

part of the year, yet now is the time to send in subscriptions, that some definite limit can be fixed for its completion.

The price of the *Bibliography* is three dollars and all friends of Homœopathy are invited to send in their subscriptions in order to insure its publication. Address either Dr. T. L. Bradford, 1862 Frankford Road, Philadelphia, Pa., or any of Boericke & Tafel's pharmacies.

A Clinical Text-book of Medical Diagnosis for Physicians and Students. Based on the most Recent Methods of Examinations. By Oswald Vierordt, M. D., Professor of Medicine at the University of Heidelberg. Authorized translation from the 2d German Edition by Francis H. Stuart, A. M., M. D. W. B. Saunders, Philadelphia, 1891. 700 pages. Cloth, \$4.00. Sheep, \$5.00.

The author, Dr. Vierordt says of his work, 1st edition: "I have here, as well as in my teaching, taken pains to emphasize that, besides availing ourselves of the constantly increasing finer methods of diagnosis, the simple ones of our senses, especially of the unaided eye, must not be forgotten. Still more the manifold labors with the microscope and in the laboratory ought not to permit the physicians to forget that a preparation or a chemical reaction is not enough for a diagnosis, but that the whole organism must always be brought under consideration. In other words, in diagnosis as well as therapeutics this rule is imperative: We must *individualize* the case. Should this book to any extent antagonize the inclination of our time to theorizing, it would afford me especial satisfaction." In his preface to the 2d, edition the author says many of the sections have been entirely re-written, all revised and some new matter added. The translator on his part says: "The work of which a translation is here offered is one of the best that has been written upon the subject. When it first came into the hands of the translator he had no thought of ever using it except as a work of reference. But as he read it he became convinced that it had such merit that it would certainly be welcomed by a large class of readers if it were rendered into English." The book is divided into three parts, eight chapters and an appendix. The index is very complete, occupying eighty pages.

Homœopathic Recorder.

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY

BOERICKE & TAFEL,

1011 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
9 North Queen Street, Lancaster, Pa.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER ANNUM.

Address communications, books, etc., for the Editor to E. P. Anshutz, P. O. Box 921, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE RECORDER makes no pretensions at being a news journal, and hence has no report of what was said and done at the great meeting of the American Institute at Atlantic City. Our big Philadelphia and New York contemporaries will contain full reports, no doubt. Suffice it here to say that the meeting was in all respects a great and successful affair; the attendance was very large, the number of new members taken in was large, the weather was fine, and nothing occurred to mar the harmony of the occasion. The Philadelphia newspapers contained very full reports of the meetings each day, which is a good pointer to the interest the general public took in the event. Had the public felt no interest in the doings of this representative body of Homœopathy the newspapers would have passed the meeting with a line or two.

When the Transactions are out we hope to give our readers a bird's-eye view of the papers that pertain to drugs and their uses.

THE man who glowers over the subscription book of THE RECORDER, courteous reader, says "Pay up! Pay up! Pay up!" The fact that the great majority of you have paid up does not satisfy him. He has his eye on a sort of skirmish line of non-payers and they trouble him. The subscriber who doesn't pay up is always the thorn in the side of the man at the subscription book and tends to make him misanthropic. The fact that nine men have paid up does not in his biased eyes excuse the recalcitrant tenth man who will not pay, or who forgets to pay as is probably most often the case.

The foregoing to satisfy the man at the subscription book—a sop to Cerberus—but don't forget that with all his crustiness he has a little ground for grumbling.

IN the November, 1890, number of THE RECORDER, a paper was published from the pen of D. N. Ray, M.D., Calcutta, India, on the remarkable curative powers of *Blatta orientalis* in

chronic cases of asthma. A small supply of the remedy was sent at the time but not sufficient to meet the demand. Messrs. Boericke & Tafel then ordered a new supply and this has arrived. The transportation, duty and apparently inevitable loss by breakage makes these far off remedies come a little high.

DR. SCUDDER, the veteran Eclectic, pokes a little fun at his Homœopathic brethren, or some of them, in the following manner:

"Our neighbors have been rejoicing for months that the truth of Homœopathy has been proven by the new cure for tuberculosis. Hardly a journal in the land but has had something to say about it, and some have said a good deal. Of course it proved the truth of their law, *Similia similibus*. It went further and proved the value of infinitesimals. And still further, it proved the value of *nosodes*, the dirty part of homœopathy.

"And now our sound homœopaths may exclaim, 'The Lord save me from my friends; I can take care of my enemies.' The entire Koch business has proven a failure; not one patient has been cured, but scores have died from it. Is Homœopathy to be measured by this standard? It may be *Similia*; it is certainly a very vile *Nosode*, and hundreds have had the tubercular bacillus distributed in their tissues by it, and others have suffered from the effects of the most poisonous ptomaine ever known. How does the Homœopathic *Nosode* business compare with this?

"As you look the field over, my friends, do you really think you have made anything by appropriating *regular* thunder? I imagine that you had better stick to the legitimate, and to that you know. When you try to become 'scientific by riding a bacterium, or appropriating a *regular* nosode, you are likely to make a failure. It is not my province to advise you, but many of you are clever men and co-workers, and I cannot help saying, stick to the truths you know, and don't toady to the 'regulars.'"

DR. McMICHAEL'S paper in this number is worthy of careful study, and his new Compendium, announced among our book notices this month, should command wide attention. It is something new, something practical, and something that many physicians have been demanding for a long time. That the plan of the new work will not please every one goes without saying, but that it will please the greater number of the steady paced, loyal Homœopathic practitioners, is almost inevitable. Many of these have carefully examined the plan of the forthcoming work and have given it unqualified praise. It is a work that all should look into.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

VOL. VI. PHILADELPHIA AND LANCASTER, SEPT, 1891. No. 5.

BLATTA ORIENTALIS.

In my last paper on *Blatta orientalis** I promised to say more on this subject in future, so, to-day I begin to fulfil my promise. Before I proceed to give the cases of Asthma in which *Blatta orientalis* was used with great success, I should like to say something about Asthma. This spasmodic disease which is characterized by the urgent dyspnoea due to the bronchial spasms, may be principally divided into Idiopathic and Symptomatic. The spasms in the former case take place through the efferent nerves by the direct irritation of the brain or the spinal cord independently of any other distant affections, and this variety though rare is the most difficult to combat. While in the latter case, which is by far more common, the causes of the irritation of the nervous centres are in distant organs, that is, the nervous centres are secondarily affected. Stomachic Asthma originates in the derangement of the stomach; Cardiac Asthma, not Cardiac dyspnoea in which there are no bronchial spasms, originates in the diseases of the heart, and lastly Bronchial Asthma, which is the most common of all, is due to the morbid condition of the bronchial tubes in which the bronchial spasms occur through the reflex action. A fit of Bronchial Asthma may be excited by the inhalation of materials such as smoke, pungent vapours, animal or vegetable emanations, dust, pollen, drugs, fog, effluvia of domestic animals, as rabbits, dogs, guinea pigs, horses, etc. Change of weather, locality, winds, such as easterly wind, are no less an exciting cause. The most common exciting cause of an attack of Asthma is inflammation of the bronchial mucous membrane. There are other organs which may be primarily affected, giving rise secondarily to an asthmatic attack, such as a loaded rectum, intestinal worms, uterine diseases or sudden chill, etc.

I shall only say a few words as to the character of a paroxysm of Asthma. The paroxysm occurs periodically at regular or ir-

*See RECORDER, Nov. 1890, page 254.