

thought he could never fill again. Fancy the astonishment of the celebrated specialists who had pronounced his eyes to be incurable. This communication from the lips of a highly respectable and conscientious gentleman was put to practice by the writer of these lines, in many cases of stubborn chronic catarrh of the eyes with the best of success, and he invites his honored colleagues to institute experiments in this direction.—*Dr. G. Proell, of Meran & Gastein, from Popn. Zeitschrift for January.*

N. B.—Dr. Proell is one of the best known and most distinguished Homœopathic practitioners in Europe.—[ED. REC.]

Dioscorea Villosa (Wild Yam).—*Dioscorea Villosa*, a plant which is commonly known as wild yam or colic root, is found in profusion throughout the southern and to a limited extent in the northern and western States. Thirty years ago it was eulogized by King, of the Eclectic School, as a true specific for bilious colic, no other agent being necessary in this disease, as it gives, he reported, prompt and permanent relief in the most severe cases. This statement has been repeated many times since by the Eclectics, and is undoubtedly true. The part of the wild yam used is the root, which is inodorous, but on bruising develops a slight woody odor.

Dioscorea appears to have an especial effect upon the liver, as *nux vomica* has for the spinal cord. It is a most useful remedy in the treatment of the various diseases of the hepatic system. In that painful affection known as bilious colic, which is the result of the pressure or impaction of one or more gall-stones in the biliary ducts, *dioscorea* often affords great relief. Indeed, as related by King thirty years ago, and as re-stated by Dr. Todd (*Atlanta Medical and Surgical Journal*) some two years past, every case of bilious colic can be cured in a brief period, varying from a few minutes to a few hours, by the administration of *dioscorea* alone.

The only qualification necessary to this claim at present is that the case must be of pure biliary nature due to the presence of a gall-stone or of thickened; hardened bile in the biliary ducts, and not cases of intestinal colic from other causes. A good rule in practice is to see if with the colicky pains and nausea there be also any yellowish discoloration of the skin or conjunctiva. If there is, *dioscorea* will usually give prompt relief; if there is not, it may have to be supplemented with other remedies. Even when the stage of incipency is passed, when the delicate lining

of the ducts is engorged and inflamed, so that the bile cannot pass through, *dioscorea* will be found of infinite value in lessening the engorgement, relaxing the tension of the biliary channels, and cutting short the course of the disease. That indefinite complaint known as hepatic torpor or hepatic indigestion, resulting in dull headaches, loss of appetite, mental inaptitude, causeless melancholy, and a train of other symptoms, can be quickly and permanently relieved by *dioscorea* taken in fifteen-drop doses before meals.—*J. V. Shoemaker, M. D., in A. M. A. Trans. Condensed.*

“EVERY once in a while some young graduate thinks our prejudice has run away with our judgment, and that we might do better with a *judicious* use of mercury. Occasionally he writes an article on the subject, and wonders why we do not publish it. But I have traveled over the ground for thirty-five years, with a larger business than falls to the lot of most men. I know, beyond peradventure, that I have treated and cured my patients without, much better than others have with. I have seen almost all phases of mercurial diseases from the hands of my competitors, and from its judicious use, too. I have known death to result, even from its Homœopathic use; and without thinking of my personal sufferings from mercurials, I say damn the stuff! I have made it a rule of life not to use a remedy that may entail lasting disease. I would not take it under any circumstances; I would not give it.”—*Dr. Scudder.*

MEDICINE does not differ from any other commodity in the market; a first-class article cannot be had at half-price. The best is usually cheapest in the end. Of medicine it is certainly true.—*Medical Gleaner.*

ACUTE ARTICULAR RHEUMATISM.—Salicylate of Soda, whose use is so widely recommended for this condition, does no more than displace the seat of the malady by sending it to the noble organs.—*Burggraefe.*

TO HAVE any degree of certainty in medicine it was necessary to have certainty of remedies and their preparations. Medicines sold in drug stores were then notoriously bad. They are bad enough yet, but twenty-five years ago they were ten times worse. They ranged from a simple solution of nastiness to that where there was variable quantity of the remedy wanted. The only drugs

you could buy with any certainty were the chemicals, and even here you had to look carefully or you would be cheated. In my first specific use of remedies I was obliged to buy Homœopathic tinctures, or prepare tinctures myself. I did both, and of all the indigenous medicines that I could gather myself I prepared myself. The Homœopathic tinctures at 25 cents an ounce were cheaper than those procured at our own drug stores at \$1.00 per pound. The dose of the one was measured by the fraction of a drop, the other by teaspoonsfuls. I said to myself, if the Homœopaths can make uniformly reliable preparations it is possible for the Eclectics to do the same, and I resolved to have it done. The trouble I had need not be recounted; suffice it to say that good promises were followed by unpleasant failures, and the common excuse was: "Pharmacy and drug selling is a business, and if we can not meet the prices of our competitors we can not live." * * * But, as I have said before, we cannot have it without good medicine—without medicine of definite quality and strength—and certainty not without *the* medicinal properties the good Lord has put in the plants. Any one who has ordinary intelligence, common honesty (not trade honesty), and the love of doing things well can prepare good medicines. It makes no difference what he calls them, but I prefer the simple official names, Aconite, Belladonna, Phytolacca, etc., and I want but one preparation—a tincture. As for price, I hold that "the laborer is worthy of his hire"—a good thing is worth more than a poor thing.—*Dr. Scudder in Eclectic Medical Journal.*

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

Dog.

Shortly before the hunting season commenced Mr. Broxtermain inquired of me whether I knew of a Homœopathic veterinarian. I knew of none and on inquiry was told that in the fall of the preceding year his setter, flushed from hunting, swam a very cold river (the Pader) and shortly after became lame and remained so ever since, although under treatment of Allopathic veterinarians, he would therefore be useless for the approaching hunting season. The dog seemed to be worse when trying to get up from his bed. He would yelp and howl for pain and turn and twist pitifully till he gained his legs. The small of the back must be lamed for he waddles when walking, especially at first, and, when trying to rise, his hind legs for a time drag on the

floor. As no one seemed to be able to help him he would have been shot but for his being such an excellent hunter. As a last resort Homœopathy was to be tried. You will not rue it, I said, for if everything is as you report I can give you a remedy which will relieve your dog in a short time. I gave him Rhus Tox. 2d potency, a few pellets to be given morning and evening, dry on the tongue. About a week after a fine setter trotted past me and a hundred yards behind him I encountered Mr. B., on inquiry I learned that the dog I passed was his. The little pellets worked like magic, after four or five days a decided amelioration was noted, although in the present cold rainy weather aggravation was expected, but the little globules were used up. I gave him Rhus Tox. 1, to be given every day, and about two months after I received a magnificent hare with a letter stating, that I should accept it as a small token of gratitude, and that since four weeks the dog had been used in hunting and was as well as ever.—*From Bolle's Pop. Homœop. Zeit.*

Horse.

On September 26th, 1845, I was called to see a horse which was lame in the back. The cause was that, on a previous day, this and another horse were attached to a heavily laden wagon, when, on descending a hill, the harness broke and the heavy wagon severely crowded the horses, but more especially the one before me. The horse had not lain down in the night, but stood with humped back, all drawn together. On being led out of the stable it swayed the small of the back to and fro; otherwise it seemed all right. I prescribed *Rhus Tox.*, inwardly, morning and evening, and applied externally, every three hours, *Arnica* tincture, diluted with three parts of whisky. On the 22d it seemed to be better; treatment continued. On the 23d I found it had lain down in the night, and on being led but little lameness could be noticed; treatment continued. On the 24th the horse was put to light labor and was well.

Cow.

A cow had calved and everything had progressed normally, as I was told, when a few hours later a prolapsus of the uterus occurred. I found the animal lying down and the whole uterus extruded; this seemed to be accompanied by a constant urging or pressing, and on examining carefully I found the placenta adhering. In order to operate to advantage it was necessary to allay first this constant urging, for which I gave two doses of *Ferrum Mur.* within half an hour; during this time I cleansed the uterus and detached the placenta; the urging was now considerably less; then I replaced the uterus and administered one

dose of *Aconite*, followed by a dose of *Arnica* two hours later; of the latter it received for three days two doses daily, and that completed the case.—*Dr. Mænoch, Veter., in Bolle's Pop. Hom. Zeit.*

Cow.

A fresh cow suddenly lost her entire milk without developing any morbid symptoms. *Chamomilla* and *Belladonna* administered on alternate days, one dose a day, brought the milk back in original volume on the sixth day.—*Ibid.*

Dr. Bolle states that the Grand Duke of Oldenburg had decreed that all of his horses should be treated solely Homœopathically. The chief veterinarian of Prince Lippe-Detmold, *Dr. Grundlach*, treated all horses in the Prince's stables Homœopathically since a number of years.—*Bolle Pop. Hom. Zeitung, Vol. 1 (1855).*

Horse.

Horse Petechial Fever—On January 16th I was informed that a well-conditioned five-year-old gelding was sick. The stableman reported that the horse did not lay down during the night, had coughed several times, had not touched its morning's feed, but had greedily drunk the proffered water which, however, it seemed to have some difficulty in swallowing. Status praesens was as follows: The chest in front and the forelegs seemed to have an erysipelatous swelling; the walk was feeble and swaying; pulse accelerated (70 per minute) but full and soft; heart beat very perceptible; breathing quick, throat appeared fuller than usual, and on the nasal membrane there appeared irregular dark and purple red spots of various sizes. Gave *Bryonia* 3, four drops every four hours, tepid water for a drink. On January 17th—Has appetite; pulse 60; breathing quieter; the dark spots on nasal membrane are larger and more extensive; cough frequent accompanied by a copious muco-serous secretion from the nose streaked with blood. Expiration is often accompanied with snorting. Gave *Belladonna* 3d, four drops, two doses. January 18th—Secretion from the nose mucous and mattery, mixed with blood, which forms ridges around the edge of nostrils; forehead seems to be somewhat swollen, but the swelling of chest and forelegs is growing less; treatment continued. January 19th.—Secretion from the nose lessened, nasal membrane uniformly reddened; pulse nearly normal; swelling of forehead or face confined to nostrils and upper lip; throat clear; appetite good. From January 20th convalescence was established which proceeded at such a pace that on the 24th the horse had fully recovered and was ready for

duty.—*Dr. Carl Böhm, Veterinarian to Count Erdoedy, from Bolle Pop. Hom. Zeit.*

Horse.

I observed a beautiful effect of *Arnica* recently in a four-year-old gelding. While undergoing training one morning it was roughly started with a whip, when on making a sudden jump forward its forelegs interfered and falling on its side its neck came in contact with a sharp stone. Called a few hours later; I found the horse standing outside of the stable with forelegs spread apart and neck held stiff and sideways, with a fresh cut, half an inch deep, on the right side of the neck; surrounding parts were painfully swollen. The expression of the horse's face denoted pain; it looked anxious, and, at times, as if dazed. The assistance of several men was necessary to bring the horse into the stable, as it threatened to fall every moment. This was evidently a case of violent concussion of the small brain and prolongation of the spinal marrow. *Arnica* 3, inwardly, and diluted tincture externally, in the form of compresses, effected a cure in a few days.—*Dr. C. Böhm, of Onod, in Ibid.*

BOOK NOTICES.

Fourth Annual Report of the State Board of Health and Vital Statistics of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Twelve hundred large octavo pages make up this report—twelve hundred pages of reports, statistics, lists, directories, analyses, facts, etc., such as will delight the heart of the man who takes pleasure in such literature. The preparation of a work of this sort must have involved an immense amount of labor, and it is an excellent volume to have in a reference library. *J. H. McClelland, M.D.*, 411 Penn Avenue, Pittsburg, Pa., and *Pemberton Dudley, M.D.*, 1338 North 15th Street, Philadelphia, are members of the Board.

Five Years' Experience in the New Cure of Consumption by Its Own Virus. Presumably on a line with the Method of Koch. Illustrated by Fifty-four Cases. By *J. Compton Burnett, M.D.* London, 1890. Price, 90 cents. (For sale in the United States by *Boericke & Tafel.*)

"For a number of years," writes *Dr. Burnett*, "notably during the past decade, the medical branch of the scientific world has been intently occupied and hard at work with the minute

living causes of infectious and other diseases, and secondarily with the poisons or viruses of the disease processes as a cure or prophylactic of the self-same diseases; more particularly is M. Pasteur best known to the world at large in this connection. But wherever the cure of disease is concerned, the practitioners of scientific Homœopathy have ever been in the van, and it is therefore not surprising that they should have been before all others in using the virus of consumption wherewith to cure consumption itself." But some years ago the Allopathic world was seized with such fearful rigors at the idea of using such things as medicine—some of them are still having spasms about it—that the practice fell into disrepute or was only used in a very quiet way. Dr. Burnett was not of those who gave up the practice, though he kept very quiet about it and would have delayed the publication of this little book had it not been for Koch and his lymph.

The difference between Dr. Burnett's *Bacillinum* and Koch's "Lymph" is this: the former is the virus of the disease itself while the latter is the same virus artificially obtained in an incubator by means of heat and beef jelly. Both proved their remedies. Dr. Burnett, on himself, in the regular Homœopathic way and Dr. Koch by a subcutaneous injection on himself. Dr. Burnett's symptoms were quite as pronounced as those obtained by his rival.

Dr. Burnett's remedy has to all appearances cured a great many cases of what were, to all appearances, well marked consumption. Dr. Koch's remedy has not cured a single case of consumption. Dr. Burnett's remedy has harmed no one, while Dr. Koch's is suspected of having caused the death of scores.

It may be of interest to note that Dr. Burnett's *Bacillinum* may be obtained at Boericke & Tafel's pharmacies, a supply having been sent to them from London.

Headaches and Their Concomitant Symptoms, with a complete and concise Repertory-Analysis. By Jno. C. King, M. D. Second edition. W. A. Chatterton. 1891. Cloth, 240 pp. \$1.50.

This book begins with *Acetic Acid* and ends with *Zincum*, on page 188. Under each remedy is a "note," giving the general character of the headache for which the remedy is especially suitable, and then follows the sections: "Location, Direction, Character," "Other Head Symptoms," "Aggravation," and "Concomitants;" also, under some other remedies, a section on "Ameliorations." From page 188 to the end is occupied with

a very exhaustive Repertory-Analysis. A very complete work indeed. Among the remedies we miss that comparatively late comer, *Epiphegus*, a remedy that has a place of its own in the headaches of American women.

Epitome of Homœopathic Medicine. By William L. Breyfogle, M. D. Hahnemann Publishing House. Cloth. 383 pages. 18 mo. \$1.25.

This well-known little work, after being out of the market for several years, has again been reprinted and a very handsome edition is now on the book shelves of the pharmacies. Lippe and Jahr are the fore-bears of this book, Dr. Breyfogle having been a student of Dr. Lippe, and this fact indicates the general trend of the *Epitome*, and will not lessen its value in the eyes of many physicians and students. It is largely a condensation of *Lippe's Materia Medica*, and is a concise, handy and accurate little work.

Health and Study. The Science of Physical Life and Mental Development by Moses T. Runnels, M. D., is the title of a neat pamphlet, The President's Address, delivered before the Missouri Institute of Homœopathy. Pamphlets, as a rule, are necessarily dismissed with the mere mention of their titles, yet they often contain most excellent matter. Here is a thought producer from Dr. Runnel's address: "Culture of Physique is Brain Culture."

We have received sample pages of the new *Standard Dictionary of the English Language*, soon to be published by Funk & Wagnalls. It radically departs from the time-honored style of Johnson, and his successors, but space will not admit of mentioning all these departures. One of them is the making prominent of the meaning of the word *to-day*, and another is that in the quotations not only the author is given but the book and page also, a most excellent feature.

WE acknowledge pamphlet, reprint, "Nasal Diseases," by Nathan S. Roberts, M. D., of New York.

READY FOR THE PRESS.

PROSPECTUS.

A Homœopathic Bibliography of the United States from the Year 1825 to the Year 1891, Inclusive, containing alphabetical lists of Homœopathic Books, Magazines and

Pamphlets. Also condensed statements, data and histories of the Societies, Colleges, Hospitals, Asylums, Homes, Nurse Schools, Dispensaries, Pharmacies, Publishers, Directories, Legislation, Principal Books against Homœopathy, and Homœopathic Libraries. Carefully compiled and arranged by Thomas L. Bradford, M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.

This is a book that *ought* to be published for it would at once fill a vacant space on the book-shelf, devoted to Homœopathic Works of Reference, that is vacant and probably always will remain vacant if Dr. Bradford's labor is rejected. The work would be a repertory of Homœopathic History, down to its minutest details, and every true Homœopath should lend his aid by subscribing his name. For the publication will not be undertaken until a sufficient number of copies are subscribed for to justify the undertaking; it involves too much money.

Dr. Bradford's work covers the most difficult part of the field; he has gathered the facts and figures of the infancy of Homœopathy, when the struggle for the mere right of living was often desperate and the men of Homœopathy were not organized as they now are. If these facts are now put in permanent form, the pathway of future writers will be a smooth one for they will but need to start with the year 1892 and with the present multiplicity of magazines and libraries, the work will be comparatively easy.

Dr. Bradford's MSS. is divided into fourteen sections an idea of which may be obtained from the title, save each section might be subdivided. The Section III, "Societies," includes the National, State, County and City. Societies of the whole country and from the first one organized down to the last. While the work only claims to be a "Bibliography of the United States," it is really something more, as the last section, XVI, contains "List of Homœopathic Books, previously published," presumably previous to 1825, which were chiefly Hahnemann's.

Now, reader, it depends on you whether this patriotic book—it is not precisely patriotic, of course, but you know what we mean—is published or not. What we ask of you to do is to sit down and write a letter, or postal card, stating that you will take a copy of the book when published. Dr. Bradford has placed the matter in the hands of Messrs. Boericke & Tafel, and letters on the subject should be addressed to them. The size of the work will be from 400 to 500 pages. If printed it will be in good style. The price will be \$3.00, though should over 500 subscribers be received the price will be reduced to \$2.50. Subscribe for it. No better book for the doctor's waiting room tables.

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PAY UP! Pay up! Pay up! A generous number of our subscribers *have* paid up but a goodly array are in arrears yet and it is to these the cry is sent forth. After a man has paid for his journal he experiences a certain buoyancy and lightness of spirits that is very exhilarating. Something is off his mind and his spirits rise accordingly. Try this prescription.

WE print two communications from Dr. Dudley in reference to the big meeting to be held at Atlantic City next June. Don't skip these but read them and then arrange matters to attend the meeting, if possible. Those who have visited Atlantic City in June need no urging; they know what a delightful place it is in that month. The great tide of holiday humanity has not set in strongly yet at that time, while the place has plenty of select company for all that. Look on the map and it will be noticed that the place, while only ninety minutes' ride from Philadelphia, is yet on the same line of latitude as Washington. It is never very cold at Atlantic, never very warm, and never very wet—save while the rain is actually falling; when it has ceased the earth has sucked it all in and the air is dry and so is the walking. Go, if possible.

DR. JULIO F. CONVERS, of Bogota, United States of Columbia, writes us that in his practice he finds *Jacaranda gualandai* to be a most excellent remedy for Leucorrhœa. "The women of this country do not allow the use of speculum, so that it is a very intractable disease; but my experience with *Jacaranda intus et extra* has been very satisfactory."

WE present in this issue of THE RECORDER the remainder of Dr. R. K. Ghosh's article on *Coca*. Fortunately the paper was divided into two cases, and publishing them separately did not lessen the interest of either. Dr. Ghosh is a physician of wide