

Trans. American Institute Hom'y. 1858. W. E. Payne presented provings by S. M. Cate, W. B. Chamberlain, E. U. Jones. (1st trit).

Report of Incinerations of triturations of Calc. phos. Trans. Am. Inst. Hom. 1883. P. 861.

Hering. Guiding Symptoms. Vol. 3.

GLEANINGS FROM THE TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR 1895.

The transactions for 1895, a volume of 1,208 pages, came to hand in January. It is edited by the new secretary, Eugene H. Porter, M. D., and printed by the old house of Sherman & Co., of Philadelphia, who have printed so many of the past transactions of the institute, and, needless to add, printed them well.

The frontispiece of the new volume consists of an excellent half-tone picture of the retiring president, and the innovation is a good one for one would give a good deal for a set containing the pictures of all the presidents from the beginning of the organization. It is to be hoped that this practice will be followed in the future, and that next year we may see the face of Dr. Dudley in this place.

Looking through the pages of the transactions for little items of general interest the first one we run across, in the business address of the president, is a reminder of the meeting of the

International Homœopathic Congress.

"It should not be forgotten that the next World's Homœopathic Congress will be held in London in 1896. The last very successful and in every sense delightful regular Congress, as provided for at the first quinquennial Congress held in Philadelphia in 1876, was holden in Atlantic City in 1891, at which time it was agreed that the next should be held in the city named. This is the last session of the Institute that will be held prior to the sitting of the Congress, unless, perchance, that convention shall be delayed until the fall of next year. Even in this event it devolves upon the present session to devise plans which will secure a large attendance of American members. It is exceedingly desirable that the London Congress shall be a large and successful one. Homœopathic interests in England have never been so prosperous as at the present time. As the success

of their various hospitals associations, and other enterprises is noted in the English medical journals, the conclusion might readily be drawn that Homœopathy in the Mighty Little Isle had almost been Americanized. That an unusually successful Congress will be highly satisfactory to our foreign colleagues is certain, and I feel sure that the profession of the United States will derive great pleasure and profit from such a gathering of their confrères from all parts of the world as is easily possible in London."

Reading the Patient.

In the discussion that followed Dr. Kraft's paper, Dr. C. B. Gilbert got off the following that is worth noting :

"A messenger says, Johnnie has had a chill and fever, and I fear he is going to have scarlet fever. He has a high fever. You find that he is in bed, his knees up to his chin, the clothes tight up around his neck. He is not going to have scarlet fever, but it is a case of ague. Don't send *Belladonna*, but send *Placebo*, until you see the child the next day, and get a picture of the whole paroxysm. The face is the index of the man. There is the whole enigma of the man and the whole of the remedy, and if you know how to look for it you need not go below the neck. Alas! we know so little. The picture will be of the greatest aid. One of our Washington men sits by the bed and says, 'That patient looks like a sulphur patient.' He has a special faculty of that kind. The expression, the motion, everything about the face will indicate the remedy, and will sometimes contra-indicate the remedy which the symptoms apparently call for. You see a lady lying calmly in bed, and she tells you she is suffering the most excruciating agony. She is a liar. You give her a remedy for exaggeration. You see a man whose eyes are bright, his face has a dusky flush, his head hot, his body hot; he says that there is nothing the matter with him. What did they send for you for? You give him *Arnica* because the *Arnica* patient says there is nothing the matter with him when he is in the greatest danger. You can see it. You know it when you put your eyes on him. Hahnemann was charged with being a mere symptomatologist, but he says take the patient's story and put it with what you can see and hear and feel. The eye is the most important. It is far above the ear. You cannot always believe what a patient tells. What you see he cannot lie about. If we can see the remedy in the patient's face, that is the most important thing for us."

Nosodes.

Dr. Charles Woodhull Eaton's paper was on "The Use of Nosodes—Is It Homœopathy?" The drift of the paper is shown by the following quotation—and the query is a very important one: "My purpose will have been abundantly accomplished if I have succeeded in calling attention to the great need there is of thinking through to the finish, clearly and definitely, the proper relation of Homœopathy to the nosodes. If we are to put the same interpretation upon the proving of a nosode that we do upon the proving of any other substance—and why should we not?—we are brought face to face with large responsibility. Who, for instance, can say how much a thorough proving of Diphtherinum might do to bridge over the frightful gap which now exists in our therapeutics of diphtheria? I am both impressed and oppressed with the grave obligation we are under to see to it that our attitude toward this question is dictated by logic and justified by its judicial temper." In discussing the paper, Dr. Martin Deschere said: "A nosode is not the disease itself, but simply the product of disease. The nosode should be proved like any other remedy, and then be given in accordance with the symptoms thus produced, the same as any other drug, in close obedience to the teachings of the *Organon*."

Per contra Dr. Pemberton Dudley said: "The fact is that a nosode is never homœopathic to the disease which produced it. I question if it is usually even isopathic. But there is one thing I do not question: namely, that a real, genuine, isopathic drug—I cannot call it a remedy—when it acts at all, is but so much added to the morbid influence. It always must, and always will, aggravate the disease instead of curing it."

Baryta Iodide.

At the close of his paper on this remedy Dr. J. C. Fahnestock said: "I have seen several cases of tabes mesenterica benefited by this remedy. I also have had two cases of well-defined tubercular meningitis, that were not only relieved, but cured by this remedy, and I want to ask you to give it a thorough and fair trial in this disease, said by some physicians to be incurable. In cases having enlargement of the lymphatics, with enlarged spleen, quite hard and sensitive to the touch, you will find in *Baryta iodide* a good friend. Possibly, you may find this remedy of value in obscure diseases of the pancreas."

Ipecac in Gallstone Pains.

Such is the title of a paper by Dr. Nancy T. Williams, who cited a number of cases where *Ipecac* 6 quickly relieved the intense pain.

"A blacksmith who had suffered from these attacks for two years was so much reduced in strength that he was obliged to give up all work and keep to his room. At the time I saw him he was suffering severely from rheumatism. A remedy was left for this trouble, and I advised his using olive oil every morning with coffee; left some *Ipecac* 6th, to be taken should an attack come on. A year or more afterward I was called to his house to see an old lady. He left his work in the field to tell me he had only one of those attacks of pain; the medicine had stopped it, and there had been no more."

"A man living twenty-eight miles away came to me for some of the medicine which he had heard cured these awful pains in the pit of the stomach. He sent me word, more than a year afterward, that it did the work, and he had had no more."

"There are other cases I might mention, but the above are enough. It has always worked, and worked promptly, leaving no unpleasant after-effect."

Only One Law of Cure.

In his paper on "Metals" Dr. A. L. Monroe turned aside from his subject to say: "If you will pardon the digression, I do not think that our law which is proven to be correct a thousand times every day can be weakened by the acknowledgment that certain laws of cure, of much more limited range, can coexist." To which many will say, Amen.

Heloderma Horridus in Heart Failure.

This was by Dr. Robert Boocock. As his proving of this remedy was published in the RECORDER (March and April, 1893), perhaps our readers will pardon a somewhat lengthy quotation from it. After a few preliminary remarks on heart failure the writer says: "The remedy for this is the poison of the Gila monster, a lizard whose poison differs from that of every known poisonous reptile, in that it is an alkaline poison, and it is said to kill by poisoning the heart. The history of its destroying powers are not fully or clearly reported, but this poison has been proved, and ought to be reproved by others. That it has a powerful influence upon the heart, I know from personal experience."

The peculiar weakness produced by it, a sudden loss of all strength, inability to stand, and such an intense coldness in my heart as if I was being frozen internally. The feeling was in my heart only at first, then hands and feet became like lumps of ice in their coldness, with trembling differing from the trembling of coldness or the chill of ague, but a severe agitation of head and limbs—not all at once, but from the feet up the right side, then head and left side. The agitation was in jerks and came and went, my mind was very clear, and at first I had no fear—in fact, had none for several days until, by oft recurrence, the pulse came down from 72 to 56 and was jerky; soreness in my heart when the intense arctic feeling had passed away; oppression around and in my heart; stitches or jerks in the heart; tingling and trembling of heart and intense pain in the head in the region of the atlas, which was the hardest to bear; but the proving has been published, and may be worthy a place in the Institute's minutes."

"*Heloderma horridus* in Action.—The case of Mrs. F., over 80 years old, who was recovering from erysipelas and dropsy, when she had a fall, and was compelled to take to her bed again. When I arrived, to all appearances she was dying; she could not retain herself in the position in which she was placed; the body slid down. Breathing was very slow, tongue cold and slate-colored, breath cold, body growing cold from the feet upward, a purple hue in her face, hard to get her breath. Temperature 90, pulse 40. I thought she could not live more than two hours. I dissolved a powder of ten globules of *Helo. hor. 2c.* in a glass half full of water, and ordered her tongue to be moistened with it. I did not call again until the next day, when, to my surprise, she was much better, and continued to recover until there was not a trace of sickness left; every organ of the body came back to its normal working. This medicine was the means of lengthening her days.

"Another case, aged 65 years, was in the act of dressing herself in the morning, when suddenly her strength left her. Pulse was gone at radial artery and temple, mouth fell open, tongue and breath cold, and to all appearance she was dying, so she thought. The intense pain at the back of the head reminded me of my own experience with the *Helo. hor.* I gave a powder of ten globules of the 2c. on her tongue. When the counsel I sent for came, the pulse-rate was 60 and she was feeling warmer and better. She made a good recovery.

"Another aged German lady, 82 years, was very low, cold and pulse gone, and with the hue and sweat of death upon her. I did not take the temperature, but gave her at once *Helo. hor. 2c.*, and she is now fully recovered."

Rademacher and Natrum Nitricum.

Since Burnett has set the fashion of looking to Rademacher for what he calls elementary Homœopathy, the following, from Dr. Puhmann's paper (editor of *Populäre Zeitschrift*) may not be amiss:

"Above all, *Natrum nitricum* was Rademacher's fever remedy *par excellence*. It plays the same rôle with him as does *Aconite* in Homœopathy. Its use in intermittents he had not observed. Moreover, he recommended it in the greatest number of inflammatory conditions, *e.g.*, in congestive toothache, ophthalmias affecting the inner parts of the eyes, delirium tremens, but only in so-called "sprees;" for various forms of angina, glossitis, laryngitis, whooping-cough (with *Bell.* and *Puls.*), spitting of blood, and some forms of phthisis pneumonia, certain forms of dysentery, small-pox, measles and scarlet fever, articular and muscular rheumatism, etc. Further, he used a watery solution of this remedy in the proportion of 1 to 2 externally as a lotion in localized rheumatism and in swelling of the glands; but the rubbing must be very vigorous, since the parts were only to be moistened with the solution."

Dr. Sarah J. Milsop's Hobby.

"I may as well confess to one hobby, but it is such an excellent one that I'm sure no sensible doctor can object to it. This hobby is hygienic dress."

"The one thing on which I invariably insist before promising a cure of any mal-position of the uterus, is that the patient shall leave off the corset; and that all the clothing shall be suspended from the shoulders by some means, so that when the arms are raised the clothing is also raised instead of sagging down. This reform is not always easy of accomplishment, as most women are as firmly wedded to their corset as the corset is firmly wedded to them. But when I explain to suffering women the utter futility of attempting to keep in place a dislocated uterus which is constantly crowded down and out of place by the shape of the corset and weight of clothing which presses on the viscera above, they are only too glad to exchange the stiff corset for one of the health waists I recommend."

No Use for Quinine.

Dr. Duffield, of Alabama, said: "I have had a ten years' experience in a section where this fever, intermittent, is well-known, and that our potentized remedies are efficacious I have every reason to believe. I have not used one grain of quinine in ten years. When I went into the South I was informed by an old Homœopathic physician in Mobile that I could not cure a case of malaria or intermittent fever without a little quinine. He advised me to use it in these intermittent fevers in two-grain doses. I was also advised to give calomel. Now, I was educated in the Boston University School of Medicine, and I never heard of calomel there. I have not used a grain of that. The potentized remedy will cure malarial, remittent or typho-malaria fever, which is not known in the North. I have used nothing below the 1x and rarely below the 3x, and have cured some of the most desperate cases with the 200. I have had the best results from quinine 3x trit. when indicated."

"Germs."

"Bacteria: A Product, Not a Cause of Disease," was the title of Dr. H. W. Pierson's paper, and the title gives the writer's position on the much discussed subject.

Cactus Grandiflorus.

From Dr. E. R. Snader's paper on this drug the following interesting, and useful, clipping is made:

"I wish to make one practical point here. Had I waited until I found the symptomatic sensation to lead me to prescribe *Cactus*, I should certainly have only used the medicine about ten times in ten years, and I should have missed the golden opportunity of saving several lives and of prolonging others; and besides, you would have missed the opportunity of criticising this attempt to describe the sphere of a drug from an empirical basis. Verily, there is a great deal more in a drug than is shown by symptoms. Symptoms are the silhouettes that shadow the shades of systemic states, and certain conditions of light are necessary to throw the dim outlines within the ken of your mental eye. But, grasp your ghost, and lo! you find he is rotund substance. So with drugs. Mere symptoms but shadow the wonderful power that lies hidden beneath."

"I make no apology, therefore, for my empirical prescriptions of a drug whose few recorded symptoms I regarded as unreli-

able, and whose drug power I believed to be but feebly expressed in the materia medica schema. Without a knowledge of any known physiological provings on animals, by which I might judge of its possible sphere of action, nothing was left me but to empiricise, to observe, to erect working hypothesis, and to collect clinical data from which, at some future time, a rationally prescribed field of usefulness for *Cactus* might be outlined."

"There is one condition in which *Cactus* is king of all the cardiac remedies, so far as my experience up to the present goes, and that is, where the heart is feeble and the vessels are atheromatous or in a state of arterio-sclerosis. Here, ordinarily, unless the heart weakness is appalling, and the least of two evils, do-nothingism or death, confronts you, the routine cardiac tonics are positively contra-indicated. If cardiac force be applied to the stiff arteries too rapidly, they may rupture, with all the dire consequences of hæmorrhage—cerebral, most likely. Atheroma or arterio-sclerosis is not a contra-indication for the administration of *Cactus*; in fact, it is a strong indication for its employment. I have given *Cactus grandiflorus*—in material doses, too—to people so old that their arteries were as stiff as pipe stems, the heart also participating in the senile change, for periods varying from six months to two years. The drug has been given continuously, and with benefit only. *Cactus* is pre-eminently the heart tonic of the atheromatous and the arterio-sclerotic."

Further on:

"As to dosage, I have given the medicine from the 3x potency up to thirty-five-drop doses of the tincture. I have also used the fluid extract in varying dosage, but believe I secure better results with the tincture than with the apparently stronger fluid extract. My customary start-off dose is five drops of the first decimal dilution. If this does not ameliorate, I go at once to five-drop doses of the tincture, which is really my favorite method of administration, and with which I have produced my best results. I have no hesitation in continuing the use of the drug indefinitely. I recall one case in which it was given daily for a period of time extending over two years and a half. Nothing of decided advantage can be gained from the administration of the drug for brief intervals except in cases of functional palpitation, where it sometimes quickly subdues the paroxysm."

Homœopathy Plus Specialties, Not Specialties Plus Homœopathy.

The following appeal to specialists closed Dr. H. C. Houghton's paper :

"Homœopathy has come to its glorious present by the force of truth ; hence, it is not a thing to juggle with ; something to have or not to have; practiced to-day to abandon to-morrow; something to tuck on to a specialty ; it is the motive power, not a trailer."

In closing, let me appeal to every specialist to do for Homœopathy that which the general practitioner did before there were specialists—study symptomatology in your own field, settle the value of objective and subjective symptoms, thus enriching our *Materia Medica* ; thus leading from the special to the general ; use every means of research for elucidation of pathology, but link with it physiological medicine, for that was Homœopathy long before the name was coined as an anæsthetic agent to mollify the hypersensitive nerves of the students of the progressive type in 'old-school' medicine."

"Degeneration."

The following good advice is from Dr. Selden H. Talcott's paper : "Parents should be kind and gentle and generous, yet just and strict with their offspring. To allow an untrained child to have his own way is to foster degeneration by allowing wilful perversity and ignorance to rule the scions of coming citizenship."

"Bacillinum."

"In the course of his paper on "Avoidable Causes of Disease in Children," Dr. B. F. Bailey made the following mention of that famous remedy, *Bacillium*, introduced to the world in Burnett's *New Cure for Consumption* :

"By the tubercular diathesis, of course we understand that organism in which the tubercular bacillus is more wont not only to locate, but to develop. It is here in childhood, too, that our remedy, *Bacillinum* is most worthy of trial. Here, when the tubercular bacillus has just begun its work, but not yet induced that pocket of dead product which never can be removed; but which is as deadly in its septicæmic effects as the bacillus itself. It has saved lives for me—it may do the same for many."

From the "discussion" we clip the following which is in the line of the recently published *Delicate, Backward, Puny and Stunted Children*:

DR. Gilbert: I have been waiting for some specialist to open this discussion, but no one seems to offer. The doctor mentioned the use of *Bacillinum* in his case. I have used two nosodes in treating children with great success, namely, *Medorrhinum* and *Syphilinum*. I believe that the rickety child is generally a sufferer from the gonorrhœa of the father or some ancestor, and that the child is apt to have glandular enlargements and suppuration and is generally benefited by going to the seashore. When I have a child like this, especially if the case be complicated with milk crust, I give *Medorrhinum* and the results are great. But when the diagnosis is evidently syphilitic and the case is better from going to the mountains I find a dose of *Syphilinum* to be of great value. In acute bowel troubles with the child as I have described it, when with all our care and trouble the child will continue to have these attacks, a dose of *Medorrhinum* will do wonders, the bowels will cease to trouble it and the skin will do its duty better. And so, in the case of a child with a syphilitic taint, the bowel troubles will be helped by *Syphilinum*. With a syphilitic history, where it does not thrive under remedies for its taint, I give it a dose of *Syphilinum* without any hesitation. I give these remedies always very high.

Dr. C. E. Fisher said on the other side: "I believe that we have remedies other than the products of disease with which to meet these cases, and have found in *Thuja* and *Sulphur* excellent remedies for these conditions; and very often when I am led to give either of these I find that I am wrong and that *Calcarea* is the remedy. I do not believe that we are justified in prescribing remedies by name for diseases by name."

DR. Bailey: "The only remedy among the nosodes which I have used is *Bacillinum*. Recently I had three cases of tuberculosis under my care that had had the best of treatment and care and yet were making rapid progress toward a fatal termination. Both Homœopathic and Allopathic treatment had been employed, and nothing would stay the progress of the disease. After looking the matter over carefully I felt that the cases were sure to die under the treatment which they were receiving. I felt that if this were the case, and men like Dr. Burnett had spoken so highly of the benefits of *Bacillinum*, it was my duty

to try it. So I gave it with most excellent results in all these cases."

So we close our clipping from the last transactions, leaving many papers untouched. Every reader of the RECORDER should be a member of the Institute, and thus get a free copy of this excellent yearly record.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE BULLETIN, NO. 1.

The next meeting of the American Institute of Homœopathy will be held in Detroit, Mich., from Wednesday, June 17, to Thursday, June 25. The Materia Medica Conference, which promises to be a most interesting feature, will convene on Tuesday, June 16, at 3 P. M. All interested in the Materia Medica should be present.

There is every prospect that the usual rate of a fare and a third for the round trip will be allowed by the Traffic Associations. The Joint Traffic Association, which resulted from the consolidation of the Central Traffic Association and the Trunk Line Association, now controls all the territory between New York and Chicago. This association goes into effect February 1, provided an injunction against its legality, brought by the Attorney General, is not sustained. In a latter case no one can tell what the outcome may be.

At the rate of a fare and a third or regular convention rates the fares from some of our principal points would be approximately: New York, \$18.00; Boston, \$22.65; Philadelphia, Washington, and Baltimore, \$19.00; Chicago, \$10.33; St. Louis, \$17.33, and Kansas City, \$25.33.

The time from New York and Philadelphia is approximately 18 hours, from Boston, 20 hours; Chicago, 8 hours; St. Louis, 14 hours; and Kansas City, 23 hours.

Detroit is very centrally situated, is quite a railroad centre and is very easily reached. From New York one may take one of no less than 15 routes, and in the West, especially at the time of the meeting, all roads should lead to Detroit.

The Michigan Central road and its branches cover most of the territory in the State of Michigan, as well as offering unexceptional facilities from Buffalo and Chicago. Michigan is credited with some Homœopathic physicians; certainly 75 per cent. of these should be present at the meeting in Detroit.

The Chicago and Alton and the Union Pacific roads which

treated the Institute so royally at the time of the Denver meeting should not be overlooked by our Western friends, nor should the Chicago and Northwestern be forgotten by our Northwestern delegates.

The Lehigh Valley road offers a specially fine service for our Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia members. It runs in connection with the Great Trunk railway of Canada which also covers points as far East as Boston and as far West as Chicago.

The committee is constantly at work to obtain the best accommodations for the greatest number at the best possible rates, and monthly bulletins will keep the profession posted as to best routes, train services and all railroad matters influencing the meeting. A large attendance should be present.

W. A. DEWEY, M. D., Chairman,
170 West 54th Street, N. Y.

EDITOR OF HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:—I see in the HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER, for December, a reference to the action of the juice of the frosted Phytolacca berries on obesity. There was quite a furor a few years ago on this subject, and I tried it in a number of cases. I collected the frosted berries myself, and expressed the juice and gave it in small and large doses. I also bought the tablets (dark red) in our Homœopathic pharmacy, and administered the same in various doses, from one to five, 3 or 4 times daily, to about twelve cases of excessive obesity. After two or three months' persistent trial there was no result in the way of a reduction of weight apparent in any one of the cases, and my experience with the drug, after a thorough and persistent trial, is, therefore, in exact accordance with that of Prof. Goodno. I presume that in some cases large doses may impair digestion to such an extent as to produce emaciation and loss of weight, but I do not believe that the drug possesses any specific fat-reducing property.

Sincerely yours,

C. W. SONNENSCHMIDT, M. D.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 14th, 1896.

The reference mentioned by Dr. Sonnenschmidt that appeared in the December number of the RECORDER was one simply calling attention to the fact that Professor Goodno, in his recently published book, confounds *Phytolacca decandra* with the juice of the phytolacca berries, where he mentioned the treatment of obesity.