

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15TH.

*Institutes of Homœopathy and Materia Medica.*

For this day we have promises of the following papers:

"Drug-selection by Sequence of Symptoms," by Dr. Ord; "New Proving of Aurum," by Dr. Burford; "A New Posological Law," by Dr. V. Léon Simon; "The Place of Animal Extracts in Homœopathy," by Dr. Clarke; "The Clinical Value of Tuberculin," by Dr. Cartier.

The first two and last two will probably be discussed at the General, the third at a Sectional Meeting.

THURSDAY, JULY 16TH.

*Practical Medicine, with Diseases of the Eye, Ear, and Throat.*

In the Ophthalmic Department we are promised a paper from Dr. Bushrod James on the treatment of Strumous Ophthalmia; and in the Aural, two on the possibilities of Medical Treatment in Deafness, by Drs. Hayward Sen, and Cooper. These subjects will be discussed at the General Meeting, together with an American essay on some point in Clinical Medicine as yet unnamed. At the Sectional Meeting in this branch Dr. Hughes will bring forward the action of Colchicum in Gout, and Dr. Oscar Hansen that of Mercury and Iodine in Syphilis.

FRIDAY, JULY 17TH.

*Surgical and Gynecological Therapeutics.*

The only material as yet in hand for this day's discussions is an essay by Dr. J. D. Hayward on "Some Experiences With Purulent Collections in the Thorax." Our American colleagues, however, have undertaken to supply two more papers on the day's topics, in which they have worked so largely and so well.

It will be seen from the above that our object is to discuss subjects rather than individual papers. Of the latter, therefore, we have no further need; but we should be very glad of additional communications on the topics already specified, and on those which will be later announced as chosen by the American Committee which is co-operating with us. All communications relating to the work of the Congress should be addressed to the General Secretary. The Local Secretaries will be glad to afford information relative to accommodation, etc. In connection with this it may be mentioned that the members of the British Homœopathic Society resident in London are being invited to open their houses, where practicable, to guests from abroad.

The President will hold a Reception on Monday evening, at the Queen's Hall, for the Members of the Congress, with the ladies of their families. February, 1896.

EDITOR OF HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

The inclosed clipping from the *Daily Lancet*, Philadelphia, Pa., for November 20, 1895, will be of interest to Homœopaths. It is "curious" that like cures like from the Allopathic standpoint, but to those who have followed Hahnemann the cures of similar are always expected. The Allopaths *do* stumble on facts once in awhile, and occasionally there is one among them who *knows* a fact when he sees it. *Primula obconica* should be better known among us.

The RECORDER'S mission in calling attention to *new* remedies is appreciated here, as I *believe* every plant and substance should be proven and that the more we have the better work we can do. There will always be "incurable" cases until we have all possible remedies carefully proven.

Truly, etc.,

W. A. YINGLING.

## Curious Medical Discovery in Vienna.

A report of the proceedings of the Society of Physicians, Vienna, shows a curious discovery by Dr. Riehl, of that city! It appears that a man was brought into Dr. Riehl's ward suffering from blisters and swellings on his hands, as well as on one eye, which he had touched with a swollen hand. The man was a gardener, and he attributed the blisters to a species of primrose, known as the *primula obconica*. Experiments were made and it was found that the tiny hairs on the leaves of the stocks irritated the skin and gave rise to swellings and inflammation. Dr. Riehl succeeded in extracting the poison which the plant contains, apparently for its own perfection or protection, and, by the use of injections with it, claims to have healed more than one obstinate skin disease.

*Primula obconica* is not obtainable in this country.—ED. HOM. RECORDER.

EDITOR OF HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER:

I was called lately to attend a man of thirty years of age in the last stages of consumption, and for the nervous coughing, choking spells I used *Moschus*  $\theta$  with pretty good result. *Tarantula Cubensis* 3 gave no result that I could see. His brother requested permission to try Oil of Cinnamon (Cassia) two drops to a wineglass of water. I agreed and one teaspoonful of that gave almost instantaneous relief and continued to do so up to the last few hours of life. The relief of course was not permanent. In Allen's Encyclopedia all I could find out about

Cinnamon was that it had produced a hæmorrhage of the bowels of bright red blood in a child five years old and that it was good for menorrhagia. In my Pocket Repertory (Johnson's Therapeutic Key) I find the following: (Threatened miscarriage after a *false step or strain in loins*. \*The chief symptom is a profuse flow of red blood, *itching of nose and nightly restlessness*; she tosses about even during sleep.)

I think that Cinnamon evidently is worth investigating, maybe some other physician may contribute information. I would be glad to know more about it anyway.

I have occasionally as a patient a man about seventy years of age who has quite a reputation as an herb doctor; and in conversation has told me of several herbs and his use for them; and some I believe are not used as a medicine now and may have drug power worth cultivating. He gives me the common names and so I do not know whether they are already in use or not, and if not in use I think it would be well to prove them and so make them valuable.

He has used them and claims to have cured cases. One case he stated had the bad disorder and was a mass of corruption nearly all over body, and had been treated by physicians in Caldwell, Montclair and New York, both schools of medicine and given up as incurable, and he claims to have cured the man in six weeks by administering the herb internally as decoction and externally as salve. The name of herb as he calls it is "Mountain Willow," grows 2-3 feet high in damp spots on side of mountains in this part of country.

*Prickly ash* tea for chills and fever.

*Lignum vitæ* sawdust tea as cure for rheumatism.

*Old man of the earth* for dropsy.

*Smart weed* for dropsy, amenorrhœa, etc.

*White hellebore* for dropsy.

*Garden licorice* for the blood and for cough.

He also stated that he has several times cured *Salt Rheum* and other blood disorders with Mountain Willow.

He also has used Mullein oil for hæmorrhages.

I believe that our stock of drugs can be increased with benefit to us and our patients. So I have been watching to pick up various items.

I copy the following that may be *Passiflora*, and if not then a rival to it. I take it from New York Weekly Witness, Jan. 8, '96, and that took it from Pearson's Weekly.

"In some parts of Mexico there grows a grass which produces a somniferous effect on the animals that graze on it. Horses go to sleep standing and are very hard to rouse for awhile, the effect passes off in 1-2 hours. No bad results have been noticed. Mr. F. V. Colvill, botanist of United States Department of Agriculture, says this sleepy grass is *Stipa viridula robusta* and considers the above statement reliable."

FRANKLIN C. WOODRUFF, M. D.,

February 11, 1896. 1 Roseville Avenue, Newark, N. J.

#### NOTES FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA TRANSACTIONS FOR 1895.

The transactions of the Thirty-first session of the Homœopathic Medical Society of Pennsylvania for 1895 make a very pretty volume of 429 octavo pages. In accordance with THE RECORDER'S custom we proceed to excerpt from it practical, or interesting, points.

##### "A Fixed Institution"

Said President W. J. Martin, M. D.: "As was said recently by the Governor of Massachusetts, in an address at a Hahnemann birthday celebration, so could be said of Pennsylvania; he said: 'As I mark the brilliant gathering before me, I realize in all its force the fact that the day for the discussion of the principles you stand for has gone by, and that Homœopathy has become a fixed institution, not only in this country, but in the whole world. Good and earnest work is being done by those who represent your principles, and in the name of the Commonwealth I bring you my best wishes and heartiest good will.'"

##### But They do Not Stay Cured Always.

In the discussion following the reading of Dr. Steele's interesting paper on "Lacerations of the Cervix Uteri," Dr. Korndoerfer made the following remarks which show the ultimate fate of some surgical cures:

"Specialists are apt to place too much stress upon their successes, ignoring the failures which, but too frequently, follow the knife, even though it be guided by the most skillful hand. I have at present three cases under my charge, in which, after removal of the ovaries, all the symptoms which led to the operation have only been aggravated—the patients, in fact, suffer-

ing more since than before the operation. In each of these cases the surgeon in charge has declared the patient cured, claiming that the existing symptoms result from other diseased states. Yet it was for just these symptoms that the patients applied for relief, and on account of which the operation was recommended and performed. Let us remember Hahnemann's injunction to use the knife when it can be employed with advantage to the patient, but let us also remember his advice with regard to the dynamic treatment of such cases."

#### The Shrunken Tail.

Dr. Edward Cranch presented a new and, we believe, far more rational view of the Appendix vermiformis than that which generally prevails: "The object of this paper is to show the appendix as a secreting organ, assisting to lubricate and soften the contents of the cæcum, very much as the tonsils, by their secretion, assist similarly in the act of deglutition. The appendix is not to be regarded as a functionless body; nor as a rudimentary beginning of some impending change; nor as a deteriorated remnant of a larger cæcum, shrunken up when man began to eat meat; nor as an inheritance from the apes, who also possess it although they eat no meat; nor yet, is it to be regarded as in any sense a product of blind evolutionary processes, but as a perfect organ, exactly designed for use in the place where it is, and no more liable to disease than are the teeth, tonsils, gall-bladder, rectum, uterus, special senses, or other portions of the humane economy."

The prevailing idea of this organ is, of course, the result of Darwin's notions that man is simply a developed brute or bug, which, after all, is but a theory and almost surely a wrong one. Dr. Cranch's paper is well worth reading in full, but the above extract gives the readers an idea of its tenor.

#### Polypharmacy.

Dr. Hugh Pitcairn said: "Some of our publishing houses and so-called Homœopathic pharmacies are doing the cause of Homœopathy far more harm than the Allopathic school can do by their polypharmacy. It is astonishing the number of Homœopathic physicians (so called) who use combination tablets of one kind or another, and they claim to be Homœopathic physicians. The only safe rule of a Homœopathic physician is the one laid down by the founder of our school: one drug at one time; the indicated remedy and the minimum doses."

#### Eupatorium Aromaticum.

Dr. P. S. Duff said: That this remedy "could be studied to advantage in forms of endemic diseases, as tuberculosis, typhus, thrush, fungus, stomatitis, etc., taking the drug, plant, history, habitat, family, etc., and taking the patient, history, family, habitat, and environments—all analogous essentials antecedent to scientific prescribing according to our great law, similia.

"CASE I.—Apthous; tongue red; papillæ swelled; eruption on the cheeks like prickly heat; the roof of the mouth, tongue, and inner cheeks studded with white ulcer-like spots; child is sensitive, worries and frets."

"CASE II.—Mother and two weeks'-old babe. When asked by the mother to prescribe for her, she knew not what was the matter; odor of breath and body peculiarly strong. I read in her anxiety something had come up all over her internally. She was coated closely, as far as I could penetrate the mouth, with a white, firm, and thick coating; the mucous membrane under this was sore; her nipples were red, inflamed-like, sore. The babe's mouth and inner parts were somewhat like the mother's, only not so overpowered-like. *Eup. aromat.* 3x cured, one prescription used.

"CASE III.—Male, æt. 57. For several days, mouth feels like as if injured, tender, scalded-like, particularly inside of lower lip, angles of the mouth; tongue, heavy, white, ragged coat, most at base, red edges and tips, two bloody ulcer spots near tip; burns near all the time; < from eating and heat; burning; gums sore and sensitive, particularly about two inferior roots. Gave *Merc. cor.*, *Arnica*, latter relieved most; *Calendula* and *Listerine*, partial relief; the weather hot, unquenchable thirst; not much appetite; flatulent bowels, with some pain; foul, disordered stool, as if from food eaten; awakes 2 to 3 A.M.; non-invigorating sleep. Third day, gave *Eup. aromat.*  $\theta$ . Patient soon felt a general aggravation, like a cold or catarrh; annoyed by pain in left shoulder, posterior scapular region; pulse, 94, unnatural; tight in left bronchia; felt ill, dull, and oppressed; pain, as if taking away breath, pleuritic-like; buccal cavity sensitive, sore, burning, etc. *Eup. aromat.*, 3x. Patient felt as if the right man was in the right place—grateful. And this is the sure sign of the similia, friend, helper, healer—proof and cure."

Drs. Bowie and Pitcairn both confirmed the usefulness of this remedy.

“Who Knows Enough.”

The following bit of verbal *Capsicum* is from Dr. D. T. Miller's “plea for purer practice:” “I pity the people served by the man who knows enough. I sympathize with the Homœopathic expectant who falls into the hands of a man who knows *better* than Hahnemann. If life is too short to study Homœopathic materia medica, it is to be feared that *other* lives are shortened by the system that a life *can* master.”

Gymnocladus Canadensis and a Blue-white Tongue.

Dr. C. T. Bingham contributed the following, which being short we quote in full: “While I do not advocate prescribing on one symptom, yet what might be considered a ‘key-note’ may lead to the remedy covering the case entire, as in the case I now report.

“Mr. A. writes me that ten days ago he was taken down with a severe attack of La Grippe. Was now able to be up, suffering, however, with a constant severe pain in the front part of the head, especially under the eyebrows and upper part of the nose. Had taken some five-grain tablets of *Antikamnia* without relief.”

“Knowing the patient's tendency to congestive headaches, sent him *Belladonna* 2x. Five days later, and two days after commencing the remedy, he writes: ‘My head continues to ache back of the eyebrows and the eyes, The aching has lasted over two weeks, never ceases, and sometimes is intolerable. The bones of the eye sockets are very sore to the touch, my nose runs some, and I have a slight cough. My tongue is covered all over with a bluish white coating; do not enjoy my food, and very weak.’”

“This peculiar coating on tongue, a symptom I had never met with before, I found only mentioned under one remedy—*Gymnocladus Canadensis*. In comparing the drug with the patient's symptoms, I found a great similarity. Sent the second decimal dilution. Three days after commencing this remedy the patient writes: ‘I have improved under the second remedy, which I have taken faithfully; am a great deal better in every way.’ Improvement continued until well, without change.”

Dr. S. A. Jones Among the Clinicians.

His paper was headed “Where Are We At?” and, needless to say, was interesting if not instructive, in the Dr. Barlow sense. Here are a few clippings from it:

“Allow me to state, for the information of the younger graduates who do not know me, that I have been a somewhat earnest reader of Homœopathic literature for forty years, and that this reading has been largely in its *serial* literature—a line of reading which, upon the whole, I regard as the most fructifying. Dear young doctor, if you have access to files of old Homœopathic journals devour them, for you shall find therein much that will be to you as the bread of life; and you undergraduates whom a propitious fortune has made matriculates of the old mother college, do you keep on the sunny side of that scholar, Bradford, tickle his midriff, that, haply, he shall tell what is fat and what is lean in the old medical journals, and having learned *that*, do you read as never students read before.”

“If Hahnemann's *Lesser Writings* were to Homœopaths ‘familiar in their mouths as household words,’ then would they learn that the boy who ‘was taught to think’ had long since discovered the speciosity of ‘science,’ and had warned them against her blandishments; but no; they, too, have grown weary in the wilderness; they, too, bend the knee to Baal, and worship the golden calf of modern medicine. Little wonder is it that the face of her serial literature is changed. In R. H. Hutton's essay on *Gæthe and His Influence*, he cites Matthew Arnold's verse anent the German protagonist of agnosticism:

“He took the suffering human race;  
He read each wound, each weakness clear;  
He stuck his finger on the place,  
And said, ‘Thou ailest here, and here.’”

“As a diagnostician, the modern Homœopathic physician is an immense success; but one may say of him as Hutton does of Gæthe as a spiritual physician: ‘He knew all symptoms of disease, a few alleviations, no remedies.’”

“I would, my brethren, that at this unrestful, questioning, and doubting end of the nineteenth century we may all be on our guard against the glamour of its fast-following theories. Think of it—the science of medicine spreading like an inundation, demanding laboratories without number and of curious names, for its pursuit, and *the practice of the art of medicine reduced by ‘science’ to an hypodermic syringe and an ‘animal extract.’*”

“O disciples of Hahnemann, do we, too, ‘imagine a vain thing’ after all his travail and all his triumph? Let us keep fresh in memory in what he triumphed, and why. It was not by

the *tour de maître* of the surgeon that maims to save; it was the discernment of the Divine clue that makes the maiming a reproach. He left the precious lesson as an 'Open Secret' to all who will read, 'imitate exactly,' and learn; contempt for this lesson and neglect thereof mean decadence—and that is the next door to death."

And with this we close our excerpts.

GLONOINE IN SCIATICA.—Dr. Wm. C. Krass has been treating Sciatica with this remedy quite successfully. Here are his clinical cases taken from *N. Y. Med. Journal*:

CASE I.—Mr. B., age fifty-five years, has been a sufferer with rheumatism and sciatica several times, the knee and ankle joints being particularly affected. On Thanksgiving day, 1895, was seized with sciatic pain and tenderness and was obliged to remain in bed without being able to move the left leg ever so slightly. Extreme tenderness and sensitiveness were present over the sacrum, in the space between the trochanter and tuberosity of the ischium, popliteal space, inner surface of the malleolus, and extending to the big toe. Atrophy of the muscles, along with disturbances of sensation, indicated a neuritis of the sciatic nerve rather than a neuralgia.

He was treated heroically with ice applications, rest, liniments, along with the salicylates, iodides, and alkalies, without any relief, and nerve-stretching was suggested but not carried out. I was called to see the patient on December 8, 1895, and prescribed nitro-glycerin, one minim of the one-per-cent. solution, or one one-hundredth-grain tablet, three times daily, along with tonics and galvanism. In two days' time the effect of the nitro-glycerin was manifested in the arteries, and from this time on he improved, so that in ten days the sensitiveness over the nerve trunk had disappeared entirely. An attack of rheumatism set in a few days later, attacking the knee and ankle-joints of the left leg and the knee joint of the right leg, with swelling, redness, and tenderness over these joints. The sciatic nerve became at no subsequent period tender or painful, and to-day he is at his business relieved of both affections.

CASE II.—M. B., aged forty-eight years, bookkeeper, has been a sufferer from rheumatism and sciatica for years, so that he is hardly able to walk even with his canes. An acute attack of sciatica set in on November 18, 1895, affecting the right leg,

necessitating complete rest with immobility of the leg. Tenderness, pain, and sensitiveness were present, and the least movement of the leg was attended with excruciating pain. I prescribed nitro-glycerin (one-per-cent. solution), one minim three times daily. Thinking he could not get too much of a good thing, he increased the dose to four and five minims three times daily. No other medicine was administered. In eight days' time he was walking about, entirely freed from all sciatic pain, and in his own words cured from the "hardest attack in the shortest time."

CASE III.—Mrs. B., wife of patient No. 2, was seized on December 10, 1895, with an acute attack of sciatica on the left side. I was immediately called for and found present all the symptoms of a severe sciatic neuralgia. Nitro-glycerin in one minim doses three times daily relieved her so that in seven days she was able to be about the house, and in fourteen days all pain and sensitiveness along the nerve had disappeared.

CASE IV.—A young lady, aged eighteen years, employed as a typewriter and stenographer, and obliged to sit eight to ten hours on a hard bottomed chair, complained of acute pain beginning in the small of the back and hips and extending down the legs. On examination I found her anæmic, emaciated, with sensitive areas over the nerve trunks of the legs, some disturbances of sensation, and trophic disorders, symptoms indicating a neuritic affection.

I prescribed cod-liver oil and nitro-glycerin with rest, and after a period of four weeks she is again at her work, free from her sciatic pains.

BERBERIS AQUIFOLIUM.—"From the fact that it will make a 'new' man of an old one in a short time, it is an excellent remedy—we believe an unrivalled one—in constitutional syphilis. It relieves the muscular, bone and periosteal pains, and the several syphilitic eruptions soon disappear upon the administration of *Berberis*. Prof. Webster declares that *Berberis* is not only many times a better antisyphilitic than the iodide of potassium, but that it will frequently render the system tolerant to this remedy when given with it." "Recently we have had some pleasant experiences in the use of *Berberis* in several cases of psoriasis that had withstood the onslaughts of other drug dispensers for more than a year. Although it was at times alter-