taken.

Wrenching pain on the outside of the right knee extending down the right side of the leg to the malleolus, from thence into the heel where it ceases.

Trembling of the legs from the knees to the toes so that there is difficulty in walking or raising the feet.

Tearing pains in the calves of the legs, with a feeling of heat, extending down to the toes; the palms of the hands and soles of the feet are very hot.

Tearing pains in the articulations of the feet and in the toes, for several hours.

The back and soles of the feet are swollen, after thirty-four hours, with tearing pains in the ankles and soles of the feet on account of which, though very tired, he was not able to sleep.

A feeling as of electric shocks in all the joints.

GENERALITIES.

General weariness, lasting several days.

When sitting down, a feeling as if the whole body were swaying to and fro.

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon great fatigue with profuse cold sweat and somnolence for two hours.

Much of the hair falls out.

Pulse weak and thready and increased in frequency.

Frequent gaping with great somnolence.

Continued yawning although the joints of the jaw are painful.

She would like to sleep all the time, day and night.

She cannot keep awake and goes to sleep in her chair; her feet go to sleep.

After having passed the night rolling around in bed without waking and passing from one dream to another; she wakes at 5 o'clock, the bed clothing thrown aside and without her night cap, a thing which had never happened to her before.

Sensual lascivious dreams.

IN THE DRY DOCK FOR REPAIRS.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER, *Vol. V, No. 2*, finds one reader thereof in the dry dock, for repairs. Not so very ill, but far enough on in years to have learned that a gray-head of waning vitality can very easily find death in the insidious winds of March. For himself, he holds his life full cheaply—he has made so little of it—but there be some wee ones for whose sake death is a grisly terror, and when a storm arises he betakes himself at once to the dry dock.

How keenly a doctor is made to realize the stony selfishness of human nature. He is taken ill, and often because he outrages his own body by irregular meals, broken sleep, exposure in all weather, and all this in his patrons' service. He too needs rest, warmth, wifely care, and "the remedy." He puts up a bulletin in his office—"Sick, and obliged to take his own pills!" Does one "office patient" in ten heed that? Don't they come, with some petty indisposition, even to the poor doctor's dry dock and insist that he *must* see them? Who hasn't "prescribed" for such petrifications when burning with fever, racked with headache, or even reeking with an aconite sweat! And yet, Celsus says, in prescribing we should bear in mind the *tuto, cito, et jucunde!* A doctor with a full-sized migraine is apt to be d—d* *pleasant*.

Shade of him that was Patrick M. how effectually did thine ægis once protect me! But never shall I see thy like again—peace to thy dust. "Pat" came to my door, in the years agone

*As Lamb put it when writing to Wordsworth, "by d—d, I mean *deuced*."

dreadfully destitute, more dreadfully drouthy, and most dreadfully dirty. He it was who first shook my faith in *Mure's Provings*. My "Pat" "proved" three species of *pediculi* at once, and all the "symptom" he got was an itching that he declared was "only a thrifle whin y'er born to it:" a postulate which convinced me that "Pat" was a peripatetic philosopher of the first magnitude. Never was a night so inclement that "Pat" wouldn't cheerfully arise from his bed and drive me any number of miles; in fact, "Pat's" alacrity had an occult dependence on the weather, for the worse the night the more willingly did he arise from his warm bed. On such an occasion he never sulked: I often did; and when, on a cold, windy, moonless night, I would sit in sullen silence "nursing my wrath," "Pat" would beguile the weary miles by crooning old Irish songs. From him—and him only—I have heard "*The Cruelty of Barbara Allen*," and "*Johnny Armstrong's Last Good Night*"—songs that poor Goldsmith sighed for amidst all the tinselled splendor of London. Ah, "Pat," in my memory many a Jersey road is vocal even now. Thy voice did treacherously "crack" now and then, and it had too much of the *tremolo*, and some of the quaintest of quavers, and thou didst roll the *rs* most damnably; but now I hear it from afar, mellowed by years that are forever gone, and it is strangely beautiful. "Arrah, honey, why did ye die?" I ask it now as solemnly as thou didst when thine honest tears fell on the face of my dead boy in the long ago. O thou who wert at once my servant, companion, and friend, let me touch thy failing tenderly, for there is One who knoweth mine infirmities and He shall judge us both!

Poor "Pat" loved "lightning" even better than did Benjamin Franklin—but "Pat's" variety was that "blue ruin" technically termed "*Jersey lightning*." It is found in every Jersey farmer's cellar, and is put there in the belief that "lightning never strikes twice in the same place." Well, if a house has been once struck by "Jersey lightning" Jupiter Tonans were a sucking fool to waste his bolts on it. Nevertheless, a genial hospitality always put a decanter of apple whiskey at the service of doctor and driver when a night visit afforded a *raison d'être* for "internal fortification," and the worse the weather the more one fortified—q. e. d.! If "Pat's" potations were over liberal, and I would reprove him, when out of the house, how he would disarm me with his "Shure, sor, I take it agin' the *mallarhwa*!" He meant the Jersey malaria, which is, indeed, not worse than its "lightning."

But I started to tell how "Pat" protected me when I was in

the dry dock for repairs. Well, it was a proud day for him when he was initiated into the mysteries of triturating. He grew visibly in stature on finding that *he* could make "thim-powthers." Alas! pride attends us all, for soon it was "Our arcenkins purty low, sor, shall we make more the day, sor?" He attended to the office stove from the first, and when I made him a triturator (almost as cheap as Sherman's) he kept a prideful look out for empty bottles on my shelves. Shall *we* make more this day, sor?" The sense of copartnership expressed in that "we" was "a thing of beauty and a joy" to "Pat," and I never disturbed his complaisance.

Once when I was ill "Pat" was put on guard to keep out importunates. At last a patient called who had more brass in his make up than the famous Colossus at Rhodes—he was a noted lobbyist in Washington. *Him* the doctor must see; *he* was no common patient, etc., etc., etc. Finally "Pat" lost all patience, and put the Colossus out of doors, exclaiming: "To h—l wid ye; *we're* doin' no bizness the day!" The Colossus was a humorist; and from that day "Pat" figured as my "partner."

* * * * *

I have had no need for "Pat" to-day; *Allium cepa* and THE RECORDER have mutually done me good, and an item on p. 96 of the latter has driven me into the chair in which I have done all my writing. It has, to-day, a perforated wooden seat to match the wooden head that occupies it, and I have often worn the imprint of that perforated seat even as a roll of butter bears the pattern. Oh, it is a curious chair, for often when I sit in it o'nights and smoke my final pipe, the old chair will fill the room with ghosts, shadowy shapes of doctors that have sat in it but who have long since gone where all that vexes here is solved. In such a chair one learns to call things by their right names; to be and not to seem; to hold oneself as less than the least; to bear the smart of being misjudged—I must will that chair to some pollywog professor—"big head" and no body!

But here's for the item on p. 96. It says, of that miserable devil's broth that "the recipe came originally from 'Julii Cæsaris Baticelli, etc., etc., Genova, 1620.'" Now as Julius Cæsar's namesake has had the *dumb* palsy for over two centuries and is, moreover, by this time steeped in the soundest of slumbers, I desire on the part of the aforesaid J. C. B., to disown all claims to "originality" therein, and on my own to declare that Julius Cæsaris Baticelli, despite the *a Sancto Mario*, "cribbed" it in the 17th century just as Brown-Sequard has done in the 19th, and now, as Audrey says, let me "instance."

“No one,” writes the Rev. Oswald Cockayne, “knows anything about Sextus Placitus nor why he should be called Platonius or Popyriensis. Perhaps he is a *nominis umbra*.” Notwithstanding, there are in existence a Latin and a Saxon codex of *The Medicina De Quadrupedibus of Sextus Placitus*. The age of the Latin codex I know not, but it was evidently brought into Britain by the victorious Romans; the Saxon text dates not later than 1000 A. D.

Running over the pages of this “Quadrupedal Medicine” in Mr. Cockayne’s translation, I find this: “If to any one anything of evil has been done [by a knot] so that he may not enjoy his lusts, then seeths a coillon of the brock* in running spring water and in honey, and let him partake of it, fasting for three days; soon he will be mended.” But what is a “knot?” Our learned translator says—“One of the torments with which witchcraft worried men, was the knot, by which a man was withheld so that he could not work his will with a woman.” I could cite two recipes for producing “knots,” but *cui bono!* Men who seek for Brown-Sequard’s “Elixir” don’t want any “knot”—their’s is the brock’s coillon seethed in running spring water and honey!

But Sextus Placitus also gives the following—“*Ut coitus appetitus excitetur; sume cervi testiculos, siccatos ad pulverem redige, partemque in vini poculum indito; ita appetitum ad congressum cum mulier excitabis.*” How about the “originality” of Julius Cæsar’s Baticelli, and Brown-Sequard?

The Latin codex is responsible for the above, but as probably, deer’s testicles were difficult of obtainment, the Saxon offers a more convenient surrogate. Here it is: “*Ad concubitum perficiendum; testiculos tauri siccatos in pulverem redige: aut etiam alterutrum; in vino comminutos crebris ille haustibus ebibat, qui hoc philtro indiget; ita promptior ad venerem erit atque citatior.*”

Nil novi sub sole? In the matter of deviltry, alas, no! Absolutely nothing new under the sun: *per contra*, a leader in “Scientific Medicine” in the 19th century stealing the philters of Sextus Placitus and his Saxon student! Like the crab, poor Brown-Sequard makes progress by going backwards.

An old, old book declares that “we are fearfully and wonderfully made,” and I must confess that I had to read Sextus Placitus in order to apprehend it. For instance, what do you think of this: “In order that a woman may kindle a male child, a hare’s belly dried, and cut into shives *or slices*, or rubbed into a

*A *brock* is a badger; what part of his anatomy a *coillon* is my reader must guess, for I won’t tell; never, no never!

drink; let them both, *man and wife*, drink it: if the wife alone drinketh it, then will she kindle an *androgynus*; that is as naught, neither man nor woman."

But it seems that the woman could "play a lone hand" in this game of sex determination, according to Sextus P. Thus: "After her cleansing, give in wine to drink a hare's coillons to the woman; then will she conceive a male child." Leaving the hare's coillons, isn't a boy baby generally regarded as a post-menstrual *accident*?

I doubt not but that my medical reader has before to-day been appealed to for help in that saddest loneliness—a childless home. Well, our good-natured Sextus has this recipe: "To make a woman pregnant, give to drink in wine a hare's runnet by weight of four pennies to the woman from a *female hare*, to the man from the *male hare*, and then let them do their concubitus, and after that let them forbear; then quickly she will be pregnant; and for meat she shall for some while use mushrooms, and instead of a bath, smearings; wonderfully she will be pregnant."

Dear reader, you can omit the hare's runnet—the gastric mucous membrane—but perhaps Schüssler's *Kali phos* may help some barren wife to fructify, for that "remedy" abounds in the mushroom, and dear "Hg." used to say that mushrooms were a grand tonic in convalescence, and that is just what *Kali phos*. is—try it. In convalescence or in sterility? Both, sir.

* * * * *

I closed the covers of Sextus Placitus and filled my pipe for a smoke before going to bed. Somehow I took from the shelf Philemon Holland's translation of *Plinie's Naturall Historie*. In the "Tenth Booke, Chap. LXIII, *The generation of living creatures upon the land*," I read "Men and women both, and none but they, repent at first the losse of their maidenhead. A very presage (no doubt) of a life to ensue full of trouble and miserie, that thus should begin with repentance. All other creatures have their set times and certain seasons in the yeare when they ingender; but all is one with us, and no houre of day or night comes amisse. Other creatures know when they have enough, and rest satisfied: we only are insatiable that way, and cannot see to make an end."

Homo sum? Aye, and I did not feel proud of it—outdone by a brute in continence. Then came to me the aged Tennyson's lines:

"What hast thou done for me, grim Old Age, save breaking my boues on the rack?

Would I had past in the morning that looks so bright from afar.

OLD AGE.

Done for thee? starved the wild beast that was linkt with thee eighty years
back.

Less weight now for the ladder-of-heaven that hangs on a star.

* * * * *

I have climbed to the snows of Age, and I gaze at a field in the Past,
Where I sank with the body at times in the sloughs of a low desire,
But I hear no yelp of the beast and the Man is quiet at last
As he stands on the heights of his life with a glimpse of a height that is
higher.'

Ann Arbor, March 11th.

S. A. J.

NOTE.—I beg to assure my reader that Sextus Placitus is not an invention of mine. The text cited by me can be found in Vol. 1 of *Leechdoms, Wortcunning, and Starcraft of Early England*. London, 1864. Beside my own, Dr. Samuel Swan possesses the only other copy known to me. I trust that this study of our poor human nature will not be misunderstood. I have written seriously; let me be read likewise.

 CASES FROM PRACTICE.

Mr. D. B., aged 24 years and married, applied to me for relief during the month of November, 1888. Some three months before he had an attack of Acute Orchitis involving the left testicle. From what I could discover and learn concerning the history of the case, the inflammatory condition was produced by an accidental blow received while chopping wood. The treatment had been prompt and consisted of eclectic prescribing and local applications, but notwithstanding the continued use of medicines, the swelling had gone on, the chronic stage been reached, and when I was consulted for relief, the testicle had attained the size of my fist (and right here it might be proper to mention that I have as yet failed to gain any notoriety for having a diminutive hand), was hard, indurated, and very sensitive to the touch. The integument presented a red shining appearance. The patient was not confined to the house, but on the contrary attended daily to some of the farm work. I gave him a vial of Belladonna tincture directing that he take three drops at a dose—three times daily, which was followed by speedy relief, and in a few days the gland was reduced to its natural size.

CASE II.—November, 1889, Mr. B., aged 20 years, a brakeman on a freight train, contracted a gonorrhœa which proved severe, although quite amendable to treatment. At about

the fourth week when the discharge was about controlled, a rainy cold day set in, and my patient exposed on the roof of the cars became wet to the skin and caught a bad cold. Besides jumping from car to car, and from the high iron step to the ground, he strained the muscles of the legs, groin and back which resulted in gonorrhœal rheumatism and inflammation of the right testicle, which rapidly increased in size until it had attained nearly the size of my fist. At this point I was called to the bedside of the unfortunate youth and found he had experienced several marked rigors, temperature was 102.3-5, the testicle was hot, to appearance a deep red in color, and extremely tender and painful. I gave him internally Belladonna tincture about fifteen drops in a half glass of water, of which solution he took two teaspoonfuls every hour, and locally I used the Acetate of Lead. *Behold the results!* The old school and the *Faith Healers* would have called it a freak of nature—but the devout Homœopath sees such *results continually*. In twenty-four hours the pain was gone, the fever gone, the unfavorable symptoms of septicaemia gone. The following day he was out of bed, and within a week climbing freight cars again.

CASE III.—Mrs. E., a young married woman about thirty years of age, of a highly nervous temperament, and very susceptible to the action of drugs, complained of her throat being very sore. Upon an examination I found the tonsils were swollen, bright red in color and covered with numerous dirty white patches. There was almost constant pain and great difficulty in deglutition. Belladonna tincture, a few drops in half a glass of water, and two spoonfuls every hour, cured this case in twenty-four hours.

CASE IV.—Miss A., a beautiful blonde of about twenty-two years of age came under my treatment last winter for an attack of acute œdema of the tonsils, which proved so serious as to compel her to leave the office in which she was employed and confine herself to the house. The tonsils in this case were swollen to such an extent that the throat was almost closed, and dotted with patches of a green and whitish color, with a tendency to suppuration. The accompanying pain was very marked, and she could only swallow liquids with much effort. I gave Belladonna tincture a few drops in half a tumbler of water, and ordered two spoonfuls to be taken every thirty minutes. In this case I was somewhat alarmed and also used a steam inhaler for the throat, in which I put some Belladonna θ and k. bich. ix. In six hours the pain was greatly relieved, and in forty-eight hours I discharged the case as needing no further medication.

CASE V.—Mrs. B., a married woman about twenty years of age, the mother of one child, came to me for treatment last January, for an abscess of the left arm, situated midway between the shoulder and elbow on the external side. The lady had been under the care of one of my allopathic colleagues who had prescribed internally Cod Liver Oil, and externally it had been painted with Iodine tincture for three months. Upon examining the arm I found the left Humerus two inches shorter than the right, and, inquiring into the matter, I learned she had a similar abscess when she was a child seven years old, which discharged continually for two years, during which time several pieces of bone came away and subsequently it healed up without any treatment. The tumor before me was of considerable size, and using a trocar and canula I withdrew over half a pint of yellow pus, after which, by the aid of a probe, I found the bone to be rough and diseased in places. Thinking it would be a good time to test Homœopathy, I gave her internally Silicea 30 a powder night and morning. The action of this remedy in this case over the suppurative process was not to be disputed for in three weeks the arm was healed and has remained so up to this writing.

CASE VI.—Miss M., a domestic, aged 23 years, came to me with an open running sore on her thumb. Six months previously she irritated the thumb in the wash tub, and very soon a felon resulted, which either was an unusually severe one or else badly managed, and the continual swelling and constant discharge had resisted all treatment. I made a free incision to the bone, and prescribed a powder of Silicea 30, to be taken internally morning and night. In a few days two small pieces of bone worked out from the wound, and within ten days it was entirely healed.

Falls Village, Conn.

H. E. C.

“GRAFTS:” WHAT ARE THEY?

“Graft” is a term used for a dose of medicated pellets of a given remedy and potency which is intended to be put into a given quantity of Alcohol which thereby is supposed to be charged with medicine, and with this Alcohol pellets are medicated *ad infinitum*.

There was a time when at one of our Eastern colleges great enthusiasm was manifested for a number of years on behalf of High-Potencies and every student who started out, did so pro-

vided with a set of Jenichen's High potencies made from "grafts" obtained from a physician for a consideration. As a rule these graft-potencies were made *cheap*. Vials were obtained from the glass-blowers, corks and Alcohol from druggists; into the more or less well cleaned vials a few pellets of the doctor's set were dropped, on this was poured some commercial Alcohol and then the young doctor started out ready for practice. As a rule, nine-tenths of these young practitioners would send in an order for θ and triturations within the first three months and would ever after feel sore when high-potencies were mentioned.

Grafts in former years were made use of in emergencies. When one physician helped out a colleague in this manner the latter usually hastened to procure a supply of the remedy from a reliable source with next opportunity. But while such a make-shift may be excusable in an emergency, no conscientious physician will or should resort to this practice habitually and no conscientious Homœopathic pharmacist will dispense such remedies. The reason why "Jenichen's" high potencies fell into disuse may be chiefly due to the fact that almost the entire stock of these remedies in this country consists of "*grafts*" more or less carefully made, from an original set in possession of the late Doctor Constantine Hering. Jenichen's potencies were after a while superseded by Lehmann's, Dunham's, and other high potencies made by Homœopathic pharmacists of this country.

There is or was still another way of making cheap sets of high potencies. Eight or ten students would "club" together and buy an original set of liquid high potencies from a pharmacist, then subdivide it into as many sets of vials filled with alcohol. Of the value of such a set the writer was casually apprised by the following incident: A well known physician and writer in New York remarked one day: "Isn't it strange that I never can get any results from your 200th of *Apis* and *Bryonia*. I have used them again and again but was ever disappointed in the result." He was told that this was astonishing news indeed as a leading physician in New York city had taken the trouble to pen a special letter informing the maker of these potencies of his marvelous success with this *Apis* 200 in three successive virulent cases of diphtheria—and never a complaint had been received about any of the other remedies. In the course of the conversation it finally came out that the doctor was one of a party of ten who had clubbed together and bought one set of H. P. which was then subdivided between them into ten sets. He then and there ordered a new original set and has not had any reason to complain since.

When it is taken into consideration that reliable high potencies can be purchased at a cost of less than 1-200 of a cent per dose to the physician, it would seem that "grafts" should veritably be a thing of the past.

The following is quoted from a paper in the *Homœopathic Physician* for August, 1890, by Dr. J. G. Gundlach, on the subject of *Sanicula* :

"Please permit me to say further in this matter that some three months ago I received letters from the well-known pharmacy house of Boericke & Tafel, of Philadelphia, asking for information about the *Sanicula*, how to secure the remedy, etc. In my reply I told them what the remedy was and how I had proved and obtained it, making them a proposition to this effect: If they would agree to compile and publish all the non-published matter of *Sanicula* and publish it in THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER, which they claim is devoted to introduction of new remedies, I would give them grafts of all the original potencies I have made by my own hand at the time of proving, I having retained them from the 9th to the 100th, so giving them complete control of this 'new and highly valuable remedy,' an offer which I thought they would gladly accept, but this they declined with thanks, saying, 'we cannot use grafts.'"

Why the firm in question could not, or would not, use grafts of *Sanicula* is apparent from what has already been stated. Dr. Gundlach of his proving says: "Six years have since then passed, and the springs, for all that we know, may have changed their constituency in this time." That is hardly reasonable; no one ever heard of a mineral spring changing its constituency and if such a thing were possible there would be no reliance to be placed by the medical profession on any of the salts or waters of such springs.

It is a well established fact that mineral springs retain their characteristic properties through hundreds of years and only in the instances where they have been tampered with by borings, etc., by proprietors who seek to enlarge their capacity have they been known to change their character.

It is rather unfortunate that the spring, or the potentized remedy from it, should have been christened "*Sanicula*," a name borne by a medicinal plant known in medicine for many years. The two are now distinguished by calling the new remedy *Sanicula aqua* while the other continues to be known by its botanical name of *Sanicula Marilandica*. The *Sanicula aqua* which Messrs. Boericke & Tafel have was furnished them by Dr. H. M. Bascom, of Ottawa, Ill., where the spring is located.

The water has been potentized and also some of it evaporated and the salts triturated so that it may be obtained in either form, as low as the 3d centesimal.

A. J. T.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE "RED LINE."

TO THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

IN THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER, page 170, Drs. E. R. Snader, Johnson and (Coolidge indirectly) seem to have settled the question of the "famous red line along the gums" as being due to an accumulation of tartar. If that settles the case, tartar and red line should be constant, but which is by no means the case. It is true that accumulations of tartar will cause the gums to recede from the teeth and become spongy and red, but when I see the red line of the gums I look in the absence of tartar and even then for a far different cause, I look for a chronic or present mercurial condition of the system.

Take a patient free of mercurial diathesis with healthy gums and teeth and put him, or her, on one grain doses of Calomel (proto chlor. of mercury) on two grains of *Blue Mass* once in every four hours, then watch the effect upon the gums, and you will find, according to the susceptibility of the patient, within a few hours to two or three days, a well defined red line around the gums near or following the teeth, especially on the lower jaw, does or will appear. Then the prudent physician will halt and see if he has not already attained the desired constitutional mercurial action, or if he desires to carry it on to ptalism or salivation and the mercurials are administered at a temperature of the patient below the sweat line, the gums will become wholly red, the teeth sore, the sub-maxillary glands enlarged and tender and the patient will begin to discharge saliva from the mouth copiously, but if the medicines are given when the temperature is above the sweating line the gums, mouth and glands will become of a deeper, darker red, the mouth dry, the tongue black with general ulceration of throat, gums and all in a truly diphtheric condition except, perhaps, absence of ash-colored false membranous patches. If the patients recover in both cases we have two cases of mercurial constitutional diathesis to deal with

for several years to come, or during life there will be red lined gum cases with an increased tendency to tartar accumulations influenced by the weather changes, changes of diet chemically or otherwise, subject to a thousand accidents to which they were free before their mercurial experience. I have seen the red line of the gums produced by the 3x 6x of mercurous viv., and Mer. Sol., and I believe all of our mercurial preparations will produce it. Don't ask me whether we have any of these herculean practitioners in any of our professions to-day; but if you do my answer shall be that if you will show me the same symptoms above described I will say that they were produced by the same cause.

Without assumption I will say further that after the 3d Trit. of our mercurial medicines they are soluble, and after entering the system will excite the excretory glands and other organs, so as to eliminate from the patient's system any after deleterious effects of that of all other drugs the most pernicious to our race when improperly used; I have seen two molars and one bicuspid exfoliated with alvular process in one block in a beautiful girl of promise eight years old from dry mercurial action. But as to the insoluble preparations so long in use, I will assume to say, that from their ponderability and susceptibility of fine division, they will enter the circulation and follow it up until in the smaller capillaries of the bones, cartilages, joints, etc., they will become repositories for years or even a lifetime; so that some slight chemical action may eliminate with a new mercurial attack upon the gums, together with all the other evil results characteristic of that drug. So that it is possible that we are tampering with that pernicious drug in this enlightened age. Have we no young scientists of to-day who can find in some of the old bones left direct from the hands of Mott, Dr. Maclellen, Eberlee, Sir Charles Bell, or Dr. Rush, of that age—17th century—who can verify my position? God knows, I revere their names; they were not to blame for having lived in the light of that century; but now under a new light, Hahnemannian, I feel like calling every man to an account for his act in this sacred art of healing the sick. The red line of the gums is as sure to appear on the administration of mercury as death is sure to follow a fatal dose of Prussic acid. Now there is only one thing more I will say, that to establish Dr. Snader's theory of red line gums as a fact it becomes incumbent on him to show that mercurials had not been used in the cases cited by him.

Respectfully yours,

A. P. GARDNER, M. D., *Elmhurst, Pa.*

PEACH BARK vs. PEACH LEAVES.

TO THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

Apropos of the remarks made by Dr. C. C. Edson upon the efficacy of infusion of peach *bark* in the gastric irritability of children, we might mention the following authentic case:

An infant, during its second summer, had been much reduced by acute dyspeptic diarrhœa. A marked feature of this case was the persistent vomiting of all food. The stomach would tolerate no form of baby food with or without milk. The child's parents had consulted some eminent physicians of our city. The child had been treated Homœopathically. None of the remedies chosen seemed to produce the desired effect. After a consultation it was deemed best to send the infant to the mountains. The change aggravated its condition. While the parents hourly expected their baby would die, it was suggested that they send for an old practitioner living in the mountains near at hand. This man had a local reputation as a saver of dying babies. His prescription was as follows: Two or three fresh peach *leaves* were to be put in a cup of boiling water, the infant to receive a "drink" of this infusion at frequent intervals. The effects of this remedy were as remarkable in this case as in the case narrated by Dr. Edson. Our child soon retained food and eventually recovered.

It seems this ancient disciple of Esculapius had long used peach leaves and regarded them as possessing specific virtues.

OLIVER S. HAINES, M.D.

Philadelphia.

GLYCERINE IN GUN-POWDER INJURIES OF THE EYE.

Two years ago my son Bob was firing shooting-crackers. One on the fence, close to his head, had been forgotten—it squibbed, filling his eye with the tamping material and powder grains. Failing to wash and pick it all out, I concluded that if I could get the osmotic action of pure glycerine, the powder grains would be lifted out. Applying glycerine to the eye, and placing a compress saturated with the same, he was put to rest. Result, in the morning: The eye was entirely well, no vestige of inflammation remaining. Fourth of July last same boy had same eye injured by a very large cannon cracker exploding in his hand.

"The eye was filled with large grains of powder, the sight being obliterated. Applied glycerine, with compress wet with same; by evening he was viewing the fireworks display.

J. S. READ, M.D.

1518 Choteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

SELECTIONS AND TRANSLATIONS.

HOW HAHNEMANN CURED.

BY DR. DUDGEON.

Homœopathic World.

At the present time, when we have a rather noisy, if not very numerous, section of our school arrogating to themselves the title of Hahnemannians, and publishing their cases as examples of "Hahnemannian Homœopathy" and "Hahnemannian Cures," it might be as well to set forth Hahnemann's mode of practice as far as that can be learned from his teaching in the *Organon* and *Chronic Diseases*, and from the instances of it scattered throughout our literature, in order that the reader may have an opportunity of comparing it with that of the self-styled Hahnemannians. If the instances I adduce belong to ancient history and are familiar to many of my readers, they are apparently unknown to or forgotten by some of those who would fain have us believe that they alone rightly understand and faithfully practise what Hahnemann taught.

In the second volume of the first edition of the *Materia Medica Pura*, published in 1816, Hahnemann gives, at "the request of some friends halting half-way on the road" to Homœopathy, two cases illustrating the way in which he practised, and desired others to practise, his system. As these cases are retained in the latest edition of his *Materia Medica*, published in 1833, only ten years before his death, we must believe that to the last he considered them as good examples of his treatment which he could not improve upon after all these years.

[Several long quotations are here given by Dr. Dudgeon which are omitted for want of space.]

Hahnemann held it to be absolutely necessary for the successful practice of his system that the practitioner should select a medicine whose ascertained effects on the healthy body should correspond to the totality of the symptoms of the disease. This he does in every edition of the *Organon* (par. 153, 5th edit.),

and still more impressively in the last edition of *Chronic Diseases* (1835). He there says (Part I., p. 150) that after having ascertained with the greatest diligence all the ascertainable symptoms of the disease, he must select the remedy whose symptoms correspond in similarity with those of the disease, at least, with the most striking and peculiar symptoms, and he must not rest content with what he can learn from repertories, as these books only give slight hints as to the medicines to be consulted, but cannot enable us to dispense with a study of the original sources. He who is satisfied with the vague indications afforded by the repertories, does not deserve the honorable name of a true Homœopath, but rather that of a muddler who will bring disgrace upon the art he professes to practise. "The miserable desire to save themselves trouble," he continues, "often leads these pseudo-homœopaths to be guided by the accounts of their successful employment (*ab usu in morbis*), such as are given in the prefaces to the medicines [in the *Chronic Diseases*], in their selection and employment of medicines, an utterly false method smacking of allopathy, incapable of leading to the selection of a medicine, which cannot be curative unless it be strictly Homœopathic in similarity of symptoms." And yet we see self-styled Hahnemannians mainly guided in the selection of a remedy by some symptom got out of a repertory, presumably derived from clinical experience only, as it is not to be found in any pathogenesis of the drug.

Hahnemann was very emphatic as to the necessity of all Homœopathic practitioners employing medicines prepared in the same way, and he describes in great detail his peculiar mode of preparing his medicines not only in the *Organon* but again with equal or even greater minuteness in the *Chronic Diseases* (2nd edit., Part I., pp. 184-187). The attenuation of some medicines by dilution with spirits of wine through thirty different phials up to the 30th potency, with a certain number of strong shakes, and of others by trituration with milk-sugar for certain definite periods and a certain number of times, and their further attenuation with spirits of wine through twenty-seven phials, is insisted upon as the only proper method for enabling us to treat our cases with uniformity. How widely the self-styled Hahnemannists have departed from Hahnemann's instructions! As a rule they use only one bottle for the whole series of their attenuations; they employ spring or service water with all its impurities, and they practise no succussion according to Hahnemann's plan. Moreover they do not all make their preparations in the same way, nor apparently do the numbers they attach to their prepar-

ations express the same degrees of attenuation. The consequence is that their Hahnemannian friends who make use of these preparations have to say whose they are. Thus, after the number of the supposed dilution we see the names Jenichen, Lehrmann, Swann, Fincke, Boericke,* Skinner, to show who is responsible for the preparation. And there seems to be no certainty about the genuineness of these dilutions in the minds of their prescribers, for we find Dr. Skinner, in the second edition of his little work on *Gynecology*, attaching quite different numbers to the preparations of Swann and Fincke to those he allotted to them in his first edition. All this is completely at variance with Hahnemann's frequently expressed wish for uniformity in the preparation of the Homœopathic medicines.

Hahnemann insisted most urgently on the necessity of giving each dilution an adequate amount of shaking or succussion. At one time he limited the number of the succussion-strokes to two for each dilution; but in the last edition of the *Chronic Diseases* he advises that ten, twenty, or fifty succussion-strokes against a hard elastic body should be given to each dilution. The extreme importance Hahnemann attached to succussion as a means of increasing the potency of a medicinal substance is shown by a note to par. 270 of the *Organon*, where he says: "I dissolved one grain of soda in half an ounce of water mixed with alcohol in a phial, which was thereby filled two-thirds full, and shook this continuously for half an hour, and the solution was in dynamization and energy equal to the 30th potency." If that be so, then there seems no reason why we should take the trouble to dilute the medicines at all in successive phials, or in one phial like the high-potency manufacturers. Shaking the solution of the crude substance in a bottle would answer the purpose. And this is actually the way in which Jenichen is said to have prepared his so-called high potencies. I remember seeing in Stapf's house at Naumburg an oil painting of Jenichen, stripped to the skin,

* It is but fair to state here that the "Boericke" potencies, and also the "Tafel," are made from the first up to the 30th strictly in accordance with Hahnemann's directions; thirty vials, each one labelled on both bottle and cork with the name of medicine and the number of the potency; thirty vials are thus used for every medicine potentized, and these are kept in tight fitting boxes. From the 30th up to the 200th, or 1000th, Hahnemann's directions are strictly followed in every respect excepting that a separate vial is not used for each potency, but each potency receives not less than twelve powerful succussive strokes and nothing but the standard Homœopathic alcohol is used as a vehicle. For these reasons it would seem that Dr. Dudgeon ought not to have included these potencies with those made with water and which receive no succussion further than that afforded by the running, or falling, of the water.—RECORDER.

with his succussion-bottle in his hand. This bottle seemed to be a two-ounce phial, half filled with the medicine he was succussing. It was probably the above passage in Hahnemann's *Organon* that gave Jénichen the idea of making what he gave out to be very high potencies, by succussion only. Although the passage I have quoted, and several others I might quote, seem to indicate that Hahnemann believed the power of the medicine to be increased by dilution, a few paragraphs farther on in the *Organon* he distinctly states that dilution diminishes the power of the drug, and he gives a sort of mathematical formula for expressing this diminution of power, and he says: "I have *very often* seen a drop of the 30th potency of *Nux Vomica* produce pretty nearly just *half as much* effect as a drop of the 15th potency, under the some circumstances and in the same person."

Hahnemann's main reason for selecting the 30th potency as the standard dose for general use, as he repeatedly tells us, is to secure uniformity of treatment among Homœopaths. "I do not approve," he writes, "of your dynamizing the medicines higher—as, for instance, up to 36 and 60. There must be some end to the thing; it cannot go on to infinity. By laying it down as a rule that all Homœopathic medicines be diluted and dynamized up to 30, we have a uniform mode of procedure in the treatment of all Homœopaths, and when they describe a cure we can repeat it, as they and we operate with the same tools. In one word, we would do well to go forward uninterruptedly in the beaten path. Then our enemies will not be able to reproach us with having nothing fixed—no normal standard." Thus he wrote in 1829. In 1831 he rather snubs his amateur admirer, Graf Korsakoff, who wrote in an ecstatic manner about his fancied discovery of the power of much more highly attenuated medicines than Hahnemann recommends. Hahnemann says he does not doubt that these higher attenuations act, but he advises his followers to stick to the 30th dilution, at least for the present. In the last edition of the *Organon* (par. 287 note), he alludes to, but does not recommend, dilutions as high as 60, 150, and 300. He says these are only slightly inferior in power to the 30th, but their "action always appears to last a shorter time." In his last work, the 2nd edition of the *Chronic Diseases*, he recommends the 30th dilution as the highest it is advisable to give, but he does not confine himself to that dilution, but says that when it is advisable to repeat the dose, that should always be done in a *lower dilution*. Thus, if we have commenced with the 30th we should next give the 24th, then the 18th, next the 12th, and lastly the 6th dilution (I. p. 106). In the same work he recommends as

the dose for *Petroselinum* a drop of the fresh juice, and as that for *Nitric Acid* the 6th dilution.

Hahnemann's instructions, relative to the repetition of the medicine, were at one time to wait till one dose had exhausted its action, which might be days or weeks, before giving another dose, or rather another medicine, for he taught that the disease would have been so much altered in its character that the same medicine would no longer be Homœopathic, and another would be indicated. Next, in 1835, as we have seen, he said the medicine might often be repeated with advantage, but the succeeding doses should be in a lower dilution. In 1837 (see preface to third part of *Chronic Diseases*, 2nd edition) he altered his mode of procedure, and gave the medicine in solution in divided doses—in chronic diseases one dose every two days, or more generally every day; in acute diseases every six, four, two hours, or every hour or half-hour. But as he had previously taught that the vital force could not bear the repetition of the medicine in the same potency, the successive doses must have their potency altered by shaking the phial containing the solution with five or six smart jerks of the arm before each time of taking it. In this way, he says, "the same medicine may be administered with the best results an incredible number of times." After the solution has been exhausted and the same medicine is still indicated, it should be given in the same way, *but in a lower potency*. In cholera the suitable remedy should be given at much shorter intervals than the above, even as often as every five minutes. He also recommends the medicine to be rubbed in externally on a sound portion of the skin once a day, preferably in the evening before going to bed.

That Hahnemann in the latest period of his practice occasionally employed the lower triturations is evident from one of the cases from his note-book which I have given in the *Lesser Writings*, where he prescribed the 3rd trit. of *Merc. Sol.*, and also from the fac-simile letter I published in the same volume, in which he requests Dr. Lehmann, of Coethen—who, as Lehmann himself informed me, prepared all his medicines for him—to send him the 3rd trituration of sundry medicines, of which he encloses a list.

The self-styled Hahnemannians may, for ought I know, occasionally give their medicines in potencies as low as, or even lower than, Hahnemann prescribed them, but they seldom publish cases where they give lower attenuations than the 200th, more frequently the 1,000th, 10,000th, 100,000th, or even millioneth; or, to speak more correctly, preparations which they

designate by these numbers, on the authority of Jenichen, Swann, Fincke, and other manufacturers of these so-called "high potencies," each of whom has his own method of preparing them which differs from that of his rivals, but which is most certainly not Hahnemann's method.

The "high-potency" craze only broke out among Homœopaths after the death of Hahnemann. Had it appeared during his life-time I am sure it would have met with his disapproval, as it is diametrically opposed to all his teaching; and it is evident from a comparison of the last edition of the *Chronic Diseases*—his latest work—with the first, that he inclined in his later years to give his medicines less, rather than more, highly diluted, and to recommend much more frequent repetition of the dose than he had previously thought advisable.

I have thus, I think, shown conclusively that the practice of the self-styled Hahnemannians differs in every essential particular from that taught by Hahnemann.

1. Hahnemann distinctly says that the Homœopathist must not be guided in his selection of the remedy by what are termed "clinical symptoms." The Hahnemannians do not object to take their "keynotes" from this source.

2. Hahnemann, in his desire for uniformity of practice among Homœopathists, insists on the attenuations being prepared in a uniform manner, in separate phials, with spirits of wine as the diluting medium, one drop of the stronger dilution to 90 drops of the spirit, and a certain number of succussions given to each dilution. The high-dilutions of the Hahnemannians are now prepared in this way: they, as a rule, use but one phial for the whole series of dilutions, employ ordinary spring or service water as the diluting medium, and give (with the exception of Jenichen) no real succussion to their successive dilutions.

3. Hahnemann adopted as his standard highest potency the 30th dilution, and disapproved of pushing the dilution further. The Hahnemannians use much higher attenuations—all degrees, indeed, from the 200th to the millionth—or at least they assert and believe that their preparations are correctly designated by these figures. But they carry their disregard for Hahnemann's wishes for uniformity still further by using dilutions prepared in different ways by different manufacturers; and so, in a matter in which Hahnemann desired that all practitioners should act alike, so that the experience of one might be available to all, there reigns inextricable confusion; for the experience of a practitioner who uses, say, Jenichen's preparation, is useless to one who uses Fincke's, which are made quite differently, and do not represent

the same thing; and as Swann's, Lehmann's Boericke's, and Skinner's differ from the others and from one another, the experience of the practitioner with any one of these preparations must be useless to him who uses any other. Thus the simplicity and uniformity which Hahnemann so emphatically enjoined is sacrificed, and those who use the preparations of these high-potency manufacturers may be Jenichenians, Finckean's, Lehmannians, and so on, but they have no right to call themselves Hahnemannians, for they act exactly contrary to what Hahnemann taught. It is quite possible that the practice with these so-called high-potencies may be infinitely more successful than that with medicines prepared according to Hahnemann's method; and if so, why not give their inventors the full credit of it, and depose old Hahnemann from his hitherto acknowledged headship? But to contravene Hahnemann's directions and teachings in every essential point, and to call themselves Hahnemannians *par excellence*, is quite unjustifiable, and is indeed absurd; for the high-potency practice is not a further development of Hahnemann's method, but is a new departure altogether at direct variance with Hahnemann's teaching.

Those of us who practise Hahnemann's system with modifications suggested by experience and reflection, which we imagine, perhaps mistakenly, to be improvements, do not announce ourselves as Hahnemannians or bestow on those who differ from us uncomplimentary epithets. The liberty we claim to ourselves in judging of Hahnemann's teachings we freely accord to others, but at the same time we decidedly object to those who have departed further than ourselves from Hahnemann's rules putting themselves forward as the faithful interpreters of Hahnemann's views. If we prefer the decimal scale of dilutions to the centesimal, we do not pretend we are carrying out Hahnemann's directions. If we give lower dilutions than the 30th we do not say we are thereby showing our adhesion to the *verba majistri*—though on the subject of doses the *magister* had many different *verba*, and we could cite his very last instructions as his authority for giving medicines not only in lower dilutions than the 30th, but also for repeating the medicinal dose "an incredible number of times." If we occasionally prescribe medicines from clinical symptoms only—*ab usu in morbis*—we acknowledge that Hahnemann was dead against that method; and if we sometimes even give medicines from pathological indications only, we do not parade such cases as "Hahnemannian Homœopathy," nor boast that we are treating our case on "Hahnemannic principles."

Hahnemann has laid down distinct rules for the preparation of

his medicinal dilutions. Who are Jenichen, Boericke, Lehmann and the rest, and what have they done for Homœopathy that we should, at their bidding, reject all that Hahnemann taught on the subject, and adopt their impure, novel pharmaceutical methods in place of Hahnemann's pure, simple, and well-trying plan? Probably these high-potency manufacturers know that they would get no custom for their wares if they advertised them in their own names as something quite different from Hahnemann's preparations, so they announced them as a development of Hahnemann's method, and assured their customers that by employing them they would show themselves Hahnemannians *par excellence*, and the result shows that they knew their men, and that these did not know their Hahnemann.

The practise of these self-styled Hahnemannians may be a great improvement on Hahnemann's practise, it may be everything its professors claim for it, but it is certainly not according to Hahnemann's teachings, and its practitioners have no right to call themselves Hahnemannians, except on the *lucus a non lucendo* principle, which has never yet received a scientific sanction. That those whose practice is so widely different from, so directly opposed to, Hahnemann's teachings should call themselves Hahnemannians, and really believe that they are his only true followers, shows that Hahnemann has already become a myth or legend, and that practises and doctrines he never taught, and which indeed he more or less explicitly denounced, are attributed to him by those who profess to hold him in extreme veneration. I would recommend to these inconsistent disciples, who honor the name but despise the teachings of the master, a course of his works, chiefly the *Organon*, the *Materia Medica Pura*, and *Chronic Diseases*, in their latest editions, feeling assured that if they give these works serious study they will see how opposed their practise is to Hahnemann's teachings, and will cease to call themselves Hahnemannians; and possibly they may then leave off calling unpleasant names those whose practise has not gone quite so far astray as their own from Hahnemann's.

A CASE OF CHOREA.

By (the Late) Dr. Job J. Hirsch, of Prague.

In 1884 I was called to family S., consisting of an old weak-looking husband whose wasted form seemed to indicate a whilom rake, his well-formed, robust looking spouse of 30 and a daughter æt. 11—who seemed to be somewhat backward in develop-

ment and of a by no means vigorous constitution. She went through the usual sickness of childhood but with unusually slow recoveries. Commencing with her sixth year she received instruction at home by a governess and was at times troubled with headaches and restless nights. A physician who was consulted recommended a cessation of the studies and the headaches grew less and sleep more tranquil. After about a year instruction was taken up again with great caution, and the apt scholar under her experienced instructress' tuition made good progress until towards the end of her 10th year some symptoms manifested themselves which seemed to foreshadow an approaching nervous disorder.

Frequent twitchings of the muscles of the face, an unusually frequent winking of the eyelids induced the physician to designate worms as the probable cause of this nervous condition; he advised discontinuance of all lessons for the time being and recommended systematic gymnastic exercises. But all to no purpose, involuntary movements of the upper as well as the lower extremities became of frequent occurrence, the head was jerked, turned to one side and another and the grimaces looked frightful. Under these circumstances a number of physicians were consulted, the most various remedies were administered; but all to no purpose, instead of amelioration a decided aggravation resulted and on account of the violence of the involuntary motions she was bedded on a large mattress on the floor. Finally the despairing parents were informed by a friend that a Homœopathic physician, i. e. I, succeeded in curing a very bad, even worse, case a few years ago—and next day I was called in.

On entering the sick-room I found the patient on a broad mattress in the middle of the floor, where she, like a veritable *perpetuum mobile*, flexed first this then another extremity, rapidly jerking her head to the right, then left, making fearful grimaces.

After receiving a succinct account of what had been done before, I learned how liberal the physicians had been in administering all sorts of remedies with at best but transient amelioration. For the last two months they felt convinced that anemia was at the bottom of the trouble and the poor patient had to put down iron pills of all sizes, but the wished for salutary effects did not manifest but instead a decided aggravation of all symptoms supervened.

The task was a difficult one for me as I could hardly hope for an immediate favorable effect on administering our small doses after the prolonged massive dosing with drugs.

I then bethought myself of a very difficult case which I had

about ten years previous, of a young man, where I succeeded in producing a radical change and quieting of the nervous system by applying a thin stream of cold water to the spinal column. An irrigation apparatus was at once procured and on the evening of the same day I applied the irrigation. The patient was seated in a round basin, the upper part of the body being based, on the bottom of which a linen cloth was placed folded many times together. An attendant in front of the patient, kept her in a sitting position, and now I applied a thin but vigorous stream of cold water beginning at the neck down to the sacrum, and this was repeated several times. The patient well dried off and re-clothed was then brought to the horizontal position. Very striking to all, except to myself, was the favorable effect; she lay much quieter, could speak without stammering, and, to the surprise of all, took smilingly a proffered cup of beef broth, held it in hand without shaking and drank the whole contents. I hastened to assure the amazed parents that they could by no means expect the amelioration to proceed in the same ratio, but that they had to expect that many an aggravation would occur before permanent improvement would set in, but that I was able to assure them that in a few weeks every vestige of the ailment would have vanished.

I related the case of the young man whose affliction had reached such a degree that feeding was rendered extremely difficult; as he never could voluntarily open his mouth, an attendant had to sit close to his couch watching for an opportunity to administer a mouthful whenever it was jerked open. And if they could now see the well-built, vigorous young man, it would seem almost incredible that he should have been in such a miserable condition when a full grown boy. After ordering a simple but strengthening diet I left the patient promising to give in the morning full instruction as to the application of the irrigator. The night was passed, by the patient, much quieter, she even slept uninterruptedly for two hours, but on awaking the involuntary motions and jerkings were still observed though in a less degree than formerly. Irrigation was applied same as in the preceding evening and patient again put to bed. Thereafter twice daily irrigation was applied and the considerable amelioration seemed to become a permanent improvement. I then commenced Homœopathic medication exhibiting twice a day *Ignatia* 6 but as after a week's trial no particular improvement could be observed I changed the prescription to *Cuprum* 12. Morning and evening the patient received 6-8 pellets and after two or three days it became manifest that *Cuprum* was the suitable

remedy. The patient who a week before had to remain seated all day on a chair, on account of weakness and lack of confidence in her ability to walk, became, soon after taking that remedy, able to walk about with vigor and fearlessness, and none of her muscles showed any abnormal movements. Spring had arrived meanwhile and enabled the patient to take frequent walks in the fresh air. Soon after I ceased my frequent visits and the administration of *Cuprum* and only continued the irrigation for a few weeks longer, which I then changed to cold ablutions all over, thereby materially assisting the vigorous development of the whole body.

I desire yet to relate how I attained my knowledge of the cold water application. The above mentioned very difficult case of high grade Chorea in the young man had withstood all medication and, at my wits end, I consulted various later works and among them the portly Vol. of Prof. E. Bauchut* director of one of the largest hospitals for children's diseases, who relates on pp. 123 a case of unusually pronounced chorea which he could not overcome until he applied a thin stream of Chloroform to the spinal column from the neck to the sacrum. When I applied his treatment in my case with undoubted beneficent effect, I was induced to substitute cold water for the chloroform by the complaints of the attendants who were unfavorably affected by the chloroform fumes permeating the sick-room. As the cold water seemed to answer the same purpose I naturally dispensed with the chloroform.—*Popul. Zeitschr. für Homœopathie Vol. XVIII., pp. 53.*

SOLIDAGO VIRGA-AUREA.

The following very valuable hint is to be found on p. 131 of Dr. Gallavardin's *Homœopathic Treatment of Alcoholism*: "A lady, by administering, morning and evening, an infusion of the dry leaves and flowers of Golden Rod (*Solidago virga-aurea*) tells me that she cured her husband of an affection of the bladder which had compelled him to use a catheter for a year or more. A friend of Homœopathy, not a physician, desired to test the efficaciousness of this plant. He caused the first dilution of its tincture to be taken three times a day by seven patients of from forty-two to seventy-four years of age, who had been

* *Traité pratique des maladies des nouveaux nés des enfants à la mamelle et de la seconde enfance.*
A. J. T.

obliged to catheterize themselves for weeks, months and years, and cured them so thoroughly that they had no relapses. Surgeons who spend much time in catheterizing such patients for months and years could often cure them much more rapidly by prescribing for them the remedy just mentioned." Dr. Gallavardin is a high potency man in his treatment of alcoholism, prescribing from the 200th to the 10,000th, but evidently he is not averse to using a remedy in the tincture or first dilution when he knows it to be efficacious in relieving suffering. It may be well to state here that there are a number of golden-rods in this country but the *Solidago virga-aurea* which has been found such an excellent substitute for the catheter is not among them; it grows only in Europe, the tincture being imported into this country by the Homœopathic importers. A most excellent paper on *Solidago virga-aurea* will be found on p. 205 of THE RECORDER for Septemember, 1889, containing the experience of Dr. Buck with this remedy. The following are some of the symptoms of the remedy there given: "Pains in the kidneys; region of the kidneys painful upon pressure; feeling of enlargement and tension in the kidneys, also pains in the kidneys which extend forward to the abdomen and to the bladder. Difficult and scanty urination; urine dark, red-brown with thick sediment; stone and gravel, albumen, blood or slime in the urine; urine dark with sediments of phosphates; slightly sour, neutral or alkaline; urine with numerous epithelial cells or small mucous particles. Epithelial cells with gravel of triple phosphates, or phosphates of lime. Bright's disease."

COMFREY [SYMPHITUM] AND ITS USES.

In none of the Homœopathic treatises that I possess do I find any mention of the above remedy. I am surprised at this, for I believe it to be a very valuable one in certain cases. Its common name of *knitbone* seems to point to popular experience of one of its uses; but I believe its knitting, or uniting, power extends to muscular and other tissues of the body, as well as to the bones. Let me give two instances of my own personal experience. Many years ago I had an inguinal rupture on each side, not extensive ones, but causing a protrusion about the size of half a small walnut. After wearing a truss for some time, I bethought me of what I had heard of the uniting power of Comfrey, and made some tincture from the root, and rubbed it in. After doing so two or three times, the signs of rupture quite dis-

appeared, and the parts remained sound for about three years; when, from some cause or other, the right side broke out again, but as it did not give much trouble I neglected it for some time, and then tried the Comfrey tincture again, but this time without success. I suppose the ruptured edges had got too far asunder. The left side, however, which originally was the worse of the two, has kept sound ever since. I think this shows that a rupture, if not too extensive, and if taken in time, may often be cured by this remedy. The other case I have to relate was of a different kind. Five weeks ago I had a fall on my back, the whole force of which was concentrated on a small portion of the lower spine, through the intervention of the back pad of my truss. I thought for the moment my back must have been broken, the pain was so excessive; and not only the back, but diaphragm and all the organs below it suffered acutely for three or four weeks after the fall. But a fortnight after the fall I was for the first time conscious of a pain and tenderness higher up the spine, at a point, I think, where ribs commence, and on feeling I found a protuberance there, as if a partial dislocation had taken place there. I again thought of Comfrey, and had some of the tincture applied. The tenderness at the point subsided after two or three applications, and in a few days the protuberance disappeared. * * * On more careful examination I find that the point of secondary disturbance was higher up than I have described—two or three inches higher than the first insertion of the ribs in the spinal column.—*F. H. B., in Homœopathic World.*

Farington, in *Clinical Materia Medica*, says: “*Symphitum officinale* is the proper remedy for bone injuries. For example, when a blow on the eyes injures the orbital plates of the frontal bone. It may also be administered in case of irritable stump after amputation; and also for irritability of bone at point of fracture.” It may also be added that broken bones and bad sprains which give pain years after healing may often be completely delivered by rubbing with *Symphitum*.

Symphitum—imported tincture—may be had of Homœopathic importers.

CORNUS FLORIDA.

Cornus Florida is a drug of which not a great deal has been written. In Hale's *New Remedies* there is a short note about it, a still shorter one in the *Hand-book*, while in the *Encyclopedia* one page in the Appendix is devoted to it; in the last named

“John M. Walker, Philad., 1803, experiments on pulse” is the only authority quoted; flushing of the face, and an increased pulse are about the only symptoms noted by Walker in his six reported experiments, though “nausea” and “slight headache” are mentioned in one instance. Hale says: “The bark is intensely bitter, and among the common people is used largely as a tonic, and as a substitute for Quinine in Ague.” Also: “I have used the tincture in *obstinate intermittents* where quinine had been abused, and found that when the following group of symptoms were present it usually cured. The ague paroxysm is preceded for days by sleepiness, sluggish flow of ideas, headache of a dull, heavy character. The paroxysms are attended by nausea, vomiting, and sometimes watery or bilious diarrhœa. In the chill there is cold, clammy skin; in the fever violent headache, with throbbing, stupor, confusion of intellect, and vomiting.” He also adds: “In some old cases of dyspepsia, when the chief symptom is *acid pyrosis*, this remedy, like *Columbo*, *Chelone*, *China*, and *Nux*, will often effect very satisfactory cures.” He recommends doses of the tincture during apyrexia and the 2nd. or 3rd. dilution during the paroxysm.

In Dr. Ghosh's little work on *Fevers*, noticed in this issue, *Cornus Florida* is treated at length. The symptoms given are the same as those by Hale excepting that during the fever is added “hot but moist skin.” “It is very useful,” says the author in obstinate cases of Intermittent Fever whose intermission is of long duration. “I was called upon to treat a case of Intermittent Fever at Mániktalá, in the suburbs of Calcutta, in which the patient suffered from it for nearly three weeks, when I saw him. He was nearly two weeks under Allopathic treatment. During the first week he took no medicine, under the impression that the fever would go of itself. Two weeks of Allopathic drugging with massive doses of *Quinæ Sulph.*, (5 to 10 grains per dose), every three hours, during intermissions, could not stop the fever. At last the parents of the patient thought of changing the system of treatment. On the 23d day of the attack I was called upon to treat the patient. On taking a history of the case, I could not hit at any particular medicine, so I came away giving him no medicine that morning; but asked the father of the patient to see me that afternoon. As I was going through the pages of Hale's ‘New Remedies,’ I found that almost all the symptoms of *Cornus Florida*, enumerated therein, were present in the case. So I gave three drops of the 6th potency in water for three doses only, a dose every three hours during intermission. All the three doses were given. The next day there was

no fever, but the patient felt more uneasy without the fever than he did with it. I was called again. When I saw the patient and examined him, I found no symptom of fever, but signs of much uneasiness and discomfort in the face of the patient. That day I prescribed no medicine, but told the father that it would be given after I had seen his son again the next morning. This case solely engrossed my attention, and after much thought I came to the conclusion (I do not know why) that it might be a case of drug aggravation. The next day I saw the patient with fever on, with symptoms like before. I now prescribed only one dose of the same medicine (only one-quarter of a drop per dose in water) during intermission, and it was given as directed, and to my great delight there was no fever the next day. I treated this case in July, 1885, and since then there has been no relapse. From that time I have tried *Cornus Florida* in no less than eighty cases, and with very marked success. I must note here that wherever I prescribed this drug one, or two doses at the most, I succeeded; but where the patients were not satisfied without taking the medicine at repeated doses, their cases took a very protracted course until they were convinced that over-dosing kept the fever up. Such kind of longing for over-drugging is not rare even among medical men (Allopathic and Homœopathic) of some standing. My above statements have been corroborated by the very flattering results which a friend of mine here has been getting from its use, in obstinate cases of Intermittents, with marked intermissions, and in which Quinine and other well chosen medicines have failed. * * * I would also ask my readers to note the fact that more than one or two doses are likely to aggravate the symptoms, and I believe the 12th or 30th Potency is likely to work better than the 6th or still lower Potencies, and that its working power is in the quality but not the quantity of the drug." The part devoted to this remedy concludes as follows: "In November and December, 1887, however, I tried *Cornus Florida* in about five cases of Intermittents resembling those in which I said it was tried with success; but, to my utter astonishment, it made no impression whatever upon the fever, and the result was that the cases were all made over to Allopaths who cured them by *Quina Sulph.* Such being the case, I am led to the conclusion that Intermittent Fever, like Cholera, is not curable by the same remedies in different outbreaks, although they may bear the same symptoms."

Pulsatilla. Will remove the rattle in the throat of a dying person.—HATCH.

WHISKEY AND TOBACCO.

A contributor to the *Dixie Doctor*, C. H. Harris, M. D., of Cedartown, Ga., puts forth a plea for the use of whiskey in certain circumstances that is curious but will probably, if put in any extensive practice, raise a loud cry of disapproval. He says that thirty years ago a Texas doctor wrote that a small dose of whiskey three times a day would certainly prevent the spread of typhoid fever in a house or among those exposed to the contagion. Very few doctors paid any attention to it, but Dr. Harris says: "My own observation impressed me so favorably with it that I have as much confidence in it as I have of anything in medicine." A teaspoonful for children and two teaspoonsful for adults is the dose recommended. "Doctors, as a rule, are incorrigible skeptics and believe nothing beyond the realm of their own observation and experience. They don't usually concern themselves about what they see in the papers, and I very much fear I will fail in this attempt to secure a valuable fact which, from some unaccountable reason, has been overlooked by the profession. I earnestly invoke a fair and impartial trial of this simple and harmless plan of preventing the spread of typhoid fever."

Another heretic to the prevalent views of many reformers of the present day is Dr. G. W. Holmes, of Rome, Ga., who is quoted in the same journal as follows: "Smoking is not such an injurious and dangerous habit as has been claimed. All diseases are caused by germs; there can be no life except what comes from life. Now a person who smokes uses one of the best germicides and antiseptics; he is protected from the invasion of disease and is as a matter of fact less liable to contract disease than the man who does not smoke. During the war I was in charge of over five thousand soldiers at the post in Florida; there were marshes near by and the dysentery broke out among the troops raging with great virulence; I noticed that all the Irishmen who went about with clay pipes in their mouths didn't contract the disease. I smoked all the time and was free from it. So that smoking, instead of being objectionable, is in reality a good protective against disease, and then there is so much comfort and satisfaction in it that really the benefit is great. I have always smoked and believe it is a good thing. There is at least food for thought in its utility as a prophylactic against disease."

Apis In typho-malarial fevers *Apis* will remove the tenacious mucus from the throat, which is sometimes so troublesome.
—HATCH.

CUPHEA VISCOSSISSIMA.

Dr. C. O. Munn, of Oxford, Ohio, called the attention of the Ohio Homœopathic Medical Society to *Cuphea Viscosissima*, a remedy introduced by Dr. A. A. Roth through THE RECORDER'S pages some years ago. Dr. Munn says: "It is not so much in the true choleric type of cholera infantum that *Cuphea* has its sphere of action, as in those cases arising from acidity of milk or food, with frequent *green, watery, acid stools*; child fretful and feverish, can retain nothing on stomach; food seems to pass right through the child. Or the case may be manifested by dysenteric stools, small, frequent, bloody, with tenesmus and great pain; high fever, restlessness and sleeplessness. In this class of cases the action of *Cuphea* is prompt and generally lasting—just such cases as try our patience and skill during the summer months. I have used this remedy for the past two years, and so great has become my confidence in it that I have lost my former dread of those cases. * * * *Cuphea* seems to have very little action in ordinary forms of diarrhœa. * * * *Dose*: 5 to 10 drops of the tincture, according to age, every hour until relieved, and then a dose after each stool until cured."

Rumex Crispus.—Dr. Cardoza's cure was that of a cough which only obtained during the day, but not at all at night. I was not aware that this peculiar symptom belonged to *Rumex*, and therefore it ought to be noted down by all Homœopaths for future use. Most of the drugs, be it remembered, that produce cough in any great degree have *night* aggravations of some sort or another, and in greater or lesser degree. But here is a drug that has a dry, teasing cough all day long which disappears when the patient lies down to rest at night. We thank the doctor for calling our attention to it, as it is not found, as far as we know, in the provings of the drug."

"Another peculiar condition which was evolved in the proving of *Rumex*, is one that is evidently connected with indigestion, and which does not, to my knowledge, at least, belong so prominently to any other drug. I allude to the 'Lump in throat, not relieved by hawking or swallowing; it descends on deglutition, but immediately returns.' I have cured many cases of so-called dyspepsia with this remedy in various potencies where the above characteristic was a prominent factor."—*G. Carleton Smith, M. D., in Hom. Phys.*

Ring-worm Cured by Sepia.—A widow æt. 56, robust,

blonde, sanguine temperament, was afflicted with ring-worm on the right side of the face, which had spread over the nose, cheek and upper lip. Patient did not seem to mind it for a long time until the steady enlargement of the disfigurement compelled her to seek medical advice. She never had been subject to a cutaneous disease before, and her general health was unimpaired. I gave her six powders of *Sepia* 15, one to be dissolved each day in water and to be taken at morning, noon and night. No visible change was perceptible until patient had taken 18 powders. Then the herpetic eruption grew less, was cured and stayed cured.

A mason's apprentice, æt. 17, of phlegmatic temperament and of unusually slow and sluggish mind, was afflicted since 9 mos. with ring-worm on the right cheek which itched intolerably. His general health did not seem to be disturbed otherwise. For two months he was given *Sepia* 6, one powder in water daily to be taken morning, noon and night. When patient was relieved of his affliction without a recurrence.

DR. SCHWENKE, of *Kæthen*, *P. Z. f. Hom.*

It would seem that perseverance and the higher potency is one secret of success with *Sepia*.

"THEN, again, the cheapness of the medicinal tablets favors another tendency of the age—*i. e.*, physicians in many parts of the country are coming more and more into the habit of carrying their medicines with them; this is a primitive custom, but one which has, doubtless, given the Homœopathic practitioner of former days (if not of the present day) some slight advantage in the struggle for existence. There is a satisfaction, physicians say (who now rely on the triturates and seldom write prescriptions), in being able to dispense at the bedside, and in a safe and convenient form, the medicines indicated. Moreover, by adding a small increment to the bill, the cost of the medicine, with a fair percentage of profit, is recovered. Again, the tablets are supposed to represent a definite dose of the ingredient, and it is a convenience to the physician to know the exact amount of the drug which he is dispensing."—*Dr. E. P. Hurd.*

"THE DOCTOR publishes the results of the investigation of the committee of the British Medical Association relative to the average age of the different categories of drinkers—that is to say, those who refrain completely from alcoholic drink; those who indulge, more or less in moderation; and those who drink to ex-

cess. This committee handed in its report. Its cases are drawn from 4,234 deaths, which are divided into five categories of individuals, with the average age attained by each:

	Years. Days.	
1. Total abstainers	51	22
2. Habitually temperate drinkers	63	13
3. Careless drinkers	59	67
4. Free drinkers	57	59
5. Decidedly intemperate drinkers	53	03

These figures show, singularly enough, that those who reach the shortest age are those who drink no alcohol whatever; after them come the drunkards, who only excel them by a trifle. The greatest average age is reached by those who drink moderately."—*Kansas City Med. Jour.*

"PATIENTS, particularly ladies, often have their lives almost made miserable by the appearance of the face which is such that it looks as if it had been greased. In this condition compare Natrum mur., Plumbum and Thuja carefully and you will be able to cure and bring happiness to your fair patient and coin and glory to yourself."—*A. McNeil, M. D., in Hom. Phys.*

THE time is coming when manufacturing pharmacists will find their profit in making a superior class of preparations, and not in cheapening the price. If my advice were asked I should say, never buy from a house that cuts prices.

You ask, what interest have you in the cost of drugs? And I answer, the interest of having good remedies supplied to our physicians. My teaching, whether written or oral, is based upon reliable and well prepared drugs. With an uncertain medicine we cannot have certainty in practice.—*Dr. Scudder in Eclectic Medical Journal.*

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

"Heaves."—This name for a rather common disease among horses is not found in any of the Homœopathic veterinary works; in them it is designated by the less descriptive name, "broken wind," or a species of asthma. From Rush (*Vade Mecum*) the following points are taken: "The cough is short, suppressed, and so feeble that it can hardly be heard at any distance; it is also frequently attended with expulsion of flatus from the rectum; jerking respiration of a very peculiar character, consisting of one

inspiration and two expirations. Indigestion is a usual accompaniment of Broken Wind, as indicated by flatulence, the presence of undigested hay and oats in the dung, and an unthrifty, thin seedy appearance of the animal. When made to trot fast or draw a heavy load, the horse's flanks heave violently, and his respiration becomes wheezing, like that of an asthmatic person; this state continues for some time, and does not cease immediately on rest, as in Roaring." The cause of the trouble is "feeding the animal on hay and oats, the former being given in too large quantities, without any change of food." The best treatment therefore is to give the animal a frequent change of diet and let the food be of a good quality. *Arsenicum* is recommended for the wheezing and difficult breathing and *Nux Vomica* when the indigestion is marked "*Bryonia*" and *Ammon-caust.* may also prove useful. To this may be added that in the May RECORDER of this year a case is reported where *Lobelia acet.* was administered for "heaves" with excellent results.

Colic in Horses.—The landed proprietor P. in L. had met with considerable losses in horses on account of colic; in one year he lost two and in six months more even four horses. Then I recommended him to try Homœopathy, and since that time he has not lost any.

Sundry Cases.—A horse got loose one night and finding a bag of barley ate up the rations intended for four. The hostler never said a word, and the horse was given some bran in the morning and taken out in the field, where he ate a quantity of young clover. The animal was, of course, taken quite sick, but as it evidently had colic it was kept in motion and prevented from lying down. It looked as if it had to burst. It received *Aconite* 5, then *Arsenic* 5, and in the afternoon at four o'clock it took its feed again, defecated and was all right.

A horse harnessed at dawn had a heavy load to move and became very much heated. Then it stood for a long time without cover, and finally, when it reached the stable, was taken with violent spasmodic colic. The horse was drawn crooked, head drawn back, the tongue protruded and it could not rise. It received *Chamomilla* 5, and within an hour stood at the crib and fed.

A horse which over ate itself seemed to be at once in articulo mortis, it protruded its flabby tongue, the eyes looked as dead and were of a whitish color. It was led about and received *Aconite* 5 several times, when it as speedily recovered.—*Rev. V. in the Pop. Zeit. für Hom.*

A Cure of Blindness in a Dog.—Recently I made a fine cure in a magnificent Newfoundland Dog. A friend possesses such a dog and is fairly crazy about him. About four weeks ago I visited him and found him quite despondent, his favorite *Pluto* had become blind. I examine the dog and find a dense white covering over both eyes, he was stone blind. On inquiry I am told that *Pluto* had a festering sore on the head which was very much inflamed for several days. Presently the eyes became inflamed also and the animal became blind on both eyes. I comforted the owner, assuring him that his dog would regain the eyesight inside of a week. I ordered to be administered once every two hours two drops of the first dilution of *Cannabis sativa* in a teaspoonful of water and at the same time drop a few drops of this mixture between the separated eyelids every two hours. On the third day the dog commenced to see, for although the eyes still looked opaque he walked everywhere. In five days more the eyes were as clear as ever, not a trace of the opacity remaining. As *Pluto* was a well known and favored personality in the whole town this astonishing cure created much surprise.—*B. von Reichberger in Zeitsch. für Homeopathice.*

BOOK NOTICES.

The Health of the Skin: By C. B. Shuldham, M. D., Trin. Coll., Dublin. American edition, with a chapter on the Chief Skin Remedies and their Homœopathic Uses. By William Boericke, M. D. Philadelphia, 1890. 85 pages. Cloth. 50 cts.

In this work, designed for the laity, but which may be read with profit by doctors, Dr. Shuldham gives seventy-six pages of general advice on the skin and its troubles and how it should be cared for. To these Dr. Wm. Boericke adds seven pages, giving the general indications of the seven chief remedies for skin diseases. This chapter was most carefully written and will be found of great value. The little work sells at the "popular" price of fifty cents per copy, and the suggestions scattered through its pages ought to well repay anyone for the small outlay.

Essentials of Diseases, Eye, Nose and Throat. W. B. Saunders. Philadelphia, 1890. 276 pages. Cloth. \$1.00.

This addition to the list of Saunders' Question Compendis is divided into two parts. Part I, by Edward Jackson, M.D., Pro-

fessor of Diseases of the Eye in the Philadelphia Polyclinic and College for Graduates in Medicine, consists of 145 pages under the title "Essentials of Refraction and the Diseases of the Eye" and is written, like others of the series, in the form of questions and answers. Part II, "Essentials of Diseases of the Nose and Throat," is from the pen of E. Baldwin Gleason, M.D., Surgeon in charge of the Nose, Throat and Ear Department of the Northern Dispensary of Philadelphia. The value of each part is greatly enhanced by a very complete index.

Essentials of Anatomy and Manual of Practical Dissection, together with the Anatomy of the Viscera. Prepared Especially for Students of Medicine by Charles B. Nancrede, M.D. Third Edition Revised and Enlarged. W. B. Saunders. Philadelphia, 1890. 388 pages. Cloth. \$2.00.

Although the number of pages is given at 388, yet in reality 488 would be more accurate as the text matter is preceded by thirty colored plates which, with their description, occupy nearly 100 pages. These plates, which first catch the eye on opening the book, are really works of art, done in three colors and impressed on fine plate paper; the editor, who supervised them, is right in saying "we believe that those presented in the following pages are unrivalled in excellence, except in the large cumbersome and expensive charts, which are not adapted to the students' purposes. The study of anatomy must be grounded upon dissection. What the eye sees in a moment is more indelibly impressed upon the brain than the most minute and accurate description. Hence, after dissection or the examination of preparations would come trustworthy illustrations. By a study of these the student remembers not words but facts." In addition to the colored plates there are 180 wood cuts scattered through the text. The text itself is "based upon the last edition of *Gray's Anatomy*." Following the text matter is a collection of some sixty odd Osteological plates taken from *Gray*. Certainly a cheap book at the price.

Fevers and Their Treatment on Homœopathic Principles.

Based mainly on the Results of Seventeen Years' Practice as a Homœopath. By Radha Kanta Ghosh. B. B. Mukhurji & Co., 25 Conwallis St., Calcutta, India. 1890. 194 pages. \$1.25.

Dr. Ghosh's latest work is divided into three parts. Part I. treats of fevers like typhoid. Part II., of malarial fevers, yellow fever, etc., and Part III., of measles, small-pox, scarlet fever, etc. It is written in a singularly temperate and courteous tone and with an entire absence of dogmatism. One class of fevers after another are taken up, the symptoms carefully described and

remedies noted which were administered and what were the results. Elsewhere in this issue of THE RECORDER will be found a quotation from the book which will give readers a good idea of its style. We fancy it will prove to be an exceedingly valuable work to practitioners in India and not without interest and value to their American and English brethren. The work is not on sale to our knowledge in this country, but if any physician desires a copy it can be ordered for him by his pharmacist. The size is about 12mo. and the binding cloth.

The Stepping Stone to Homœopathy and Health, by E. H.

Ruddock, M. D. New American Edition. Edited and enlarged with the addition of a chapter on diseases of women and the Tissue Remedies. By Wm. Boericke, M. D. Philadelphia, 1890. 256 pages. \$1.00.

The American Editor says of his work: "Without in any way altering the arrangement or the scope of the book, the reviser has endeavored to bring it abreast of the times," thus addition rather than subtraction has been the editor's task. Of this class of works he says: "Such popular treatises are of great use to Homœopathy—are its most successful missionaries—and prepare larger and wider spheres for active work for Homœopathic physicians." The book has an excellent Clinical Directory and Index, and is altogether a most excellent "domestic"—family Homœopathy "up to date"—and certainly very low priced at \$1.00.

On Fistula and Its Radical Cure by Medicine. By J. Compton Burnett, M.D. London, 1889. 141 pages. Cloth. 90 cents.

Dr. Burnett is a prolific writer, fortunately; for what he writes is worth reading—is interesting even to a general reader from its very style—but, more than that, it is something new and of substance and, best of all, it is stalwart Homœopathy. Dr. Burnett is no half-way, or half-hearted Homœopath; he believes in the great law wholly and entirely and to the doubting Thomases—the "but" and the "if" men—one of his works are as strengthening as a whiff of pure air to a tenement house baby. *On Fistula*, he says, "At first I did *not* quite believe it possible to cure fistula with medicines alone without any operation or topic applications, for I had been taught that to cure a fistula you must needs operate upon it. So you will *not* find anything about fistula in works on medicine." This being the case it will be seen that this little work is something entirely new. Further on he says, "With the lapse of time my own experience has

grown, and I have found that not only hæmorrhoids, but fistula can be genuinely and radically cured with medicines alone." Again: "And by Scientific Medicine I mean no more and no less than Homœopathy —." Mr. Howells tells us that no man is capable of criticising a book unless he knows more on the subject than the author and so the writer of this notice has no more to say on the book under consideration further than that in his opinion it is worth a place in a medical library.

The Family Homœopathist; or Plain Directions for the Treatment of Diseases. By E. B. Suldham, M.D. Seventh Edition. London.

After being out of print for some time the publishers, E. Gould & Son, have brought out the seventh edition of this compact little work. The paper and printing are excellent, and the cloth binding of this edition very tasteful. On account of its size it is well adapted for travelers who want their luggage complete yet light.

AMONG physicians of other schools Hughes' *Pharmacodynamics* is the most popular Homœopathic book published. It gives them a good insight into practical Homœopathy. It is a fine work. Those who want to examine the basis of Homœopathy should go to its corner-stone, Hahnemann's *Organon*. \$7.00 half morocco or \$6.00 cloth is the price of the former, and \$1.75 cloth, of the *Organon*.

THE new *Physician's Price Current and Catalogue*, recently issued by Messrs. Boericke & Tafel, is undoubtedly the handsomest and completest work of the kind ever printed. It is mailed free to *physicians only*.

THE *Medical Advance* says of Gallavardin's *Homœopathic Treatment of Alcoholism*: "Personally we wish to thank the translator for rendering into English not only the first, but the best, work on this subject to be found in medical literature. The teaching is not only new to most of us, but is strictly Hahnemannian. * * * But there is not a single reader of the *Advance* who should be without this little work, from which he will glean much that will make him a better prescriber and a truer follower of Hahnemann."

Of Gallavardin on Alcoholism the *Homœopathic World* says: "The book will be found a mine of practical information and ought to lead to great improvements in the treatment of drunkards and drunkenness."

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THE RECORDER is indebted to Alfred K. Hills, M. D., for the very valuable proving of *Paraffine*, published in this number. The translation was made by Dr. W. F. Robinson, while traveling in Europe, and sent to Dr. Hills, who placed it at the disposal of THE RECORDER. It seems to be a very thorough and old-fashioned proving and marked symptoms are developed that are very striking.

THE following appeared in a Southern medical publication: "*Oil of Mullein (verbascum).*"—This very fine and valuable oil is obtained by covering the fresh mullein blooms in pure olive oil, in an open-mouth bottle, and steeping a few days in the sun. It relieves ear-ache like magic. And many cases of deafness have also been cured by its continued use, by dropping 3 to 5 drops in the ears every day. For nocturnal enuresis, given in doses of 3 to 5 gtt. four times a day, it acts promptly in cases of children. It relieves irritable bladder also. Try it and report results." To this may be added that this "very fine and valuable oil" is not made in the manner described; such a product might have some virtue but it would not be *mullein oil*. What is said about its uses is correct enough, but *mullein oil* is wholly obtained from the bloom and is a dark aromatic liquid with no "oil" about it save in its old fashioned name.

TO THOSE who want to write a paper, but are at a loss for a subject, may be suggested, as a general topic, Pitch into New Remedies—not Dr. Hale's excellent book, but the remedies themselves, and include those who devote their time and money to making them known. Don't say anything against secret and patented, or trade-marked, remedies like *Antipyrine*, but sail into the simple remedies proposed by some luckless Homœopath, remedies that any one can procure who will take the trouble; tell him with severity that his remedy has not been proved yet, and tell it as something new, ignoring the fact that he said the same thing in his paper, or letter, wherein he brought out the remedy; relate a few cases wherein it has been administered and

failed—something that a respectable medicine never does—and from this data damn the new comer and obliquely the physician who called attention to it and cited some remarkable cures he had made with it. The remedy has not been proved, and is, therefore, a pariah and should be stoned without the camp. If it dies there is great satisfaction in calling attention to the fact in after years; while, on the other hand, should it live and wax great, as sometimes happens, no harm will result, for no one will remember the paper but the writer, and he can keep silent about it.

DR. WARREN B. CHAPIN, in a letter to the *New York Medical Journal*, very positively condemns *Chloramide*, saying that it is as apt to produce all sorts of unpleasant symptoms, some of them dangerous, as it is to produce sleep and, worst of all, it cannot be depended upon to act twice alike on the same patient. Dr. Chapin prefers *Sulphonal* instead; but *Sulphonal* has been known to produce death and certainly its sleep, from which the patient wakes apparently in a good condition and thoroughly refreshed, is followed by a state that is anything but gratifying—profound weakness and despondency. (See RECORDER, July, 1889, p. 169, and December, p. 284.) The best thing to do with these proprietary medicines is to let them alone.

DR. LEWIS in *The Medical Summary* draws the following picture of rheumatism for which he finds *Natrum salicylicum* (Salicylate of Sodium) to be a great remedy, and which he has used successfully for twelve years:

“Stiffness of one or more of the large joints, fever, alternating or accompanied by profuse acid sweats, joints begin to swell, and the surrounding tissues evince their inflammation by their redness, etc. Now we may expect the disease to shift from one joint to another. The individual may be suffering agony with the left knee, and in a few hours the pain has left that joint, only to appear in the limb opposite.” After a dose an hour for five or six hours “the pains leave and your patient will bless you.” While not definitely stated, the strength of the remedy he uses seems to be equal to the first decimal.

A FEW extra copies of this issue of THE RECORDER are mailed to physicians of other schools; the journal has a surprisingly large number of liberal physicians on its subscription list, presumably because they find it to their professional interest to keep an eye on Homœopathic medicine and can do this more effectually by subscribing to THE RECORDER than by any other means. Subscriptions received during the remainder of this year will be dated from January, 1891, Vol. VI, and remaining number of this Vol. V (November 15, 1890, issue) will be mailed free. Address, Boericke & Tafel, 1011 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

VOL. V. PHILADELPHIA AND LANCASTER, NOV., 1890. No. 6.

AN OFF-HAND STUDY OF THE SALTS OF BARIUM.

BY SAMUEL A. JONES, M. D.

It is indisputable that we do not make such therapeutical applications of the salts of Barium as their pathogenesies designate. These remedies were introduced into our practice as early as 1824, yet Boenninghausen says, in his monograph on Whooping Cough: "This remedy certainly belongs among the polychrests, is as yet, however, too little used and hence is but little known."

Hering bears similar testimony: "Very few cases have since been published, notwithstanding the masterly analysis of Stapf in his preface." Even so intelligent a gleaner as Hughes frankly admits "The main interest of *Barryta carbonica* in my eyes lies in its influence on the tonsils." He adds, "it is also considered a valuable remedy for senility, so far as this is premature and therefore morbid;" it seems to be peculiarly adapted to the aged, and is of value in paralytic affections, and in scrofulous diseases. He also makes mention of "its striking remedial effects, amounting almost to a cure," in a case of abdominal aneurism; and he gives a graphic paraphrase of Guernsey's recommendation of it as "especially suitable to dwarfish subjects, of stunted growth both in mind and body."

Stunted growth, both in mind and body, and premature senility are phenomena which no thoughtful physician can for a moment ignore. The origin of such conditions must be in the very roots of life; for only arrested, or perverted, nutrition can give rise to them, and their successful treatment would demand the highest exercise of our art. Then these questions naturally arise: are such conditions of infrequent occurrence, or is this remedy inefficacious, or have physicians remained in ignorance of this remedy?

Such considerations have lately interested me, and I am therefore led to offer you on this occasion such an introduction to the

study of the salts of Barium as my limited library will enable.*

And, first of all, we will glance at its history and learn some little concerning the repute which it has had of men. I find this part of a drug study of much value to myself. Not seldom do I find a remedy in desuetude; ignored or even despised; and yet a little research shows it to have played a lusty part in the past and to have made an even unusual noise in the world of medical letters. It claimed consideration then on the score of what certain men's "experience" testified of it, and yet, despite all this experience-testifying, the much-vaunted remedy has failed to secure an abiding place in Therapeutics—the besom of Time has swept it to moulder on the rubbish-heap. From all of which I gather that it is not the drug that lies, but men which bear false witness, calling it "experience;" and I conclude that much of your "experience" and of mine will doubtless go the same way; but this is becoming "personal!"

The muriate is the first of the Barium salts that was used in medicine. It was introduced by Crawford, in 1790, as a remedy for scrofula which afforded remarkable results when other agents of good repute failed utterly. Of course, there was a stretching-out of hands to the "new remedy:" we have seen the like in our day, and it will be seen again after we are gone. However, Dr. Crawford's results with the Chloride of Barium attracted much attention, and in 1792, Hufeland, then physician to the Duke of Saxe-Weimar, published, at Erfurt, a quarto volume, *On the Use and Effects of the Muriated Barytes in Different Diseases*. But even in the very year when Hufeland is lauding it in Germany, Ferriar is publishing his *Medical Histories and Reflections* in England, saying of muriated barytes: "The high character with which this medicine was ushered into practice induced me to order it in several scrophulous cases. It is needless to give a particular account of my observations, for I have never found any sensible effect from it, even in doses of twenty drops given twice or thrice a day, except in two cases."

[Observe, if you please, that there is no endeavor to specify in what manner these two successful cases *differ* from those in which the remedy was useless. Remember who taught the ab-

* "On this occasion." Eight years ago; a society of physicians and surgeons; hence the style, which I have not cared to change. O fleeting Time and inexorable Death! Eight short years, so swiftly flown, and he who listened so intently then, now hushed "in cold obstruction." Even so shall it be until the Infinite Purpose is fulfilled; meanwhile, patience, and courage, and hope, and the light that never shone on land or sea shall dawn for us all.

solute necessity of such discrimination, and honor his memory.]

A special volume on a new remedy by a Court physician was a noteworthy event, and in the year following, 1793, one Johannes Augustus Schmidt made the muriate of baryta the subject of a medical dissertation. The appearance of two special treatises on a remedy within four years from its introduction shows that the new drug was receiving a full share of professional attention.

Nineteen years later, in 1812, it had a scientific investigation, as a poison, by Sir Benjamin Brodie; and in 1814 its toxicological energy was so little known to the profession at large that in the first edition of his *Treatise on Poisons* Orfila introduces it as follows: "It is extremely useful to fix the attention of men of science on Barytes and its compounds. Being endowed with the most energetic poisonous properties, some of the preparations of this kind produce death in a very short time amidst the most excruciating pains and violent convulsions; it is then of the utmost importance that those physicians who employ them in certain scrofulous and lymphatic affections, etc., should understand perfectly their effects, and the means of preventing the serious symptoms to which they give rise." [Observe again, if you please, a characteristic of "regular" practice; a new remedy is introduced, and shortly the toxicologist has it in hand in order to save the race!] Since the publication of Orfila's *caveat* the salts of Barium have had due attention from all toxicologists.

In 1815 Michael S. Griffa published an inaugural dissertation *On the Use of Muriate of Baryta and the Muriate of Lime in Scrofula*; and in the same year the poisonous property of the Barium carbonate was recorded by Parkes.

Nine years later we have the first mention of a Barium salt in Homœopathic literature. Stapf and some of his friends had made provings of the *Barium acetate*, which he published in 1824 in the third volume of his Archives, together with "some additional observations of Hahnemann's on *Baryta muriatica*."

In 1828 provings of *Baryta carbonica* appeared in the first edition of Hahnemann's *Chronic Diseases*; the pathogenesis having 108 symptoms, which were published in conjunction with the 254 symptoms previously obtained by Stapf and his friends. In 1835 *B. carbonica* and *acetica*—by a mistake some symptoms of *B. muriatica* were included without being distinguished from the others—appeared in the second edition of the *Chronic Diseases*, and, owing to subsequent provings, the symptoms had increased to 799. Just here it is worthy of note that of those 799 symptoms only four are cited from old school authorities; and as Hahnemann was not averse to including symptoms obtained from

the use in disease, it would appear that Hufeland's treatise, and the special dissertations, as well as the journal articles, could afford but little aid to positive therapeutics.

We learn from Hering that the first separate publication of the pathogenesis of *Baryta muriatica* was the Allentown *Correspondenz Blatt*, anno 1836, and, in the English language, in the Allentown translation of *Jahr.*, issued in the same year, according to the title-page, though Hering says it was in 1838.

This history is by no means exhaustive, nor can I make it complete. I can say only that Crawford's original paper received a noted degree of attention. In Great Britain, Pearson, Clarke and Hamilton published observations confirming Crawford's recommendation of it, and on the continent is found able and ardent advocates of Hufeland, Fourcroy, Goering, Peterman and Schmidt. On the other hand, Ferriar, Henke, Kretschmer, Richter and others declared it inoperative, while Arnemann and Girtanner condemned it as "productive of highly injurious and even poisonous effects. At a still later period the Chloride of Barium was made the subject of clinical investigations by Professor Scassi, of Genoa, and in Italy by Mojon, Nongiardini, Ferrari and others, and with good results. The benefits obtained from it by these investigators led Lisfranc to try it at *La Pitié*, and Trousseau says "with incontestable success."

Amongst American authors on *Materia Medica* I cannot find one who advocates the claims made for the Chloride of Barium. Chapman declares that he has never been able to get any results from it, and Eberle writes of it solely from foreign testimony—giving statements *pro* and *con*. Professor John Redman Coxe, in his *Dispensatory*, asks if the muriatic acid is not the agent to which, in all the muriated remedies for scrofula, the benefit must be ascribed. Before to-day I have stigmatized this Coxe as a literary thief, and this is another instance in proof thereof, for, in writing of muriated Barytes, in 1792, Ferriar observed: "I cannot help suspecting that the only benefit to be expected from it must arise from the action of the acid, either not completely saturated, or not destroyed as a tonic, by the mineral. Several patients whom I now attend for scrophulous complaints are now taking the acid alone with apparent benefit who had used the muriated Barytes without experiencing the smallest alteration in their health."

The older Wood, Stille, H. C. Wood, and Bartholow completely ignore the remedy; and even the light-fingered Ringer has not appropriated anything regarding it from the literature of his own school, or, what is more singular, from that of ours! This

remedy, then, in the school that introduced it, has ran its course and has been thrown aside in less than three-quarters of a century. Why is it not doing to-day for a Ringer, a Wood, and a Bartholow that which it did for a Crawford, a Hufeland, and all who praised it, down to Lisfranc? Simply because clinical experience without the light of the law of similars is a delusion and a snare.

“Experience is said to be the mother of wisdom. Verily she has been in medicine rather a blind leader of the blind; and the history of medical progress is a history of men groping in darkness, finding seeming gems of truth, one after another, only in a few minutes to cast each back to the vast heap of forgotten baubles that in their day had been mistaken for verities.”

Evidently, there is experience and experience, and such a choice as there is declared to be between deacons; and in these days, when we hear so much about affiliation with the old school, let us not forget who it is that will be the gainer thereby. They can offer us in therapeutics “a vast heap of forgotten baubles” which *they* have one by one “mistaken for verities,” and one by one flung away because, forsooth, *they* have not learned to discern them as the verities which of God’s truth they are. Certainly, most certainly, not we are the beggars at the gates; we have no inheritance in any of their “delusions;” in whatsoever pertains to the cure of disease we can try experience by LAW and exclude the false witness. History is with us; truth is with us; and we need only to be true to our inheritance; we must not barter our birthright for any mess of pottage whatsoever.

Let us now briefly enumerate the diseased conditions for which empirical medicine once, and blindly, recommended the Chloride of Barium:

1. In all cases of scrofula, and especially in the most inveterate forms.
2. In obstructions [of glands] and in [glandular] tumors as well as neoplasms.
3. In cutaneous diseases; herpetic eruptions, scabies, porrigo, schirrus.
4. In malignant venereal ulcers.
5. In white swelling.
6. In amenorrhœa.
7. In mania.
8. In cases of worms.

You will observe that in all these instances the neurotic action of the salts of Barium is not considered. It figures only as an alterative, or, take the term of the older writers, as a “stimulant

deobstruent." Brodie had called attention to it as a paralyzant, but his contemporaries saw nothing in the hint.

With Brodie began the era which inaugurated the scientific investigation of the salts of Barium. He was followed by Orfila, and then come Schloepfer, Gmelin, Huzard and Biron, Blake, Campbell, Pelletier and Kramer. For our latest and most profound researches we are indebted to Onsum, Cyon, Mickwitz, and Boehm.

From historical considerations, I shall quote entire the initial experiments by Brodie:

"Ten grains of the Muriate of Barytes rubbed very fine, and moistened with two drops of water, were applied to two wounds in the thigh and side of a rabbit. In four minutes he was evidently under the influence of the poison. In a short time he became giddy; then his hind legs were paralyzed; and he gradually fell into a state of insensibility, with dilated pupils, and lay in general motionless, but with occasional convulsions. The pulse beat 150 in a minute, but feebly, and it occasionally intermitted. He was apparently dead in twenty minutes from the time of the application of the posion; but on opening the chest the heart was found still acting, and nearly three minutes had elapsed before its action had entirely ceased.

"An ounce and a half of a saturated solution of Muriate of Barytes was injected into the stomach of a full-grown cat, by means of an elastic gum tube. In a few minutes it operated as an emetic. The animal became giddy, afterwards insensible, and lay with dilated pupils, in general motionless, but with occasional convulsions. At the end of sixty-five minutes from the beginning of the experiment he was apparently dead; but the heart was still felt through the ribs, acting 100 times a minute. A tube was introduced into the trachea, and the lungs were inflated about 36 times in a minute; but the pulse sank notwithstanding, and at the end of 7 minutes the circulation had entirely ceased.

"From these experiments I was led to conclude that the principal action of the Muriate of Barytes is on the brain; but in the first the pulse was feeble and intermitting; in the second, although the artificial respiration was made with the greatest care, the circulation could not be maintained longer than a few minutes. These circumstances led me to suspect that, although this poison operates principally on the brain, it operates in some degree on the heart also. Further experiments confirmed this suspicion. In some of them the pulse soon became so feeble that it could scarcely be felt, and its intermissions were more frequent; but in

all cases the heart continued to act after respiration had ceased; and the cessation of the functions of the brain was therefore always the immediate cause of death. When I employed artificial respiration, after death had apparently taken place, I seldom was able to prolong the heart's action beyond a few minutes. In one case only it was maintained for three-quarters of an hour. I never by these means succeeded in restoring the animal to life, although the experiments were made with great care and in a warm temperature. In some instances, after the artificial respiration had been kept up for some time, there were signs of the functions of the brain being restored; but the pulse, notwithstanding, continued to diminish in strength and frequency, and ultimately ceased.

“ I shall detail one of these experiments, as it seems to illustrate the double action of this poison on the nervous and vascular systems.

“ Some Muriate of Barytes was applied to a wound in the side of a rabbit. The usual symptoms took place, and at the end of an hour the animal was apparently dead; but the heart still continued to contract. He was placed in a temperature of 80° , and a tube being introduced into the nostril, the lungs were artificially inflated about 36 times in a minute.

“ When the artificial respiration had been continued for four minutes, he appeared to be recovering; he breathed voluntarily 100 times in a minute, and showed signs of sensibility. The voluntary respiration continued about nine minutes, when it had ceased, and the animal was again apparently dead; but the pulse continued strong and frequent. The lungs were again artificially inflated. At the end of four minutes the animal once more breathed voluntarily 100 times a minute, and repeatedly moved his limbs and eyelids. The pulse became slower and more feeble.

“ In a few minutes the voluntary respiration again ceased, and the artificial respiration was resumed. The pulse had fallen to 100 and was feeble. The animal again breathed voluntarily; but he ceased to do so at the end of five minutes. The lungs were inflated as before; but he did not give any signs of life, nor was the pulse felt afterwards. On opening the thorax, the heart was found to have entirely ceased acting.

“ A probe having been introduced into the substance of the spinal chord, it was found that, by means of the voltaic battery, powerful contractions might be excited, not only of the voluntary muscles but also of the heart and intestines, from which it may be inferred that the Muriate of Barytes, like arsenic, affects

the circulation by rendering the heart insensible to the usual stimulus, and not by destroying altogether the power of muscular contraction.

“The Muriate of Barytes affects the stomach, but in less degree than arsenic. It operates as an emetic in animals that are capable of vomiting; but sooner when taken internally than when applied to a wound. In general, but not constantly, there are marks of inflammation of the inner membrane of the stomach, but not of the intestine. In many instances there is a dark-colored coagulum of blood lining the whole inner surface of the stomach, and adhering very closely to it, so as to have a good deal of the appearance of a slough; and this is independent of vomiting, as, where I met with it, it occurred in rabbits.

“The same circumstances, from which it may be inferred that arsenic does not produce its deleterious effects until it has passed into the circulation, lead also to that conclusion with regard to the Muriate of Barytes.”

Such are Brodie’s experiments; and he has the merit of first discovering that the salts of Barium are a *cardiac poison*.

I will now cite one of Orfila’s experiments: “At five minutes after one o’clock, a small dog was made to swallow 33 grains of Caustic Barytes reduced to a fine powder. At 1:15 the animal was lying on his belly, and he appeared to suffer considerably. At 1:45 he vomited with much effort, a small quantity of mucous matter of a greenish color mixed with blood; he had the hiccup, and uttered cries excessively plaintive. At 2 o’clock he was in such a state of insensibility that he might have been taken for dead; he might be pinched without giving the least sign of pain; his limbs, when lifted and left to their own weight, fell like an inert mass of matter; the pupils were dilated. At 2:25 he vomited a small quantity of greenish-yellow matter, after making violent efforts; his breathing was excessively deep, and he still continued to moan.

“*Post mortem*. The mucous membrane of the stomach was of a deep red color throughout its whole extent, and exhibited, in that portion next to the pylorus, two black spots formed by venous blood extravasated upon the muscular coat. The duodenum and the other intestines were in their natural condition. The lungs were of a deep red color, and towards the posterior lobes their substance was crepitating.”

I turn now to some quite recent poisonings by Woodman and Tidy:

1. Ten grains of Barium Nitrate were given to a rabbit by the mouth. It died in an hour. Dilatation of the pupils is re-

corded, and the following *post mortem* appearances: Brain, lungs, and liver congested. The stomach inflamed and rotten. The rectum very much congested.

2. Five grains of Barium Nitrate were given to a rabbit by the mouth. In 2 hours convulsions, violent purging, dilated pupils. Died in 26 hours. The brain was found to be normal; lungs and liver congested; stomach inflamed and very rotten. No apparent change in small intestine, but the rectum was very much congested.

Thirty grains of Barium Nitrate were given to a small terrier dog. In 2 hours insensibility, with vomiting, purging and convulsions. Pupils dilated. Died in about 4 hours. The brain was normal; the lungs, liver, stomach, and duodenum congested. The rectum was intensely congested.

Ten grains of Barium Nitrate were given to a dog by the mouth. No marked symptoms for 17 hours, then violent convulsions, vomiting and purging occurred; and in 28 hours paralysis set in. He recovered in 4 days.

Twenty grains were given to another dog. Vomiting and purging in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours, and convulsions in 6. Recovered in 2 days.

Another dog received 30 grains. In 22 hours there were convulsions and purging. He recovered in 2 days.

[My object in citing these cases is to emphasize the fact that in lethal experiments not one animal but many are required, and also to insist that all the phenomena shall be accepted, and even in single instances.]

A large dog was given 60 grains of Barium Nitrate. In 8 hours he had convulsions and purging, and he passed a large quantity of urine. In 23 hours paralysis of the hind legs occurred. He recovered in 2 days.

To another large dog 120 grains were given. In one hour there were convulsions, purging, and vomiting. He had great thirst, and voided a large quantity of urine. Death in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. The brain was normal. The lungs, liver, kidneys, all the intestines, and especially the rectum, were deeply congested. The bladder was empty.

Note, if you please, the fact that this large dose produced congestion of the intestines, and that it is the only instance of that effect. Observe also that of the dogs which died no brain lesions are recorded; a fact that necessitates lethal provings on different species of animals.

Dr. Campbell introduced 12 grains of the Carbonate of Baryta into an incision in the neck of a cat, and on the third day there was languor, slow respirations, and a feeble pulse; towards eve-

ning the animal became affected with convulsions of the hind legs; had dilated pupils, and death followed not long afterwards. [Christison.]

Furthermore, in all the animals, which in Dr. Campbell's experiments were killed by the application of the Muriate of Baryta to wounds, the brain and its membranes were much injected, and in one of them the appearances were precisely those of congestive apoplexy. [Christison.]

Gmelin observed in his experiments slight inflammation of the stomach, and marked symptoms of an action on the brain, spine, and voluntary muscles. He found the voluntary muscles destitute of contractility immediately after death; yet the heart continued to contract vigorously for some time even without the application of any stimulus. [Christison.]

The Muriate, when given in a dose of two drachms daily, produced sudden death on the 15th day without any previous symptoms of note.

From his experiments Blake pronounced the salts of Barium to be "the most powerful of all the inorganic poisons in their action on the heart, when they are injected into the veins. A quarter of a grain of the Chloride appreciably depresses arterial action; 2 grains completely arrest the heart's action in 12 seconds and when it is injected back into the aorta from the axillary artery, it causes at first some obstruction to the capillary circulation, but soon arrests the action of the heart, as when it is introduced into the veins."

The next investigations in this direction were made by Onsum in 1863, Cyon in 1866, Blake, of San Francisco, in 1874, Micwitz, 1874, and Boehm in 1875.

Hoppe Seyler had found that a dog, which died two weeks after the administration of Carbonate of Baryta, presented "numerous hæmorrhagic spots in lungs, the tissue of which was breaking down." Onsum sought to show that "the poisonous action of these salts is primarily on the lungs, and that particles of an insoluble mineral compound become precipitated within the blood, and cause impaction of the branches of the pulmonary artery. Carbonate of Baryta was given to a rabbit in increasing doses. When the quantity amounted to 3 grains daily, symptoms first appeared. Five hours after the poison was swallowed the animal was found lying motionless, with the respiration much quickened. Sensation appeared to be diminished. The difficulty of respiration and the paralysis increased, and the temperature fell, till in 6 hours the animal died. Small coagula were found in the branches of the pulmonary artery. Portions of the lung sub-

stance were firm, not crepitating, and redder than the normal tissue. Miliary ecchymoses were found on the surface of the lungs, and also in the stomach. Other experiments gave similar results."

According to Onsum, "the symptoms always commence in the lungs, the respiration becomes quicker and less deep, and the inspiratory murmur is inaudible; the heart's action, however, becomes more frequent. Afterwards restlessness is noticed, with loss of power, which at last amounts to paralysis."

Boehm says: "The surmise of Onsum that the poison is converted in the blood into an insoluble sulphate, which, in an entirely mechanical manner produces emboli in the lungs, has been confuted by Cyon." Then the older teaching of Orfila that the Muriate of Barytes "produces death by acting upon the nervous system, and coagulating the blood," deserves notice; and we must bear in mind "the small coagula found in the branches of the pulmonary artery."

I, myself, set a high value upon Onsum's experiments, because they teach that the endermic application of the poison is the best method for introducing it, as, with moderate doses, death is not then so rapid, and the effects of the poison are more slowly developed; also that when the poison is given in a single large dose the most characteristic results are not produced; and, lastly, that convulsions are not observed when the doses are small and the poisoning gradual.

I turn now to a synopsis of the results observed in the joint researches of Mickwitz and Boehm.

After injecting Soluble Barium Salts into the lymph-sacs of frogs there occurred: "Mucous secretion from the skin, distension of the air-sacs, rigid extension of the limbs, convulsive movements under irritation, followed by relaxation and paralysis of the voluntary muscles first, and then those of respiration. Meanwhile the abdomen was tumid, and vigorous peristaltic motion was visible through its walls; the lungs were distended, and active irritation of the animal extorted from it a loud and unnatural cry.

"In mammals a similar injection into the veins immediately excites tonic and clonic convulsions, a discharge of urine and fæces, and general paresis, or if the dose has been excessive death in convulsions may ensue.

"By the stomach the poison does not exhibit any effect for 15 or 20 minutes, then alvine evacuations take place, the abdomen is distended, and the peristaltic movements of the bowels are visible.

“In dogs profuse salivation occurs, with vomiting and prolonged straining. Gradually extreme muscular debility follows, and the pupils dilate, but perception does not appear to be extinct until death, which is attended with slight spasms.

“The action of the poison on the heart is essentially the same in frogs and mammals. It occasions a contraction of the heart, which is more or less prolonged according to the dose given, and, as a consequence, augments the pressure of the arterial blood column. If, however, the dose is excessive the heart is paralyzed, and not made rigid.”

Boehm says: “The investigations made by Mickwitz, under the direction of the writer, have defined somewhat more precisely the nature of this cardiac paralysis. Although it is not possible to determine from them whether this paralysis is confined solely to the cardiac nerves, or affects also the muscles of the organ, still, the cessation of the heart's action during *systole* has been shown to be a constant phenomenon both in warm and cold-blooded animals: in mammals (cats) especially, the cartilaginous consistency of the left ventricle is striking. In this connection the parity of action between barium and digitalis can hardly be overlooked. The blood-pressure increases enormously after the injection of small quantities of barium solutions into the veins, but the increase is, as a rule, preceded by a not inconsiderable lowering of the pressure. The increase often occurs very suddenly, and the pressure not infrequently becomes three or four times as great as before; at the same time the pulse becomes much more rapid. Increasing the dose then causes a steep sinking of the pressure-curve, and paralysis of the heart. Division of the spinal cord in the neck does not at all interfere with the development of this phenomenon, and hence it does not appear improbable that the muscular coats of the vessels, as well as the heart, are affected by the poison. This hypothesis receives support also from the state of excessive contraction into which the smooth muscular fibres of the intestine and bladder are thrown by the poison. Both organs lose their *lumina* completely in cases of barium poisoning. This peculiarity, which has not hitherto been noticed by any other writer, and which can be recognized even during life by the exceedingly active peristaltic movements of the intestines that are visible through the abdominal walls, seems to us to afford a sufficient explanation of the alleged gastro-intestinal symptoms (diarrhœa and vomiting). It indicates a certain preference of barium for the tissues of non-striated muscular fibres, or for the nerves contained in them, which is characteristic of the poison.”

Just here it will be well to mention Blake's experiment with the Chloride of Barium; the subject thereof being a dog: "A solution containing 0.25 grs. of Chloride of Barium was injected into the jugular: 12", the arterial pressure slightly increased; 1', action of the heart slower. Inject 0.50 grs.; 10", slight diminution of the pressure, heart's action fluttering; 14", pressure increased 1 inch above the level before the injection. Inject 1 gr.: 11", pressure diminishing with fluttering action of the heart; 14", pressure again increased, heart's action slower and very irregular, two or three quick beats and then a number of slow ones. Inject 2 grs.: 12", action of heart arrested; respiration continued irregular for 1'30". It then became intermittent and ceased 2'45" after the heart had stopped. On opening the thorax the auricles were contracting vigorously, and continued contracting for some minutes. The ventricles were still, and did not contract when irritated. The left cavities contained scarlet blood. Five minutes after the thorax had been opened the muscles [of the thorax] commenced contracting and continued in motion for fifteen minutes."

"This action on the muscles is most strongly marked after the injection of the salts of Strontia and Baryta, and shows itself sometimes in a curious manner. In one instance in an animal killed by Chloride of Strontium, there were no movements until ten minutes after death. The muscles of the ear then commenced contracting, so as to cause it to move; and from this point the muscular contractions spread until all the muscles of the trunk and limbs were in motion, and they continued contracting more than a quarter of an hour. The longest time after death in which I have observed these spontaneous contractions of muscles has been forty-five minutes; this was in the muscles of the penis and scrotum of a dog that had been killed by the injection of Chloride of Barium into the veins. It is probable that the occurrence of respiratory movements so long after death, in one instance seven minutes, is connected with the action of these substances on the muscles, as the contractions they cause are not simply contractions of individual muscles, but coördinated movements. This action on the voluntary muscles is curiously contrasted with their action on the muscular tissue of the heart."

I ascribe no particular to this curious post mortem phenomenon, and have cited it only in probable explanation of that reëstablishment of respiratory movements which Brodie had previously recorded.

Boehm shall give us the last deduction from this scientific holocaust: "In cold-blooded animals the other symptoms, caused

by the action of the poison on the nervous system, consist in paralysis of the voluntary muscles, which is, however, preceded by a peculiar state of rudimentary, clonic spasms.

Frequent tetanic spasms are seldom absent in animals. The disturbances of the respiration are evidently dependent upon the anomalies of the circulation which precede them.

We may fitly close this part of our off-hand study with a brief recapitulation of the chief effects upon the lower order of animals:

1. *Dilatation of pupils* appears to be a constant resultant. This phenomenon is due to irritation of the cervical sympathetic, and finds its chief value to us in this study, because it indicates the condition of the blood-vessels; their calibre being decreased from the tonic contraction of the muscular coat. This involves increased arterial pressure, and this, again, produces a slowing of the heart's action. Then the dilatation of the pupils is in consonance with the feeble, intermittent pulse and failing heart observed by Brodie and others.

"The zone of the spinal marrow, the wounding of which has an influence on the sympathetic branches, does not extend downwards below the level of the second dorsal vertebra; but at the present time its upper boundary cannot be specified with certainty." Bear in mind, also, that from the cervical sympathetic arise the three cardiac nerves which form the cardiac plexus.

2. *Motor and sensory paralysis* is a constant result. The motor paralysis is of the *ascending variety*; being first observed in the lower extremities. Then this action on the spinal cord must begin at a point not higher than the eleventh dorsal vertebra. From thence it proceeds upwards as the paralysis becomes general.

3. *Heart-failure* is a constant result of toxic doses. I do not call it *paralysis* when the ventricles are thrown into tetanic spasm; and I regard this condition as only an exaggeration of that tonic spasm which the Baric Salts produce in the arteries. It is called "paralysis" because of the lack of excitability evinced by the heart when irritants are applied to it. Why should we talk of paralysis when the extinction of "irritability" is death.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

BLATTA ORIENTALIS.

Synonym: Indian cockroach.

Class: Insecta.

Order: Orthoptera.

Common name (Indian): Talápoka.

The *Blatta orientalis* is a common insect in India where it is found abundantly in the dwelling houses. It has rather a flat

body, from an inch to couple inches in length, deep brown colour. It can fly a short distance. The wings reach beyond the body and cover it completely, the feet have several segments and are provided with prickles.

Preparation.—The live animal is crushed and triturated as under class IX of American Homœopathic Pharmacopœia, a tincture can be prepared as under class IV of the same Pharmacopœia.

This new unknown remedy has a curious anecdote connected with it. I call it new because it has not been mentioned in any of our medical works, although the use of *Blatta Americana* (American cockroach) as a remedy for dropsy has been mentioned in journals. The Indian cockroach is used not in cases of dropsy but in cases of *Asthma*, a most obstinate disease to deal with. In asthma it acts almost specifically. Before I further proceed to give an account of this new invaluable drug, I shall narrate here a short story, how it came into use. Some years ago an elderly gentleman had long been suffering from Asthma for over twenty years. He took all measures and tried different methods of both recognized and unrecognized medical treatments, but unfortunately all proved in vain. At last he gave up all treatment and was getting fits daily. He was brought to such a deplorable condition that he was left to suffer. He was in the habit of taking tea. One afternoon as usual he drank his cup of tea—afterwards he noticed that his oppression in the chest was much less and that he was feeling unusually better, so much so that he felt himself a different being. This led him and his friends to inquire into the cause of it. He immediately inferred that the relief was due to the drinking of the *tea*, although he habitually drank the same tea but never before had experienced any such changes. So, this change he attributed to something in the tea. The servant who prepared the tea was sent for and inquired. His reply was that he made the tea as usual and there was nothing new in it. The residue of the tea cup was carefully examined, nothing was found there, but on examining the tea-pot a dead cockroach was discovered. So it was concluded that this *infusion* of cockroach did the gentleman a world of good. The very day he drank that *cup of tea*, he had hardly any fit of asthma at night, and in a few days he got entirely well to his and his friends' surprise. The accounts of his Providential recovery were communicated to some of his friends—one of them, not a medical man, but quite an enterprising gentleman took this into his head and resolved upon to try whether cockroach does any good to other asthmatic patients. For this purpose he got a lot of cockroaches, put them alive into

a quantity of boiling water and mixed after filtering the water when cool with almost the same quantity of the rectified spirit of wine, so that it might last for some time without getting soured. This new mixture (or tincture) he began to try in each and every case of asthma that he came across. The dose was a drop each time, 3 or 4 doses daily, and more frequently during the fits of asthma. Within a short time he made some such wonderful recoveries that people began to flock from different parts of the country to his door. Soon the number of attendance was so great that he had to manufacture the medicine by pounds and all this medicine he distributed to patients without any charges. He has records of some of the cases.

Some two years ago a patient of mine asked me whether we make any use of *Telapoka* (cockroach) in our Pharmacopœia. My reply was that we use many loathsome insects as our remedial agents. I told him also that *Blatta Americana*, (American cockroach) I had heard, had been used in cases of dropsy but I had no practical experience with it. He then said the Indian cockroach is used in cases of asthma and he knew several cases had been cured with it. This struck me and I determined to try this in cases of asthma whenever next opportunity occurred. For this purpose I got a lot of cockroaches, killed them alive, pounded to a fine pulp and triturated according to class Ix. of American Homœopathic Pharmacopœia, that is, two parts by weight of the substance and nine parts by weight of sugar of milk, giving Ix. trituration. Thus I prepare up to 3x trituration and also I make an alcoholic solution—a few live cockroaches were crushed and five parts by weight of alcohol poured over them—it was allowed to remain eight days in a dark, cool place, being shaken twice daily. After the expiration of that period the alcoholic solution was poured off, strained and filtered, when it was ready for use. I began to try both the preparations—a drop doses of the tincture and a grain doses of 1x, 2x and sometimes 3x, 3 or 4 times daily when there was no fit and almost every fifteen minutes or half hourly during the severity of a fit. Both preparations began to answer well and I was getting daily more and more encouraged about the efficacy of this new drug. I had the opportunity of trying quite a number of cases of asthma within this short time, the reports of which I wish to publish in the future, but for the present I am glad to say in many cases it acted almost specifically, that is, the whole trouble cleared away within a fortnight or so without recurrence. In some cases the severity of paroxysm was lessened and the recurrence of the fits took place at a longer

interval; in others again only temporary benefit was observed. This failure to benefit all cases alike I attribute to many circumstances. Some people did not, rather could not take the medicine regularly according to my directions owing to their untoward circumstances; some persons were suffering from other complications along with asthma; some again got temporary relief and in the meantime discontinued the medicine and came back again when there was a recurrence of the fits, that is, they did not continue the drug for sufficient length of time. Some cases again, not having derived immediate benefit, got impatient and discontinued the medicine without proper trial. Besides all these, I think individual idiosyncrasy has a great thing to do. The season of the year has some influence. It is usually observed in this country that those who are subject to periodical attacks of asthmatic fits are more prone to an attack, either during the full or the new moon, or at both the times. I believe if it is properly watched this fact will be evident all over the world. Same is true of some other diseases, as chronic cough, chronic fevers, rheumatism, either acute or chronic, gout, elephantiasis, other glandular enlargements, etc., get aggravated or are prone to aggravation during such changes of the moon. Then some people get more severe and frequent fits during the winter than the summer and the others more during the summer than the winter. Let me here tell you that the Indian summer is very different from either the English or the American. Some part of the Indian summer season is quite rainy and the atmosphere is saturated with moisture and other irritating ingredients, consequently a class of asthmatic people suffer more during this season. I noticed to this class of cases *Blatta orientalis* will prove most efficacious. I have used it in bronchial and nervous asthma with better success than the stomachæ. However, there is no specific drug for any disease and I do not consider it a specific for asthma, but I dare say, *Blatta orientalis* will prove efficacious in a majority of cases of asthma, leaving those cases aside that have individual idiosyncrasy, etc. I hope, it will have a better place in our Materia Medica than Arsenicum Ipecac, Lobelia, etc., in cases of asthma. I earnestly request that some of us should come forward and have the drug proven. In case we are in want of such enthusiasm, let us try the drug *empirically* when opportunity happens, and have the detailed records of each case published so that we may come to some practical data. I have more to say on the subject in the future.

D. N. RAY, M. D

65 Beadon street, Calcutta, India.

HELODERMA HORRIDUS.

If it is questioned by any one whether the bite of this hideous lizard is poisonous I think it is fairly answered by the statement of the following occurrence:

A happy family of six Gila monsters had been kept in a show-case for a couple months at a prominent store in this city. The animals had eaten heartily and had crawled around as circumstances required; still they slept most of the time and acted sluggishly. One day this case was removed out of doors and placed where the sun's rays poured sharply upon it. Within a short time these animals began to act queerly. They seemed excited and worked themselves in strange convulsive ways. Their tails, which hitherto depended as ornaments, now commenced to thrash, and the animals started upon a quick trot around the cage. As they touched one another they would snap. This was a new feature, as previously they had crawled over one another as over stones and the one trodden upon made no kind of a remonstrance. Soon one monster caught another and bit its legs and feet. A free fight ensued, each one biting and snapping at anything within reach. Within a few hours from the time of the placing of the cage in the open sunlight all the monsters were dead. Upon careful examination there was no wound of any size to be found, such as should have caused death. There was no severe injury; no loss of blood or of any vital fluid whatever. If these animals had not died from poison it would be hard to guess what was the cause of their death, and there was no other poison in the cage than that which they contained. It is not remarkable that there was no abrasion of the skin, as it must be remembered that the teeth are small, short and fine-pointed, about the size of a coarse sewing machine needle at its point, and the hide of the monster is as tough as that of the crocodile, but of smaller scales and also thinner.

The effect of the sun's rays will be seen to correspond to the well-known influence which the same agent has upon rattlesnakes and other venomous reptiles. A rattlesnake kept in a dark and cool place may be handled with comparative safety; but the same animal is extremely dangerous when he has been exposed to the sun's rays for a time.

Experiments have been made upon dogs in this section, and invariably when the monster has bitten a dog the victim is dead within a few hours. The symptoms generally given are as follows: First, the dog breathes heavily, and, his head hanging down, his tongue protrudes more than naturally. After a short

time he is unable to stand upon his legs; his head is then extended, probably to more readily gain breath, as the throat becomes swollen inside. A shuddering or shaking of the muscles, in an irregular manner, takes place occasionally, and the animal dies without any marked spasms or convulsions.

Mr. Vail, of Tucson, whose case was reported in THE RECORDER, has recovered from the bite he received about three months ago. The only perceptible result has been a swollen tongue, which seems unwilling to resume its former proportions. The treatment in his case was that so strongly recommended by European authority: profuse sweating by administration of Jaborandi. Mr. Vail says that his suffering was intense, the pain proceeding from the wounded part toward the head and back. Immediately after receiving the wound, which was upon his index finger, both the wrist and finger was tightly bandaged. Medical assistance was not procured for two hours. Then the wound was cleansed and dressed and the bandages reapplied. It was found that for three days those intense pains would shoot toward the head and spine upon giving any relief to the bandages.

It is generally understood that a victim who is pretty well "pickled" with bad rum will certainly die from the bite. Mr. Vail's case is a negative instance in favor of the theory. He was a man of temperate habits. An affirmative instance is that of a miner, living not far from here, who is supposed to have died a short time ago from the effects of a bite, after having laid in a lingering, death-like state for several months. He was bitten while drunk.

It appears that man does not die so quickly from the effects of this poison as other animals do, but that all cases well authenticated show a long, lingering, wasting sickness.

Yours, very truly,

CHAS. D. BELDEN, M. D.

Phoenix, Arizona, Sept. 8th, 1890.

CEANOTHUS IN LEUCORRHŒA AND SUPPRESSION OF THE MENSES.

A married lady, aged about 28, had menstruated first at the age of 14, when she was married. Since then she menstruated regularly every month for six years, but she did not bear any child, although she looked apparently healthy in every way. On the twenty-first year of her age, that is in June, 1876, she had an attack of malarious intermittent fever, in which her spleen got enormously enlarged. She was living in a village in the ma-

larious district of Jalpaigure, where her husband was employed under a jute-merchant. There she caught the poison of *Malaria*. She was *apparently* cured of the fever by large doses of Quinine, but the spleen remained enlarged. Since then she would every now and then get an attack of intermittent fever. In this way she suffered from fever for nearly two years, and, as a matter of course, she became very anæmic, lean and thin, and she looked as if jaundiced. Her brother, a native doctor, learning that his sister was thus ailing, brought her down to Calcutta for treatment. As long as she was with her husband she took patent medicines, supposed to be specifics for malarious fevers, the ingredients of which are known to the proprietors only, sometimes with some benefit, and sometimes with no benefit whatever. I was consulted. This was in August, 1887. When I examined the patient, I learned from inquiry that the fever was of the Quartan type. Her spleen was very much enlarged on all sides and so indurated that it felt like a stone. She was extremely anæmic and looked as if jaundiced like a chlorotic patient. She also had dysenteric-diarrhœa and œdema of the eyelids, hands and feet. She had no menses, but profuse leucorrhœa which came out like a stream since the first attack of the fever. The œdema led me to the suspicion of the presence of albumen in the urine, and on examination, an appreciable quantity of albumen was detected in the urine. I prescribed Arsenicum alb. 30., three doses daily. Arsenic was given in this way for a week and the fever stopped. I ordered the discontinuance of Arsenic for the next one week. The fever did not recur, but the diarrhœa continued. Arsenic was again prescribed for two weeks more. The diarrhœa was checked and the fever also did not recur. Œdema had also gone. On examination no albumen was found in the urine. Now the medicine was discontinued for two weeks. Still the fever did not recur, nor the œdema. But the leucorrhœa continued still very profuse and the menstruation also remained yet suppressed; the spleen also remained enlarged and indurated as before, and yet the patient began to gain flesh and blood. I prescribed *Ceanothus* ψ , in five-drop doses internally, three times a day, as also over the spleen as an external application. In this way *Ceanothus* ψ was continued for two weeks. It made no impression on the spleen whatever, but the leucorrhœa had gone, and the menstruation, which remained so long suppressed, reappeared on the 18th day of the administration of *Ceanothus*. She menstruated regularly every month for six months or so and there was no leucorrhœa during that period. The fever

did not return, but the spleen remained enlarged and indurated as before, in spite of Ceanothus treatment which was continued over four months; from a perusal of what has been extracted in Hale's "New Remedies" regarding Ceanothus from the *Atlanta Medical Journal*, as I took it to be like "Newton's apple" in the domain of so called charming remedies for intermittents, with enlarged and indurated Spleen, as I have already said in my treatise on "Fevers and their treatment on Homœopathic principles." In the middle of June, 1882, she caught cold and her menstruation was suppressed and leucorrhœa again commenced. The leucorrhœal discharges were so profuse and so corroding that the labiæ, perineum and the parts of the thigh which came in contact with the discharges, became quite ulcerated. There was also burning and scalding during micturition. Ceanothus was again prescribed in five-drop doses as before and continued for a fortnight. On the thirteenth day of the administration of Ceanothus leucorrhœa stopped, and on the eighteenth day menses reappeared. Since then she was menstruating regularly every month at the usual time, with normal discharge, but the spleen remained enlarged and indurated. The fever did not recur. The husband of the patient having taken service in Assam she also accompanied him there in June, 1883. From that time she had no leucorrhœa and her menstruation was regular till September following; when she conceived. In May, 1884, she gave birth to a healthy male child. The labor, I was told, was rather a tedious one. She did not menstruate till June, 1885, but had leucorrhœal discharge ever since the child was born. Again the patient began to lose flesh, and became so weak and anæmic, and her husband was so alarmed at the general debility and prostration of his wife that he at once came down to Calcutta for her treatment and consulted me again. When I saw her I noticed no fever, but the spleen remained enlarged and indurated as before; she was extremely anæmic; there were diarrhœa, œdema of the eyeids, hands and feet, especially the ankle-joints, and much urinary difficulties. I prescribed Arsenic 30., three doses daily. Arsenic was given for two weeks, and all the symptoms disappeared; except enlargement of the spleen, the leucorrhœa, and suppression of the menses, with occasional swelling of the sub-maxillary, axillary and inguinal glands which were painful. Ceanothus ψ was again prescribed in five-drop doses and leucorrhœa went off in about three weeks and menses appeared, but the spleen remained enlarged and indurated as before. She went back to Assam in June, 1886. In March following she conceived again and in December following she gave birth to an-

other healthy male child. In February, 1888, the husband of the patient wrote to me to say that his wife had no other complaints than enlargement of the spleen which became painful every now and then, with occasional painful swelling of the sub-maxillary and axillary glands. I prescribed Cod-liver Oil, five drops noon and night, after meals, and advised the husband to give his wife a change to the Northwestern Provinces where she was sent. She remained there for nine months or so and got rid of her enlarged spleen, without any medication whatever. In February last, the husband of the patient wrote to me to say that his wife had no other complaints than occasional painful swelling of the sub-maxillary glands even on slight exposure to cold or night dews. I suspected scrofulous taint and accordingly I prescribed Cod-liver Oil in five-drop doses, noon and night, after meals as before, which was continued for six months. The husband of the patient saw me here last week and told me that his wife was quite well, and that she had nothing to complain of regarding her health.

Seeing the very good results which I got from the use of *Ceanothus* in leucorrhœa and suppressed menses in this case, I tried it of late in ten or twelve cases of leucorrhœa and suppressed menses, coming from the malarious districts of Nuddea, Wurdwan and Hoogly, proceeding evidently from *malarial anæmia*, and I am glad to say all the cases were much benefited by this medicine except one, who died of chronic malarial infection in May last. I should, therefore, recommend that this medicine be given a fair trial by the profession in the treatment of leucorrhœa and suppression of the menses, proceeding from *malarial anæmia* and other causes of malarial origin, when opportunity offered. I am, however, sorry that I cannot endorse, from personal experience, the opinion expressed in the *Atlanta Medical Journal*, and quoted by Dr. E. M. Hale in his "New Remedies," regarding the efficacy of *Ceanothus* in intermittents, with enlarged and indurated spleen, because I have been singularly unfortunate in the treatment of the malady with this agent, as I have already said in my treatise on "Fevers and their treatment on Homœopathic principles," page 93.

The readers will kindly remember what I have said in my article on "Aurum Metallicum and Syphilis," published in page 145, No. 4, Vol. V., of THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER, of July, 1890, regarding the efficacy of Cod-liver oil in cases supposed to have constitutional taint, as that of Syphilis, Scrofula, etc. The case under review, I believe, supports me in that belief.

R. K. GHOSH, M. D.

70—1, Mániktálá Street, Calcutta, August 26th, 1890.

FERRUM PHOSPHORICUM.*

Whatever we may think of Schuessler's theory, as homœopaths we ought to be profoundly thankful to him for the introduction of *Ferrum Phosphoricum* into *Materia Medica*.

In his lectures on clinical medicine the late Professor Farrington spoke of ferrum phosphoricum as a "breech presentation" because it had been used by the profession before provings of it had been made. Dr. Houghton recently declared that we ought not to reject the remedy on that account. "There is many a man now doing cephalic service who came by a breech presentation; the remedy had no choice as to method of introduction into the medical world."

Enough has already been learned of its use to warrant us in employing it and to convince us of the importance of even more thoroughly proving it.

It is the purpose of this paper to give to the society a compilation of the indications for this valuable drug. The published works of Professors T. F. Allen and Farrington have been largely drawn upon. Though the latter gave no separate lecture upon this drug, yet with his wonderful clearness, here and there, when contrasting it with other remedies, he has given accurate indications for its use. Then, too, notes taken by your essayist from lectures by Professors Mohr, Betts and Goodno and Dr. Ivens of the Hahnemann Medical College, of Philadelphia, have supplied much of the material for the present article.

The most frequent mental symptoms are a vaguely expressed, restless, intolerant feeling and a sense of drowsiness. About the head there are sharp pains, especially on the right side, extending from right brow to right ear; also an aching vertex and extending over sides of the head, made worse by holding head down. It is indicated in meningitis when the pulse is soft and full and where there is marked drowsiness. It is also valuable for the violent headaches occurring during menstruation. In headache extreme sensitiveness of the head is a valuable symptom.

EFFECTS UPON MUSCLES AND JOINTS.

We find rheumatic pains in various parts, but especially in right shoulder. The pains are of a pinching character, with soreness in the socket and a weak condition of the arm. There are also shooting pains from the shoulder down the arm.

These symptoms remind us forcibly of *ferrum metallicum*, but

*Read at the regular monthly meeting of Onondaga County Homœopathic Society, September 2d, 1890, Syracuse, N. Y.

competent observers consider *ferrum phosphoricum* much superior here.

In inflammatory rheumatism, characterized by great soreness, many observers unite in declaring it superior to *arnica*. In rheumatic pains occurring in old people it will often be found indicated.

ACUTE INFLAMMATION AND THE RESPIRATORY TRACT.

Its effects upon acute inflammatory processes, especially of the respiratory tract, are the most useful of all. Schuessler recommended it as a substitute for *aconite*. Homœopaths should never confound the indications for these two drugs. *Ferrum phosphoricum* has a pulse that is full, round and soft. The discharge, if it is a mucous membrane that is involved, is blood-streaked. It is very valuable in that stage of inflammation described as dilatation of the blood vessels. Given at this stage it will often prevent further progress of the disease.

Thus in engorgement of the lungs it prevents subsequent pneumonia. The chest feels sore and bruised; the pulse is full and round—not rope-like as under *aconite*. Hence when a phthisical patient takes cold and becomes greatly prostrated *ferrum phosphoricum*, high or low, will quickly relieve the pulmonary congestion. So, too, in pneumonia when secondary congestion threatens to be, the last straw that will decide the issue against your patient, *ferrum phosphoricum* will often come to the rescue.

In capillary bronchitis, if given early when there is restlessness, not quite as much anxiety as *aconite*, both lungs involved, fever high, skin hot, it may clear up the case in twenty-four hours.

It is also valuable early in pneumonia when the symptoms given above indicate it, especially when the patient is drowsy; also in those cases where bronchitis is prominent. Before leaving the respiratory tract we ought to notice its value in sub-acute laryngitis after *aconite* or *gelsemium* at the commencement of expectoration. In laryngeal phthisis it is secondary only to *arsenicum iodatum*. Before the stage of ulceration it is most valuable—the cough being severe and worse in the evening.

ALIMENTARY TRACT.

Its most constant symptoms of the stomach and abdomen are cravings especially for brandy which seems to relieve the stomach symptoms; nausea in the morning followed by heartburn and eructations of gas and a greasy fluid; much flatus in abdomen, stools soft and easy, pain in transverse colon.

It has been successfully used in dyspepsia with loss of appe-

tite, nausea and vomiting after eating, aggravated by ingestion of acids. It is indicated in cholera infantum with red face, full soft pulse; stools watery or even bloody. Sometimes in summer complaint of children, the blood vessels become greatly distended; stools watery—containing mucus and blood. There may be a little urging to stool but no tenesmus. When this latter symptom comes, *ferrum phosphoricum* ceases to be the remedy. Though it again becomes useful in these cases later, if hydrocephaloid symptoms appear—when the face is flushed, child is drowsy, the eyes suffused with blood, and the characteristic pulse.

URINARY SYMPTOMS.

It is one of the remedies to be considered in hemorrhages from the bladder; is valuable for an irritable or inflamed bladder, with frequent urging. This last symptom is especially aggravated by standing. Also to be thought of in retention of urine in children with the characteristic fever.

While *ferrum jodatum* is useful for nocturnal enuresis, *ferrum phosphoricum* is better for diurnal with symptoms otherwise the same.

FEMALE COMPLAINTS.

It has proven useful in dysmenorrhœa with sacral pains, headache, frequent urging to urinate and pains in left ovary.

COMPARISONS WITH OTHER DRUGS.

At the risk of wearying you I wish to repeat some comparisons with other drugs.

Its fereî is not the sthenic form, with hard, wiry pulse and anxiety of *aconite*, but the asthenic variety, with much prostration, full and soft pulse and drowsy though often intolerant mental condition. Here its indications remind us of those for *gelsemium*, but this latter remedy has great muscular weakness or even a paralytic condition and more vertigo, with consequent disinclination to do anything.

In rheumatism remember its close resemblance to *arnica* and that it is even better for cases characterized by great soreness with which we are wont to associate *arnica*. Remember also its superiority to *ferrum* in rheumatism for the drawing, tearing pains in right shoulder and down the right arm.

Ferrum phosphoricum seems to be especially suitable to many conditions found in old people when fatty degeneration of various tissues is taking place as is *phosphorous*. Its effects upon the circulation as given above also closely resemble its other element, *ferrum*. *Hamamelis* ought also to be studied in this connection.

Doubtless future provings will reveal to us much more of this valuable remedy; yet already enough has been given to show its

individuality and to enable us to successfully prescribe it upon strictly Homœopathic principles in a larger range of diseased conditions. As scientific prescribers let us frown down its empirical use, too often found among so-called Homœopathists and let us study more closely this valuable drug that we may work out even finer shades of symptoms, thus enlarging its usefulness to humanity.

B. W. SHERWOOD, A. M., M. D.

PASSIFLORA IN THE LIQUOR AND MORPHINE HABIT.

EDITOR OF HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

I take pleasure in complying with the request contained in your favor of the 16th inst., but for the present shall content myself by citing the one and principal case in which I used *Passiflora Incarnata* so successfully.

Mr. D—, æt. 52, sent for me to attend him during the month of May. I found him presenting all the prodromal symptoms of delirium tremens, and at once ordered him to bed and none too soon, as the event proved. For seven days he tossed about in a wild delirium, which was greatly aggravated by marked gastric irritation. I had him carefully watched, both day and night, until the delirium wore off. The treatment up to this time was *Cannibas Ind.* for the mental trouble and *Nux v.*, which greatly relieved the gastric symptoms. But the moment he began to improve the old cravings for liquor and morphine returned. Right here let me say, that for years he has been a great sufferer from piles, and the only rest he could get was to sit propped up in his chair. His sufferings caused him to seek relief during the day in liquor and at nights in morphine. And this habit had so fastened itself upon him that try as he might he could not give it up. When he came under my treatment I at once put a stop to all stimulents and narcotics, but not without considerable trouble, for he seemed determined to have them. Night after night he would lie there calling for something to make him sleep, and this kept up until he was bordering on a state of insanity. Fully realizing that something must be done, and that quickly, too, I made up my mind to try *Passiflora*. This I did, and from the time I gave him the first dose improvement set in and has continued ever since. I at first gave him a half teaspoonful of the ϕ at bed time, but this not proving sufficient I increased it to a teaspoonful. He has now been taking it almost constantly

for a period of eight weeks and claims he has not had as natural a sleep for years; and lays particular stress on the fact that when he awakes in the morning he feels so refreshed and his mind remains so clear. But what seems even more wonderful is that from the day he first took this drug up to the present he has never felt the slightest desire to return to his former habits. The mere mention of liquor or opium seems to sicken him, and I am fully satisfied that he is now cured and will (so far as liquor and opium are concerned,) remain so. He now takes special delight in praising the drug to his friends, and really seems never to tire talking about the wonderful help it has been to him. I have also prescribed the drug to others for insomnia and always with success, one case excepted, in which I gave it for hemicrania and here, although it quieted the patient, it failed to produce the desired sleep. This inclines me to think that we get a better action from it when we have great bodily exhaustion. I am also led to believe that it has a more decided action on the male sex. I now purpose to try it on myself and whatever proving I may get will forward to you.

With many thanks for your kindness I enclose you these few lines and trust they may find their way into the columns of your valuable journal.

Very respectfully yours,

D. C. BUELL DUNLEVY.

Port Chester, N. Y., Sep. 20, 1890.

FALLACIES IN MEDICINE.

Dr. J. S. Cain, President of the Nashville Academy of Medicine, in his annual address at the last meeting of that body, spoke on the subject of "Fallacies in Medicine." Homœopathy came in for the following:

"To this class also belongs the exclusive pathy monger, who with his little bundle of infinitesimals and high potencies, and his constricted theories and narrow conceptions, weaves a woof of sophistry and fallacy about his chrysalis form, where without the faculty or merits of further evolution, in his narrow limits and with his meager stock and restricted ideas, he attracts the credulous and unwary, as do his co-workers in other departments of quackery and humbuggery. He fails to find a congenial field for labor and practice in honorable medicine, whose empire is as broad as the universe, and whose explorers draw

from the entire organic and inorganic kingdoms their treasures, and extract from them all that promises relief to suffering humanity, and which does not exact from its votaries any obedience to theory or dosage further than to employ the remedies with which nature has so bountifully surrounded us in an open, dignified and honorable manner. Rather, he fences himself apart with a ridiculous theory and an assumed importance, declaring that he is of a new school and improved system, all the while employing upon his misguided and deluded victims the same remedies and dosage employed by the regular profession so far as his limited stock of medical knowledge will enable him. I will with these allusions dismiss this class. They are with us and often humiliating amongst us, but not of us. Their sphere is with the ever credulous public, upon which they feed and fatten, and often flourish like a green bay tree."

The reader, who does not let his feelings run away with his head, will notice two things in the foregoing; first that the speaker seems to be putting a strong control on himself to keep from breaking out in a passion, and, second, that he does not advance a single reason which justifies him in classing Homœopathy among the medical fallacies. Probably Dr. Cain knows nothing whatever about Homœopathy, but, obsessed by that unscientific spirit which arises in the minds of thousands of otherwise very estimable gentlemen whenever *Similia* is mentioned condemns it without ever having read a line of its deep science—a science before which all the modern discoveries in medicine pale into insignificance.

While Dr. Cain confines himself to mere denunciation in alluding to Homœopathy, and fails to show wherein it ever harmed a single human being—for a fallacy in medicine must be harmful—he is at no loss for material when he comes into the domain occupied by those entitled, according to his ideas, to bear the title "physician." One fallacy he treats as follows:

"To the blind following of fashion, precept and theory, and the unquestioned acceptance of master minds, do we find the first cause of complaint. Many of us perhaps recollect and may have participated in the decline and latter days of the grandest fallacy which ever took hold upon the medical mind. I allude to the practice of blood letting in nearly all diseases, which prevailed as a universal practice for many ages, in all countries, where medicine was studied, and practiced as a science. We read in all the works on practice of the times, the advice to place the patient in a sitting posture and bleed to syncope, and as soon as recovered set up and repeat the bleeding, and this too in dis-

eases where such practice as the present time would be considered little less than murderous." Even its worst opponents never charged Homœopathy with murder as Dr. Cain in the foregoing quotation charges almost his entire medical ancestry.

Here is another sweeping condemnation of ancestors and, indeed, of contemporaries: "The reckless and almost universal practice indulged in for ages, and emphasized with renewed life and vigor by Dr. Cook, of administering calomel in enormous and ptyalizing quantities, in its day was a fearful and fatal fallacy, which the non-professional saw and appreciated, before the trend of public sentiment had dawned upon the blind example following professional mind; and there was reared upon the ruins of this fallacy the abortive and half made up spawn of Thompsonism, afterwards rehashed into Eclecticism."

"Hobbies" are next taken up as "fallacies" and these seem to include everything from A to Izzard, so that without meaning it Dr. Cain pronounces the regular profession to be nothing but fallacy, and sums it all up in the following words: "The mighty sea of professional opinions has been stirred to its profoundest depths, and no one has felt sure of his footing upon old professional ground. Those who at first took shelter upon the islands and accumulated debris of former times have been submerged and borne off seaward by the tide, and, if not wholly flooded or picked up by the fleet of new ideas, cling to the wrecks of former theories. A few yet stand upon the continents of former opinion and cry to the troubled waters to be quiet; but they still lash and fret, and will not down at their bidding."

And this is the condition of the medical world to-day, outside of the rational bounds of Homœopathy. A flood has swept over them, carrying wreck and ruin, and its waters are still rising. There is no dry land for the soles of their feet and their only refuge is on one of the "fleet of new ideas." A fleet that is being whirled along on the crest of the flood—whither? God only knows. Their old positions are admitted to be "fallacies," their new chaos.

THE DUST HEAP.

A Man was once assailed by a strong Stomach-ache which siezed him amidship and ever and anon gave him the grip in any thing but a fraternal manner. The Man went to his cupboard and drank Jamaica Ginger, but it fraternized with the

Stomach-ache merrily and things rapidly grew more liquid. Then several ounces of Whiskey were sent after the Ginger and for a time all went giddy but the Man grew thinner and more wretched. Finally he said, after the manner of men: "I have done all I can to cure the Stomach-ache and now I will let Medical Science take the case." He reflected a moment and concluded to "try" the LIVING PRINCIPLE. While journeying slowly and painfully, being forced to stop frequently, he was hailed by a stern, authoritative voice and looking in the direction whence it came he saw a very imposing Dust Heap. "Who are you?" he asked.

"I am the experience of two thousand years. At a glance I see you are suffering from," and it gave it a Long Latin Name.

"Great Cæsar!" howled the Man. "I thought I had the belly-ache!"

"*Stomachalgia*, Eh?" replied the Heap, "That shows how fortunate you were to come to me."

"But—but," replied the Man, "I thought of trying the LIVING PRINCIPLE."

"The 'living principle'!" replied the Heap in a tone of lower-case scorn. "Why that always foolish, and in dangerous sickness, criminal, principle lies buried in Me, buried hundreds of years ago."

The Man dubiously scratched his head and replied "Is that be so? How much you must know!"

"Precisely," was the reply. "The rubbish of two thousand years! When a thing is found to be bad it is cast on Me. It goes to make up Experience. The longest lifetime is not enough to comprehend my composition."

"I think I'll try the—" began the Man backing away.

"No you wont," replied the Dust Heap derisively. "The new medical Law has put the entire matter in my control and from my wealth of Experience I can stump the brightest practitioner of the 'living principle.' The 'living principle' no longer has a foot-hold on this corner lot."

"Then what am I to do!" exclaimed the Man doubling up with pain.

"Oh, I never am without 'new treatments' with which I experiment on the sick before adding them to myself," replied the Heap, jocularly. "Take some——." The very latest. Recommended by Bumblekopfer, for cases like yours."

Then the Man aided in the advance of medical knowledge, and the Dust Heap was a little higher when he was gathered to his fathers. He died in the regular way. * * *

CORRESPONDENCE.

"THE RED LINE ALONG THE GUMS."

IN THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER for September there appears an article by A. P. Gardiner, M.D., under the caption "Another View of the Red Line." The article calls attention to statements made in my paper, presented to the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, on "The Value and Significance of the Red Line Along the Gums as a Diagnostic Sign of Phthisis Pulmonalis," and apparently questions the explanation given there of the origin and pathology of the red line.

I am sure if Dr. Gardiner and myself had the opportunity of a brief personal interview there would be really no issue between us. My paper was written with only one specific intent, and that was to disestablish the red line along the gums as a diagnostic sign of phthisis pulmonalis. The question of the pathology of the red line was an after and secondary consideration. This point is borne out by a quotation from my article:

"While I felt it was less important to establish the pathology of the red line than to disestablish it as a diagnostic sign, I have tried to discover its exact significance. The line was so generally noted among dispensary patients that I believed it due to one of three causes, or all combined:

"1. To improper care of the teeth.

"2. To an idiosyncratic tendency to the excessive accumulation of dental *débris*, either in the form of tartar, or the deposit of salts from the saliva.

"3. To great general or local connective tissue relaxation and want of tone, permitting the gums to recede from the teeth and a deposition of *débris* to occur."

I am sure Dr. Gardiner will give me credit for the possession of the knowledge concerning the action of mercury upon the gums. I have specifically stated "that, aside from mercurialization, lead poisoning and scurvy, a changed gum line, in the present state of our knowledge, is not diagnostic of phthisis, nor of any other named systemic disease; that as a disease of the gums, the red line may be a local disease from neglect of the teeth, which may find a predisposition in general connective-tissue relaxation; that the red line along the gums can probably be found in any disease giving rise to sufficient debility to cause a loss of

general tissue tone, long enough sustained to allow of a deposition of dental *debris* between the gum edges and the teeth."

I certainly thought of mercury as a possible cause for many of the red lines I saw, but it was the impossibility of establishing with absolute certainty a history of the taking of mercury in these cases that led me to abandon the attempt to prove what proportion of the lines noted were due to the action of mercury, and to assume the broader ground that connective-tissue relaxation, brought about by mercury or any other cause, was sufficient to produce the red line, and also to devote so much space to a description of the *mechanism* of the production of the permanent red line, rather than to attempt an exposition of its possible multiple deeper causes. I could not assert with positiveness, whether I believed or not that many of the lines were caused by mercury, that *all* were so caused; because, had I done so, I would have been placing myself in exactly the same position as the observer who first announced that the red line was diagnostic of phthisis pulmonalis—an assertion based on insufficient and incorrect observation. My fellow-physician, Dr. Gardiner, will also place himself in exactly the same position as the original observer of the red line, if he positively asserts that the red line is always caused by mercury, with this difference, however, that in the very nature of things (if he makes the assertion) it would be nearly impossible to disprove Dr. Gardiner's assertion, and I feel sure the latter gentleman does not place opinion and assertion in a position of greater importance than fact. It has been possible to disprove the value of the red line as a diagnostic sign; it would be next to impossible to prove that all red lines are or are not due to the local and systemic influence of mercury.

I, as has Dr. Gardiner, have noted the effects of mercury on the gums, and I, also with Dr. Gardiner, think of the possibility of mercurialization when I see the red line; but my observation leads me to believe that many factors besides mercury are capable of causing the red line. I, too, have seen the red line before the deposition of debris: "The line appeared in all degrees of intensity, from a slight, distinctly-outlined pinkish blush to a broad blood-red band," and I have, indeed, written poorly if I have so expressed myself that a direct inference can be drawn from a perusal of my entire article that there are no red lines without tartar. I have seen an ephemeral red line in the mouths of children after eating fruit; I have noted a line, not so ephemeral, but without dental debris, in other cases. While it was possible many cases observed by me had taken mercury,

the impossibility of establishing that fact, save in a few rare instances, certainly did not warrant me (although fully aware of the action of mercury) in positively asserting that, simply because I observed the red line, the patients must have taken mercury, and, therefore, I took the broader ground indicated in the several causes given above and placed mercury, beyond mentioning it once, among the factors capable of producing connective tissue relaxation and consequently the red line.

If Dr. Gardiner takes issue with me because I have not given sufficient prominence to mercury among the causative factors in the production of the red line, I will simply say that the influence of mercury as a possible producing cause seemed so generally known, so manifestly apparent, that beyond the definite mention of mercurialization once, I did not deem it necessary to go further. Perhaps I was wrong in this. I regard Dr. Gardiner's article as of value in calling emphatic attention to the necessity of thinking strongly of the possibility of mercurialization whenever the red line is seen—a phase of the subject that was out of the scope and intention of my article. I am glad, therefore, that Dr. Gardiner's article has appeared in THE RECORDER.

EDWARD R. SNADER, M. D.

Philadelphia, Pa.

SELECTIONS AND TRANSLATIONS.

PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN.

(The following, concerning this useful agent, is taken from a paper by the chemist Béné.)

Peroxide of Hydrogen is an absolute necessity in the practice of every physician on account of its wonder working powers, its advantages over other disinfectants and antiseptics are: its easy application, quick action, and freedom from danger of absorption. Surgeons cannot do without it; better results are obtained from it by them than with any other specific. It is especially intended for treatment of all classes of wounds, in which it supercedes the most favorite methods now practised; it works like a charm and is a quick success in every case; it will remove the discoloration of bruises, hence, it will be found very useful in cases of accidental injuries about the face or eyes. Peroxide of Hydrogen had a very limited range as a therapeutical agent at first, its application was almost confined to surgical operations.

only while at present it is employed greatly as an internal remedy. It is the physician's stronghold against microbes of all description. For genito urinary ailments, especially the reproductive organs of the female, Peroxide of Hydrogen has no equal as an efficient remedial agent. When taken internally, for debility and nervousness, it is rejuvenating, strengthening and tonic. Oxygen is absolutely important and invaluable in cases of emergencies to which the daily practitioner is often urgently and hastily summoned to administer, and to restore the dying or apparently dead, as in asphyxia, poisoning, fainting from almost any cause, from loss of blood in profuse hemorrhages, etc.

It is applied as a dressing, on absorbent cotton, to sloughing, ulcerated and gangrenous surfaces, and will rapidly stimulate granulation; it is the most powerful and antiputrid topical application known, and will terminate the process of pus-formation. Its uses are manifold. Dentists use it in the treatment of alveolar abscesses, it is in fact their main reliance. (See lecture of Geo. A. Maxfield, D. D. S., of Holyoke, Mass., published in July number, 1887, of the *Independent Practitioner*). In necrosis, or caries, PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN is forced into the cavities, where it acts as no other agent can act; it will do the same in pulpless teeth. Diluted in water (ten drops to tablespoonful of distilled water) and taken every two hours, it will correct the offensive condition of the breath; while as a tooth-wash it has no superior.

Cases have occurred where foul and indolent ulcers were treated with iodoform, carbolic acid; etc., and have poisoned the patient by absorption; with PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN that is impossible. It is excellent for use in diseases of the middle ear, and will dissolve all pus cell-formation.

There is a wide range for its usefulness in therapeutics and for experiments therein in the future; while to-day, it is no doubt, the *ideal* antiseptic in diphtheria.

Physicians may apply this remedy with perfect safety, provided they use the pure article only, as there is no danger to the patient, even if used in quantity, it is positively *harmless*.

The following are the opinions of well-known physicians who have used PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN in their practice, their views and opinions are correct in every instance, and should be digested very carefully by the readers of this pamphlet.

Extract of a lecture "On the Medicinal Uses of Hydrogen Peroxide, by E. R. SQUIBB, M. D., Brooklyn, read before the Kings County Medical Association, February 5, 1889, and published in *Gaillard's Medical Journal*, March, 1889.

“Throughout the discussion upon diphtheria very little has been said of the use of the PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN, or hydrogen dioxide, yet it is perhaps the most powerful of all disinfectants and antiseptics, acting both chemically and mechanically upon all excretions and secretions, so as to thoroughly change their character and reactions instantly, the few physicians who have used it in such diseases as diphtheria, scarlatina, small pox, and upon all diseased surfaces, whether of skin or mucous membrane, have uniformly spoken well of it so far as this writer knows, and perhaps the reason why it is not more extensively used is that it is so little known and its nature and action so little understood. Until within the last few years (except in a few manufacturing processes) it was chiefly known as a chemical curiosity, rarely seen because difficult to make.” * * *

THE APPLICATION OF MEDICINAL PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN.
(15 Volumes.)

RECIPES.

For *Sore Throat, Quincy, Tonsilitis* and all *Diseases of the Throat.*

1 teaspoonful of Peroxide of Hydrogen with 6 to 8 tablespoonfuls distilled water.

Spray or gargle the throat copiously and frequently with this solution.

For *Scarlatina* and *Diphtheria.*

3 ounces of Peroxide of Hydrogen (15 volumes). 1 pint of pure water.

Use frequently as a gargle or spray and apply in the early stages of the maladies.

For *Vaginal injections* as in *Cancer, etc.*

Use a one-volume solution, thoroughly washing with the same; it may be necessary to increase the strength until the desired effect is produced.

A five-volume solution can also be used, by topical application with a fine camel's hair brush, and sprays.

For *Diphtheria.*

1 tablespoonful of Peroxide of Hydrogen. 8 tablespoonfuls of water.

Spray the nose, throat, mouth, pharynx and larynx copiously and frequently (at least every two hours). When diphtheria is well developed use only one half the above quantity of water, the child may swallow the remedy without discomfort or danger.

For the *Nose, Throat* and *Chest Diseases.*

1 tablespoonful of Peroxide of Hydrogen. 4 to 10 tablespoonfuls of water.

Spray the nose and throat copiously and frequently with an atomizer made of glass and hard rubber.

For *Hay Fever, Rose Cold, Coryza.*

FIRST—Spray the nostrils and throat copiously and frequently with one tablespoonful of Peroxide of Hydrogen. 3 to 8 tablespoonfuls of water. SECOND—Half Peroxide of Hydrogen. Half chemical pure Glycerine.

Ozonized vapors, made from this mixture by means of an atomizer, should be inhaled.

For *Asthma.*

Use same as above, ozonized vapors, and in cases of long standing use also, internally, two or three tumblers full per day of ozonized water made of 1 ounce Peroxide of Hydrogen. 2 pints water.

For *Bronchitis.*

Use same as for Asthma.

For *Laryngitis.*

1 tablespoonful of Peroxide of Hydrogen. 2 to 6 tablespoonfuls of water.

Spray or gargle 3 or 4 times a day.

For *Pharyngitis.*

1 tablespoonful of Peroxide of Hydrogen. 3 to 7 tablespoonfuls of water.

Spray or irrigate copiously 3 to 4 times a day.

For *Gonorrhœa.*

1 tablespoonful of Peroxide of Hydrogen. 3 tablespoonfuls of water. Give 5 or 6 injections daily. Internally use 10 to 15 grains soda bicarb. every three hours, to keep the urine alkaline. Avoid walking as far as possible, avoid also beer, coffee, pepper, etc.; keep the bowels regular.

For *Whooping Cough.*

1 tablespoonful of Peroxide of Hydrogen. 4 to 6 tablespoonfuls of water.

Spray frequently and copiously, use also a mixture of half Peroxide of Hydrogen. Half chemical pure Glycerine.

Mix well and administer by means of a hand atomizer, in the shape of ozonized spray or vapor, which must be inhaled; renew this mixture every three days at least.

For *Catarrh of the Nose.*

1 tablespoonful of Peroxide of Hydrogen. 6 to 10 tablespoonfuls of water.

In cases of very great sensitiveness, use even a larger proportion of water. Spray the nose and throat copiously and frequently.

For *Consumption.*

2 tablespoonfuls of Peroxide of Hydrogen. 1 tablespoonful of C. P. Glycerine.

Mix the ingredients well, and give inhalations, lasting 10 minutes at a time, of ozonized vapor, through nose and mouth, produced by an atomizer, deep inhalations will reach the lungs and will relieve the patient and if taken in time will effect a permanent cure. Renew mixture every three days.

For *Croup.*

Same as for Whooping Cough.

For *Women's Weaknesses, Whites, Leucorrhœa, etc.*

1 to 3 ounces Peroxide of Hydrogen. 1 pint of tepid water.

Use copious injections, by means of hard rubber or glass syringes, two or three times a day, and apply.

For *Abscesses, Carbuncles and all Sores, etc.*

Apply medicinal pure Peroxide of Hydrogen, 15 volumes, with a glass dropper, and be careful not to remove the white foam which is generated when it comes in contact with the diseased surfaces; soak some surgical lint with it, pure or diluted.

NOTICE—Be careful to have your atomizer and spray tubes kept clean, and pass it through tepid water twice or three times a week, when in use. The improved apparatus can be purchased of almost any respectable druggist.

The vaporizer consists of the attachment of a glass bulb, to the discharging tip of the atomizer and can be procured from most dealers in druggists' sundries.

A SEA ATMOSPHERE FOR THE SICK ROOM.

The solution to be used and diffused as spray consists of a solution of Peroxide of Hydrogen (15 volumes), containing 1 per cent. of ozonic ether, iodine to saturation, and 2.50 per cent. of sea salt. The solution, placed in a hand spray diffuser, can be distributed in the finest spray in the sick room, at the rate of two fluid ounces in a quarter of an hour. It communicates a pleasant sea odor, and is the best purifier of the air of the sick room, it is a powerful disinfectant also. A large spray producer has recently been invented, which will diffuse the artificial sea air through a hospital ward.

THE "BLACK DEATH."

Boccaccio, it is said, gives the best account of the famous "black death," which during the years 1348-9 swept away, as has been estimated, twenty-five million people. "Here it began," he says, in an Italian city, "with young children, male and female, either under the arm-pits or in the groin, by certain swellings, in some to the bigness of an apple, in others like an egg, and so in divers greater or lesser, which in their vulgar language they termed to be a botch or boil. In very short time after those two infected parts were grown mortiferous, and would disperse abroad indifferently to all parts of the body; whereupon it was the quality of the disease to show itself by black or blue spot, which would appear on the arms of many, others on their thighs, and every part else of the body—in some, great and few; in others small and thick." The boils and following black spots were regarded as sure signs of death and "few were healed, but well-near all died within three days after the said signs were seen, some sooner, and others later—commonly without either fever or any other accident."

The disease was terribly contagious and "the quality of this contagious pestilence was not only of such efficacy in taking and

catching it one of another, either men or women, but it extended further, even in the apparent view of many, that the clothes, or anything else wherein one had died of that disease, being touched or lain on by any beast, far from the kind or quality of man, they did not only contaminate and infect the said beast, were it dog, cat, or any other, but also it died very soon after." He says that one day he saw two swine rooting among some rags in the street, that had been torn off from one who died of the plague, and soon after "each turning twice or thrice about they both fell down dead on the said clothes." One peculiar difference between the plague in Italy and the "east countries," where it originated, was that in the latter "manifest signs of death followed thereon by bleeding at the nose." The "black death," originating in the east countries, crawling along the Mediterranean, up through Europe, reached Sweden and Norway in 1349, thence up toward the frigid zone, finally passed away in Northern Russia in 1351.

CACTUS GRANDIFLORUS.

Dr. Engstad, of Grand Forks, N. D., contributes a paper to an old school journal, confirmatory of the merits of *Cactus Grandiflorus* as a heart remedy and, it is but right to add, states that "Homœopathic literature is very rich in provings and experience" with the remedy. The following are the cases related by him:

"I have in mind a case of a young law student, who complained of palpitation of the heart while walking or exercising in the gymnasium. His pulse would intermit every third beat while standing. If sitting, the heart would lose every fourth beat. If recumbent in bed he would not be troubled by any sense of suffocation as he was while standing, and the heart would be very regular. I gave him 15-drop doses, three times a day. The functional disturbance was soon relieved. After discontinuing the use of the medicine for some time he suffered a relapse, which was again speedily relieved by the use of the cactus. No organic lesion was present.

"I now recall a case of effusion in the pericardial sac. All known remedies had been tried except cactus. After using it for some time he recovered completely, as he thought. But a 'conquering hero,' in the form of a traveling doctor, informed him that he never had any heart disease, and that heavy work was what he needed. He had been advised to the contrary by myself and other physicians. He worked one week, and then I

was called. Enormous dilatation, respiration labored, expression pale and anxious; pulse weak, 32 per minute, but quite regular. I gave cactus for the heart, together with other treatment. Compensation has now taken place; and he expresses himself as feeling as strong as before the organic defect was first noted.

“Recently I had a lingering case of typhoid pneumonia in a lady of 35. Her heart became feeble after the second week. Digitalis and strychnine were tried without any benefit. Cactus stimulated it immediately. She made a good recovery.

“In convalescence from typhoid fever it is excellent in cases where the heart shows symptoms of failing. Some time ago I had a case where the patient was so weak and his heart so overtaken that a feeling of syncope appeared if the head was raised from the pillow. Cactus was given with benefit. Its special field is in functional disorders, as in angina pectoris, where it is almost a specific. I have never been disappointed in its results. I may probably in the future meet with cases that will not be amenable by treatment, but thus far angina pectoris has been easy to relieve by the use of the remedy.”

The remedy was always given in appreciable doses—from 8 to 15 drops.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

HEAVES IN HORSES—SILPHIUM.

EDITOR HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

In your September number you mention this disease and recommend several remedies. When collecting material for my volume on New Remedies I was then practicing in a country village. When purchasing hay for my horses I was always recommended to buy that containing “Rosin-Weed,” because “horses that ate it would not get the heaves.” I, therefore, made extensive inquiries and satisfied myself that there was a basis of fact in such recommendation. Having a valuable horse afflicted with that disorder I ordered my stableman to fish out the leaves of that plant and give it solely to the horse. The effect was very decided. In a week the horse breathed naturally and was rid of his cough. (He had no other food except oats.) Horses are very fond of it and will select the leaves from their usual ration of hay. Clover, it is well known, will cause or aggravate heaves, unless it is well cured. If it is dusty or musty it is sure to cause “heaves” in healthy horses.

Looking upon heaves as a kind of laryngeal asthma I prepared a tincture of *Silphium*, and found it very useful, especially so in the asthma of Millar in children. It is also useful for asthmatic cough and closely resembles in its action Turpene, Terebene, and Lobelia.

E. M. HALE, M. D.

65 E. 22d St., Chicago, Ill.

HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF ANIMALS AND THE RESULTS OF THE SAME.

The knowledge of the differential symptoms produced by drugs—animal, vegetable, or mineral—is essentially necessary, in the treatment of disease. Not the numerous kinds of medicines will make the practitioner successful, but the study of each drug to the end, that we see at a glance on approaching the sick, *those are the symptoms of that and that drug*. To obtain this requisite knowledge in treating animals I would advise the study of *The Homœopathic Veterinary Practice*, from which valuable book the veterinarian can gain all the information necessary in actual practice. The variety of country practice has enabled me to make many observations among horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, dogs, poultry, young, middle-aged, and old, and extreme old age of the action of low and high potencies.

To illustrate a case of high and low potencies, and their action on one and the same disease and animal, the following may be interesting: Mr. Th. Waterman called on me to examine a three-year-old colt he had bought the day before at a very low figure. After examining the animal and interviewing its former owner I learned the following particulars: The colt had been sick for the last four months; had been treated by an allopath veterinarian with internal and external remedies, but no effect. Diagnosis: Eczema rubrum. General and local symptoms were manifested. The parts locally affected felt hot, somewhat tender and a little swollen; over areas the hair was removed and the skin excoriated, with discharge of ichorous, blood-stained fluid. This discharge from these patches irritated the parts unaffected. Evacuations loose and sour smelling; hair looking rough; eyes sunken and dull, the surrounding œdematous. The colt was extremely restless at times, then again quite the reverse.

Treatment: First day, *Aconite nap.*, 1; six drops every hour. Second day, fever reduced; *Arsenic* and *Aconite*, 1 dec.; six drops every two hours in alternation. Third day, symptoms the same

as second day. Stopped *Aconite* and administered only *Arsenic*. Fourth day, appetite better; also the eyes. Continued the *Arsenic*. Fifth day, appetite still better, but the eczematous swellings aggravated. Continued *Arsenic*. Sixth day, appetite good; the swellings and restlessness more marked than ever. No medicine. Seventh day, somewhat easier. *Arsenic* 30, four times a day. Eighth day, improving; kept on with *Arsenic* 30. Ninth day, quite easy; kept on with *Arsenic* 30. Tenth day, still better. No medicine. Eleventh day, keeps on improving. No medicine. Twelfth day, improving; the patches commence to get dry. *Arsenic* 200, morning and evening. Thirteenth day, the colt remarkably better; no more itching; patches drying up; ravenous appetite. Left a few more powders of the 200, and discharged the colt. Six months after treatment I saw the colt again and he surely is one of the most promising animals I ever saw.

CASE No. 2.—*Epileptic Fits*.—Black mare, 16 hands high, about 1,200 weight, 7 years old, and owned by a farmer who had raised her.

History of the owner: "Night before last the mare got sick. We thought it was colic, and I went to the drug store, bought a big bottle of colic mixture and gave it to her, but it did her no good." I then made an examination of the animal. Pulse and temperature normal; bodily heat normal; in fact all normal except the appearance indicated fright. I told the owner that I would have to wait, and watch, to ascertain how she would act. In about twenty minutes the animal, all of a sudden, evinced signs of restlessness; then in about five seconds she dropped as if shot with a bullet, and had one spasm after another, the muscles became rigid and tense, as in Tetanus, the eyes rolled and had a vacant stare. This lasted about fifteen minutes, when it suddenly ceased, the animal got up and looked about, as if it had had a pleasant dream. This attack occurred at intervals of from thirty minutes to two hours.

Treatment.—In no text-book I ever read of Opium administered in a case like this, only of *Nux vom.*, *Bellad.*, etc., but I could not refrain from employing *Opium* on account of that vacant look and protruding of the eyes; also when she awoke, so naturally as if just got up from sleep. First, second and third day *Opium*, first decimal, 10 drops in water, every two hours. The interval between the fits was from two hours to four, then to six. Finally *Opium* 30., four times a day. The mare improved rapidly and is now as well as if she never had a fit.

OTTO VON LANG, V. S.,

Salem, N. J.

Spongia Knocks the Roup.—In our September issue we gave a letter from Mr. W. M. Rand, now of Franklin, Indiana, and we now present another, in which Mr. Rand says:

“Since you sent me *Spongia* for a roup recipe I have given it a thorough trial, and find it strikes the very vital parts and *does the work*. I have tried a number of recipes, and they all proved a failure, and with the same symptoms, and every condition, the spongia has *cured in every instance*, and for your advice in the matter I am under many obligations. I have quite a good place here and expect to raise a large number of chickens the coming season.”

Mr. Rand has been three years trying to get rid of the roup, and has repeatedly asked us to help him. As we have sent him several remedies, with no beneficial results, we were discouraged. Finally we suggested spongia, with the above letter as a reply.

Mr. P. A. Webster, the well-known breeder of Indian Games, of Cazenovia, N. Y., got the roup in his flock, by importing it, and he had quite a job trying to get rid of it. At our request he tried spongia, and here is his reply:

“At the time I commenced using the spongia I had fifteen or twenty cases of roup, and new ones coming down every day. They soon commenced to show signs of improvement, and are *all now entirely well*. *Spongia did the business.*”

In the face of the above the *Poultry Keeper* believes it has given to the world a remedy that will save thousands of dollars, (though we would not be surprised if some jealous person may not attack it) and we ask others to try it and report to us. *Spongia* is a Homœopathic remedy.—*Poultry Keeper*.

BOOK NOTICES.

A Clinical Materia Medica. By the late E. A. Farrington, M. D. Edited by Clarence Bartlett, M. D., and revised by S. Lilienthal, M. D. Second Edition. Philadelphia, 1890. 770 pages. Cloth, \$6.00. Half morocco, \$7.00.

This is one of the most successful books of the day as is evidenced by the fact that an unusually large edition was rapidly exhausted and a new one called for almost before the first one could become well thumbed. As the work was not planned by Dr. Farrington but is builded of the wealth of material left by him in manuscript and reports of his lectures taken down phono-

graphically, it demanded the work of an expert and conscientious editor, and received it at the hands of Dr. Bartlett as all owners of the book will testify. The second edition of the work was under the same competent editor and he says: "In the preparation of this the editor has had, as before, the assistance of the author's manuscript lectures, together with notes of the students whose privilege it was to receive instruction from Dr. Farrington in more recent years than was accorded the editor. The result of this revision has been the addition of a number of symptomatic indications for drugs. These additions have been pretty evenly divided over the whole work. In presenting the second edition of Farrington's *Clinical Materia Medica* to the profession, the editor cannot refrain from expressing his admiration of the thoroughness of the work of its distinguished author. A review of the index shows that more than four hundred drugs were considered by him; many of these received but minor mention, while others he treated of *in extenso*, as their importance warranted. The therapeutic index shows, moreover, that hardly a class of ailments to which humanity is liable but what has received more or less attention." The book is divided into 72 chapters, or lectures, together with an "Index of Remedies" and a "Therapeutic Index"—excellent features—and the whole preceded by an "In Memoriam" by Aug. Korndoerfer, M. D. Farrington's *Clinical Materia Medica* is a book that will materially assist practitioners, young and old, through many a difficult case.

A Clinical Study of Diseases of the Kidneys, including Systematic Chemical Examination of Urine for Clinical Purpose; Systematic Microscopical Examination of Urinary Sediments. Systematic Application of Urinary Analysis to Diagnosis and Prognosis, Treatment. By Clifford Mitchell, A. M., M. D. Chicago. 1890. W. T. Keener. Cloth. 431 pages. \$3.00.

Large type, good paper, well printed and easy on the eyes is the first thought on opening this book. It consists of fourteen chapters, an appendix of tables and a thorough index. "The object of my work," says the author, "is to show the practical bearing of thorough examination of the urine on the diagnosis, prognosis and treatment not only of diseases of the kidneys themselves, but of many other disorders." One hundred pages are devoted to Bright's disease, which if it may not be cured may be alleviated and life prolonged by proper treatment and diet. Liberal quotations in this day of many books is out of the question, but here is one we are tempted to make: "*Catheter fever*: In cases of chronic retention of urine death sometimes

results from removal of much urine." Dr. Mitchell has, perhaps, made his book, if anything, too full. For instance, under enuresis: "The omnipresent *Antipyrin* in two doses of 10 or 15 grains, one at 6 and one at 8 o'clock, evenings, is said to cure enuresis in two or three days. Again, under Renal colic, "*Antipyrin* in fifteen grain doses, frequently repeated, is advised by Tyson." These, mixed with Homœopathic treatments, are apt to be confusing and may be pronounced *de trop* by many.

Tuberculosis or Pulmonary Consumption; Its Prophylaxis and Cure by Suralimentation of Liquid Food. By W. H. Burt, M. D. W. T. Keener. Chicago. 1890. 233 pages. Cloth. \$2.50.

This book is dedicated "To M. Le Dr. J. P. Jousset, of Paris, France." It claims to be something new under the sun and the author, therefore, had best speak for himself. He says: "Eight months ago, while reading about the wonderful cure of obesity in Prince Bismarck, by taking away all liquids and carbohydrates, and putting him upon a nitrogenous diet, this flashed through my mind: If the taking away of water and the carbohydrates from an obese person will arrest the obesity, will not the giving of an abundance of water, commingled with the carbohydrates, cure all wasting diseases, especially that of tuberculosis? At once I resolved to give this hint a clinical test and the results have surpassed my most sanguine expectations, and I now have the great pleasure to announce that the *suralimentation* of liquid food is not only the *greatest* of all *known prophylactics*, but that it will *actually arrest and cure tuberculosis, or pulmonary consumption.*" These words from the preface give the keynote to the book. Suralimentation, or, in everyday vernacular, over-feeding, "produces rapid gain in weight and strength," says Dr. Burt, and thus cures. "Water, to the amount of six pints, is required daily, to meet the water loss by the kidneys, skin and lungs, to sustain the normal adult body in health; and twice that amount in wasting diseases." The first 135 pages are taken up with ætiology, prophylaxis, diet and drink, and the remainder of the work to the "remedies." The latter part of the book will, perhaps, meet with universal approval, but the first half, being new, must be tried in practice first.

Essentials of the Diseases of Children, arranged in the form of Questions and Answers. William M. Powell, M. D. W. B. Saunders. 1890. Cloth. 222 pages. \$1.00.

Essentials of Practice of Medicine, arranged in the form of Questions and Answers. By Henry Morris, M. D., with ap-

pendix on the Examination of Urine by Lawrence Wolf, M. D. W. B. Saunders, 1890. Cloth, 368 pages with appendix of 66 pages, \$2.00.

Two more books of the well known "Saunders' Question Compendis" by writers of eminence, Dr. Powell being of the staff of the University of Pennsylvania and Dr. Morris, of Jefferson medical college, of Philadelphia, as is also Dr. Wolf. The same words of commendation that were applied to the other works of this series will fit equally well to these two, whose titles are given above. Take, say, "scarlatina." The definitions, or answers to the questions, what is Scarlatina, its cause, symptoms, varieties, sequelæ, etc., etc., will be found very clear and, perhaps altogether accurate, but when the question "How should this disease be treated?" is reached the author goes to pieces—"give quinine in tonic doses," seems to be the only positive instruction as to medication. Other remedies are mentioned almost cynically, or helplessly, as you choose. "Mercuric iodide has been lauded as a specific." "Sodium salicylate has been used every three or four hours." "Ammonium carbonate is good as a cardiac and nervous stimulant, if it does not produce gastric irritability," and so on. Homœopaths must turn from such vague gropings, to their own clear instructions for treatment with peculiar satisfaction.

A Repertory of Convulsions, by E. M. Santee, M. D. New York. 1890. 85 pages. Paper, 35 cents. Cloth, 50 cents.

This little work is published by Dr. Hitchcock. The author says: "I have purposely omitted the lists of remedies said to be indicated by certain pathological names, because I do not believe in such prescribing. If the the totality of the symptoms is covered by a certain remedy it wlll cure no matter whether the name of the malady be catalepsy, eclampsia of epilepsy." He also states that he was induced to prepare this repertory because all other repertories are "almost blank upon this subject." Of the 85 pages half are left blank for notes. Get the cloth binding.

Lilienthal's Homœopathic Therapeutics, third edition, has been before the profession for several months, and many will think, after a casual glance, that there is not much difference between it and the previous edition. But on closer investigation it will be found that the whole work has been most carefully revised and augmented; that the six or more years of close labor by the author has made positively a new work; that three hundred and twenty pages have been added and the whole sedulously brought up to date. A number have said: "Well, I

will take the new edition along and compare it and if it is indeed rewritten I will buy it and give my old one away." Not one of them failed to keep the new work, and no progressive Homœopath can afford to be without it. It is beautifully printed, well bound, contains 1,155 pages, 8vo., and is sold for \$7 in cloth, or \$8 in half-morocco, less the usual 20 per cent. discount. Postage of either is forty-three cents.

Those who want to go to the bottom of Homœopathic materia medica should get Hahnemann's *Materia Medica Pura*, a grand two volume work, 1,427 pages, half morocco bound, \$12.00; or, net, post paid, \$11.42. The prefaces to the remedies are of rare value. "Excepting opium I know of no medicine that has been more and oftener misused in diseases and employed to the injury of mankind than chinchona bark." So begins his famous preface to the provings of *China*—but it will not do to begin to quote else one would not know when to stop. This book, with its strong, masterful style, is a good tonic for the weak-kneed and bacteria afflicted. And all the "symptoms" are here, and may their shadow never grow less.

The fourth edition of that fine standard work, *The American Homœopathic Pharmacopœia*, is said to be selling rapidly. It contains 521 pages and gives the preparation of all the leading Homœopathic medicines and of nearly all the obscure ones—if we may so designate the remedies not often used, or about which but little is known. The price of the *Pharmacopœia* is \$5.00, net to physicians, post paid, \$4.25.

An Explanation of the Phenomena of Immunity and Contagion is the title of a pamphlet reprint, by Dr. J. W. McLaughlin, of Austin, Texas. "How does one attack of an acute disease give man immunity from other attacks of the same malady?" asks Dr. McLaughlin, on page 33, and answers, or begins his answer thus: "A bacterium cell disrupts molecular combinations of the albuminoids when the molecules of each vibrate in the same periods of recurrence; the albuminoid molecules which are thus disrupted or shaken apart, and liberated from their former combinations, will again immediately recombine, because of their attractive affinities to form other combinations, which are called ptomains." This is very lucid, to those who can see it, no doubt.

THE RECORDER acknowledges receipt of "Strictures of the Rectum," by Chas. B. Kelsey, M. D., of the New York Post Graduate School. 46 pages and very tastefully printed.

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THIS number closes the fifth volume of THE RECORDER, and the fifth year of its existence. It is a pleasure to state here that the year has been decidedly the most prosperous of the five, the subscription list increasing far beyond that of any of the preceding years. This is very gratifying evidence of the approval of the medical profession and it is hoped will be renewed during the ensuing volume; certainly the effort will be made to win it.

SUBSCRIPTION blanks will be put in all the copies of this number of THE RECORDER and in all of the succeeding number, January 15, by the binder. These little slips are at once conveniences and reminders that we shall be happy to send a receipt for Vol VI., 1891.

THE RECORDER's page of "personals" has become quite a feature. All physicians changing their address or locating in new places are invited to send notice of such change to THE RECORDER. See page iii.

DR. JONES' study of *Baryta*, begun in this number, will be very complete and one of the most notable papers that has appeared for a long time. It alone will be worth the price of a year's subscription (\$1.00), to say nothing of papers we hope to secure, and have in hand.

DR. E. F. BRUSH, of Mt. Vernon, New York, does not look with favor on milk-sugar when used in the diet of infants. "He finds," says the *Cleveland Medical Gazette*, "that the powdered milk-sugar of the average drug store sells for considerably less per pound than the market price of the crystals from which the powder purports to be made; and, moreover, that none of the samples of milk-sugar that he purchased from drug stores conformed to the tests laid down in the U. S. P." The complaint carries its own answer. It is not milk-sugar that is at fault, but the medical Cheap Johns. These worthies, and their drummers, "whoop it up" on low prices, or special discounts; poor quality, ignorant workmanship and adulteration are not regarded by them if they can attain their heart's desire, cheapness.

Medicus often thinks he is getting bargains from John when, in reality, he is paying an exorbitant price for the article he buys, like the adulterated milk-sugar of Dr. Brush, which sells, when powdered, for less at retail than the pure crystals can be bought for by the ton, is dear at any price, or even as a gift. Cheap John in medicine often plays hob with the doctors' practice, but the latter cannot quite put all the blame on John's head, when he went after cheap goods and got them.

ATTENTION is directed to the card of the *Homœopathic Envoy* to be found in advertising pages of this number of THE RECORDER. The *Envoy* was started last March without a single subscriber, but the little paper seemed to have the "catching on" quality and they soon began to come in and have continued to do so ever since, so that if the present pace is maintained it will soon have a circulation that would be looked upon with respect even among the non-medicals. The *Envoy* was designed to be a missionary, not an advertising paper, and this design has been very faithfully carried out. The need for this sort of work is apparent to all; tracts and pamphlets do very well but they do not everlastingly keep at it. The *Envoy* does, every month. At the very low rates at which the paper is now offered in quantities it will be easy to flood any particular district either with a view to educating the people, or fighting adverse legislation. The columns of the paper are open to any proper paper, not too long, and thus the physician can address his own public if he cares to. Twelve numbers a year of a readable Homœopathic paper sent to twenty-five, fifty, a hundred, or more, intelligent families in a neighborhood, must inevitably have a good effect. Look into the matter, and get a specimen copy.

A NEAT "announcement," received from San Francisco, California, dated Oct. 1st, reports that Mr. W. E. Runyon has purchased a half interest in the Homœopathic Pharmacy of Boericke & Schreck, and hereafter the firm will be Boericke & Runyon. Mr. Runyon is an experienced chemist and will be a gain to Homœopathic pharmacy.

"SOME months ago a Baltimore wholesale drug house received from a customer in North Carolina, a prominent and reliable merchant, a dram bottle of quinine (so-called), which he had been induced to buy in quantity by a very low figure. The house, being suspicious of the sample, forwarded it in turn to a prominent chemical concern for examination, and it was reported to be cinchonidine, containing no quinine whatever. The Baltimore merchants embodied these facts in a circular, adding that they had been creditably informed that the house selling the so-called quinine was adulterating castor oil, linseed oil, and other goods. This circular was distributed to their trade, and may possibly convince some persons, that in buying drugs, or anything else, for that matter, at a price greatly below the market rate, the purchaser is very apt to be swindled."—*Druggists' Circular and Chemical Gazette*.









