

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BROOKLYN HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL and Training School for nurses for the year ending November 30, 1895. A very handsome and instructive Report. It contains fifteen full page half tone views of the hospital, and to judge from them the patient who would not get well in these elegant quarters must be very far gone indeed. There were 683 operations during the year. Mortality rate, exclusive of moribund cases, was 3.3 per cent. The annual charges and running expenses of the Hospital and Dispensary exceed their revenue by a large amount. For the past few years, nearly all the contributions towards paying this deficiency have been made by the trustees. It seems proper to mention this fact and to state that any contribution will be most acceptable, and may be sent to Henry M. Tate, Treasurer, at the Hospital, 109 Cumberland street, Brooklyn, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

WM. SHARP, M. D., F. R. S. author of the famous Sharp's *Tracts on Homœopathy*, a new edition of which was recently issued, passed away on April 10th, Hahnemann's birthday, at the ripe age of ninety-one. There are few more readable and convincing books for inquirers into Homœopathy than these *tracts*.

THE RECORDER is indebted to Homœopathy's antiquary (he is not antiquated, remember), Dr. T. L. Bradford, for a unique collection of photographs, sixty five in all. They embrace every known picture, statue, bust and medallion of Hahnemann, and also his birth place and other interesting subjects connected with the father of Homœopathy. Bradford is doing good work not only for the men of the present day but for posterity.

DR. FISHER has issued a very handsome forty-eight page pamphlet on the subject of "The Crowning Volume of the Homœopathic Library"—*The Homœopathic Text-book of Surgery*. It consists chiefly of specimen pages of the work on which, in a very attractive manner, are printed the half-tone pictures of the various contributors to that work. It is really an artistic bit of advertising. The remainder of the pamphlet is made up of the preface, names of authors and their subjects, list of illustrations, plates, and table of contents.

OUR Eclectic friends are evidently letting themselves go ament their annual meeting to be held at Portland, Oregon, June 16-18th, if we may judge by their "Souvenir" book of 100 pages which we have received in advance. It is full of pictures of that huge northwest empire, of Eclectic programs and officers, and a goodly array of advertisers which must rejoice the hearts of the men who got up this very attractive souvenir.

Homœopathic Recorder.

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THE EFFECT OF "COMPETITION."

To judge from the following clipping from the *Indian Homœopathic Review*, the Orient is suffering as much as the Occident from the evils of cheap and debased homœopathic pharmacy.

We noticed it stated in some American papers that there are forty-two homœopathic pharmacies in Calcutta. This ought to be a source of great pleasure to us, but on the contrary we are sorry, supply of genuine homœopathic medicine is far from what is desired. All of us should be on our guard to see that pure medicinal substances can be had, without which our success in treating diseases will be diminished. Being pressed under hard competition our pharmacists reduce the price of their stock by degrees and consequently we often observe worst stock in the market. In order to avoid this disaster many of our physicians have their own medicines prepared and sold under their own supervision.

For the good of Homœopathy and humanity it is to be hoped that physicians will some day open their eyes to the fact that cut-throat competition of homœopathic pharmacies with its inevitable debasement of medicine so far from being a benefit to them is a serious menace. To be sure the great majority of them do see it, and refuse to encourage houses that ignore quality and seek only to secure trade by low prices, but there are still a great many who think that the two, three or five cents an ounce they "save" on cheap goods is an excellent stroke of business on their part. Some day they will exclaim "live and learn," as they realize that their "saving" on cheap medicine was the most costly extravagance they ever indulged in.

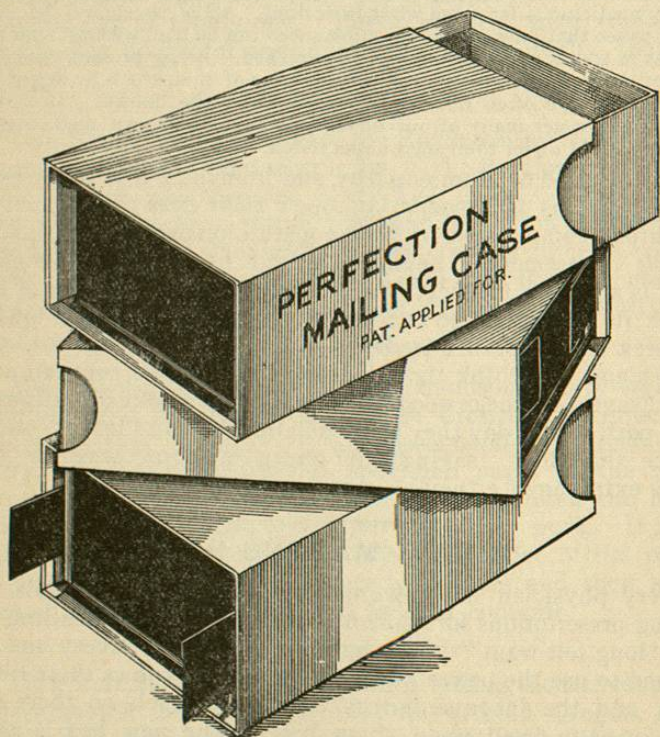
A NEW MAILING BOX.

Every physician has more or less occasion to mail vials containing prescriptions for patients, and a convenient mailing box is a "long felt want"—now happily supplied. Every one who has had to use the boxes heretofore supplied knows their limitations, and the inconveniences peculiar to each, so there is no need for us to dwell upon them here. The new box is named the "Perfection Mailing Box," and the patentee has but just received his patent and began their manufacture. The "Perfection" consists of two stiff pasteboard boxes the smaller of

which slips into the larger; two pieces of tin run along side of the inside box and at the far end slightly project. When the box is in its place these two projections are bent down over another piece of tin in the end of the larger box and thus the packing box is held firm and secure in its place, secure enough to go to China.

When in use all that is required is to pack the vial in paper or cotton, as is done in ordinary mailing boxes, slip the inner box into its place, bend the clamps down and the trick is done; no wrapping or tying being required. Every one who has seen these boxes has at once recognized their simplicity and convenience, and if, in need of a box of the sort, bought a supply. Messrs. Boericke & Tafel control the output and will be pleased to mail a sample to anyone who would like to see the box. At present there are three sizes made and the prices are as follows:

The cut of three boxes, the top one partly opened, the bottom one the box closed ready to be clamped, and the middle one closed and ready for mailing, gives one a very good idea of this ingenious invention.



One or two drachm size, \$3.00 per 100, or forty cents per dozen.

One-half ounce size, \$3.25 per 100, or forty-five cents per dozen.

Two two drachm size, \$4.00 per 100, or fifty five cents per dozen.

For a sample address Boericke & Tafel, 1011 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa. This address is for samples only. Should any one want to order a supply of the boxes the order may be sent to the nearest B. & T. pharmacy.

If any of our readers want to attend the International Homœopathic Congress in good company, and at a very low rate of fare, they ought to address Dr. Frank Kraft, 57 Bell ave., Cleveland, Ohio, for particulars. For instance, the rate from Detroit to London, and return, will be \$90, and proportionately from other points. The boarding is expected to run from \$5 to \$7 per week in London and Paris. The party will be made up of physicians and professional people, and, under Field Marshal Kraft, is certain to be an enjoyable one. The steamer will leave on July 25th.

HOW LONG, OH LORD! OH, HOW LONG!

How long will the subscribers of a medical journal consent to pay for reading matter which consists of fifty per cent. reading notices?

Can we expect a doctor to subscribe for a journal just to read what you or some backwood practitioner says about a case cured by a certain drug?

We do think that advertisers who are so persistent in the matter of reading notices have not fully grasped the subject. Nor have many publishers seen the danger ahead, as month by month they allow the readers to be robbed by the advertisers.

A little honest notice of your avertisers in a special department is a good thing for all, but the integrity of the whole reading matter in your journal is challenged when every other article is for your advertisers.—*Bulletin of the Am. Pub. Association.*

AN outdoor department has been added to the Homœopathic Hospital of Harlem, at 245 W. 124th street. The building, which is occupied by the hospital and dispensary, is a three-story frame structure, and is situated in a very crowded district of Harlem. The movement thus far is only in its infancy, and

those who have charge are slowly feeling their way along. The demands on the institution have been so great during the short time it has been open that already more spacious quarters are being looked out for. The dispensary is open from 2 until 3 each afternoon.

The staff of physicians at the dispensary are Dr. B. G. Clark, Dr. J. F. Land, Dr. George E. Tytler, Dr. Floyd P. Sheldon, Dr. Martin D. Cannon, Dr. W. McDowell and Dr. Willard Ide Pierce.

EVER and anon the seeker after truth runs up against something in his scientific exchanges that, like certain thoughts that beset Hamlet upon a time, give him pause. For instance the following from the Paris letter in *Pediatrics* for May:

SEROTHERAPEUTICS OF SMALLPOX.—The latest application of serotherapeutics is that of the injection of the serum from a vaccinated heifer against smallpox. Mons. Bectere has found that it requires the introduction of a quantity equal to the hundredth part of the weight of the heifer to confer temporary immunity, or one-fiftieth to secure complete protection from subsequent inoculation of variolous virus.

We should, on the whole, prefer the fiftieth part of a heifer in the form of broiled steaks, washed down with sterilized water, or something else.

THE *Buffalo Medical and Surgical Journal* says:

The effects of tuberculosis on dairy cattle has attracted the attention of sanitarians and public health authorities for some time. A committee of the State Board of Health has conferred with a similar committee of the Board of Health of the City of New York and a report has been published for distribution among the farmers. The report states that more than one-seventh of all deaths occurring in human beings throughout the civilized world is caused by tuberculosis, and it is estimated that more than one-fourth of all deaths occurring during adult life is due to it and that nearly one-half of the entire population of the world at some time in life acquires it.

The growth of this disease of late reminds one the way Jack's Beanstalk shot up. One-half the world of men and cows are tuberculous. Quarantine the one and kill the other. The Boards ask an appropriation of \$300,000.00 as a starter.

A PARIS letter says:

"It may be interesting to those who are engaged in researches on tuberculosis to know that a prize of 800,000 francs, or \$160,000, has just been founded. This prize, which comes from the estate of the late Mrs. Audif-

fred, is the gift of the Academy of Medicine of this city. It is to be bestowed upon whoever, without distinction of nationality or profession, shall within the period of twenty-five years from the 28th of January, 1896, have discovered a remedy, either curative or preventive, which shall be recognized by the Academy of Medicine as efficacious and sovereign against tuberculosis.

Now is your chance for fame and fortune.

THE following vigorous letter was written by Dr. A. B. Norton (*of Ophthalmic Diseases and Therapeutic fame*) to Mr. F. H. Howe, of the Manhattan Life Insurance Co.

I am pleased to learn that you have succeeded in securing the recognition of the Homœopathic school, by your company, as evidenced by the appointment to its staff of medical examiners, of two of our representative members in this city, *Drs. Eugene H. Porter and St. Clair Smith*.

The discrimination against Homœopathic physicians practiced by many of the old-line companies in refusing to appoint them as medical examiners in large cities, resulted in my refusing to take out a policy in any company so under the control of their antiquated old-school medical examiners.

It is an undoubted fact that the clientele of Homœopathic physicians in this city represent fully one-half of the city's wealth, and if they would all follow the principle of patronizing *only* such companies as recognize Homœopathy it would do much toward breaking down the medical bigotry perpetuated in life insurance examiners.

You may now write for me the \$10,000 policy I have had under consideration, which seems to me the best policy I know of.

ADULTERATION OF RHUS TOXICODENDRON.—J. L. D. Morison states (*Am. Journ. Pharm.*) that the leaves of the common Virginia creeper, *ampelopsis quinquefolia*, Mich., are sometimes substituted for those of the official *Rhus toxicodendron* and that he has lately found this admixture in a quantity of the drug obtained from one of the most reliable wholesale houses. The adulteration may be easily detected, he points out, by soaking "a sample of the leaves in water and carefully examining them. Those of the poison ivy are pinnately compound with three leaflets, while those of the Virginia creeper are palmately compound with five leaflets. The individual leaflets of the two plants differ also in form. The terminal leaflet of the poison ivy is long-petiolate, ovate or oval in general outline, with an acuminate apex, a somewhat wedge-shaped base, and a nearly entire margin; the lateral leaflets are nearly sessile, obliquely ovate, pointed, unequal at the base, with a variously notched or

toothed margin, and have short petioles of nearly equal length." The admixture, we think, was likely accidental from ignorance of the gatherer. The two plants differ materially, but might be confounded by the inexperienced.—*Druggists' Circular*.

POISONOUS EFFECTS OF BORAX.—At the present time there are a vast number of preparations intended for the cure and preservation of foods, which depend for the claim advanced upon the large portion of *sodium biborate* contained. This fact has led Féré, of Paris—who has had considerable experience with the drug in the treatment of intractable cases of epilepsy—to investigate its physiological action. He several times found it necessary to give large doses for long periods, and frequently met with persons who were peculiarly susceptible to the drug. The untoward effects were loss of appetite succeeded by burning pain at the pit of the stomach, buccal dryness, and eventually nausea and vomiting. Also a remarkable dryness of the skin was produced which not only favored, but in several instances caused skin maladies, notably eczema; the hair also became dry and fell out, threatening complete baldness. The most dangerous result of the use *Sodium biborate* is its power to increase kidney disease, or to convert a slight renal malady into a fatal or malignant affection.—*Druggist' Circular*.

ECHINACEA AND BOILS.—I will relate one case which is free from all the objections that a skeptic might bring forward. Mr. K——, a gentleman of high standing who occupies the position of general yard master on one of the great railroads that terminate in this city, is a man of some forty years, and weighs nearly two hundred pounds; temperate in all things, and now looks a perfect picture of health. Some ten months ago he was annoyed by boils. One after another came, and nearly teased the life out of him. He applied to the hospital of the Missouri Pacific Railroad, in this city, and received the attention of the head of the establishment, whose *regularity* would equal that of a country "schoolma'm." He was given medicines of all kinds save that necessary to give him relief. The suppurations grew worse, assuming the condition of carbuncles, and of these he had three or four at a time. The surgeon of this establishment, cut

and slashed these growths, after the most approved fashion. This went on for some time, until the man was completely discouraged, and made up his mind that the trouble would kill him before he got through with it. At this juncture I put him upon *Echinacea*. No more carbuncles or boils came. Those that he already had, dried up and gradually left him. It has now been about two months and he is entirely free from his former annoyance, and says he believes this medicine saved his life.

I will also say that before he came to me he took four ounces of a trituration of *Hepar sulphur*, believed by many to be a specific for this condition, but no benefit came from its use.—*Exchange*.

A GREAT CELEBRATION —Emperor William took occasion to make the unveiling of the statue of his grandfather, William I, in Frankfurt-on-the-Main, one of great pomp and importance. Among those present were the Empress, princes, princesses, men of state, generals and prominent personages from all parts of the Empire. In the evening, after the celebration, a magnificent banquet, rarely equalled, was tendered to the imperial couple and to the numerous dignitaries at the Palm Garden.

The menu, as published in the *Frankfurter Zeitung* of May 11, 1896, was all the most advanced connoisseur could wish, the wines being of the most celebrated vintages and G. H. Mumm & Co.'s Extra Dry the champagne served.

THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE. By Dr. Marvin A. Custis, Washington, D. C. Flexible morocco, with gold edges.

This little work is a pocket manual in which a brief description is given of the synonyms, definition, etiology, differential diagnosis, complications, duration, prognosis, and treatment of the various diseases considered. Under the latter heading are given the generally-accepted hygienic, dietetic and accessory measures, and a liberal list of the most-commonly used homœopathic remedies with clearly-defined and variously-emphasized indications. The descriptions are unusually clear and practical for a work whose chief merit is condensation. The volume does not aim to be a Raue, a Goodno nor an Arndt, but a pocket manual of more than usual practicality—an end it has easily attained. The book sells at two dollars and is well worth the money. It is not comprehensive enough to take the place of standard works on practice, but to our mind is the best pocket reference manual at present before the profession.—*Medical Century*.

PERSONAL.

Tremendous, hazardous, stupendous—they say there is only one other English word that ends “dous.”

The professional man who stints himself in books is something like the man who tried to keep his horse on shavings.

“As we turn the search-light of investigation into the remote ages of antiquity”—is the way the *Charlotte Medical Journal* puts it.

When Europe was a wilderness China had her examining boards and she has them yet.

The altruistic pharmacist who lives only to “divide” his “profits” with the doctor, never—well, hardly ever, fails to take it out on the goods.

There is no money in inferior goods for anyone save the seller.

A stock of fluid extracts, well diluted, and you have a cheap line of “Homœopathic mother tinctures.”

They say a Boston theosophist, while sitting still, saw his sidewalk.

Powdered milk sugar, a little perfunctory stirring, and you have cheap “trits,” “above the ix.” Money in them, too.

They say hiccough can be arrested by putting out the tongue.

The man who speaks of a genuine Homœopathic book as being “out of date” sort o’ gives himself away.

Dr. Edmund Carlton has removed from 53 W. 45th street to 62 W. 49th street, New York.

The *Pacific Coast Jour.* and the *Am. Hom.* have pocketed their guns and, as it were, taken a friendly smile.

After reading certain papers in the big monthlies that are said to reject hundreds of mss. daily, one shudders to think what manner of stuff the rejected must have been.

Dr. Frederic G. Ritchie has removed from N. Y. Ophthalmic Hospital to 134 W. 47th street. Diseases of the eye and ear exclusively.

Dr. Geo. W. McDowell has removed to 136 W. 130th street, New York. Even a fond lover draws the line at a Roentgen photo of his lady.

Governor Bradley has appointed Dr. J. H. Samuel, of Maysville, Ky., a member of the State Board of Health. Dr. Samuel is vice president of the Ky. Homœopathic Society.

Dr. Redmondino announces that the *National Popular Review* has “permanently ceased to exist.”

Custis’ *Practice of Medicine*, at \$2.00, is becoming a favorite.

Boericke & Tafel’s *Phytolacca decandra folia* seems to be a good local application to carcinomatous growths. (See Dr. Hurndall’s paper in this number of RECORDER).

Pay up your subscription to the RECORDER and enjoy a good conscience.

If you use mailing boxes do not fail to see the “Perfection.”

Has any one ever proved the salt, or the water, of the Dead Sea?

WANTED.—A resident physician for the Brooklyn Maternity Hospital. Apply to Dr. E. W. Avery, 16 Hancock street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

They say that the bicyclist is fast becoming as expert a story-teller as the fisherman.

The California Fig Syrup Co. makes its first appearance in THE RECORDER’S select pages. See XIX—next page.

The wise advertiser always has THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER on his list.

Geo. S. Norton’s book on “Therapeutics of the Eye,” is the one to buy—best and cheapest, too, \$1.00.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

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A CASE OF HYSTERO-EPILEPSY.

On the 22d of last April the writer was consulted in the case of S. X., æt. 18, a cadet in a military school, and a fine-looking specimen of young manhood.

He is sent from school because he is believed to be subject to epileptic fits, and the attacks have been developed within the last six months.

Before the patient came the following documents were handed me by the mother; the writer of the first being the Principal of the Military School in which the patient is a pupil.

“Since I wrote you on Saturday [the 18th of April, and this letter is dated the 20th], I have seen Sam in one of his spasms and can speak more intelligently.

“Saturday evening, about half an hour after supper, he had a hard wrestling match with Stern. After it was over Sam felt the approach of (1) a spasm and walked to the house, Stern going with him. He had no more than got to his room when he had a hard spasm. I was called very soon. Before he regained consciousness he had three (2) other attacks, all of which I saw.

“His face was almost livid; his veins were filled almost to bursting, and his muscles were most intensely strained—during one [spasm] drawing his head and legs back into bow shape. (3) The spasm lasted from one to three minutes, but the unconsciousness from about half to three-quarters of an hour.

“After he regained his sensibilities he talked awhile and [then] went to sleep, (4) and waked the next morning apparently well.

“During the spasms there was a little frothing at the mouth. (5) The head was not particularly warm, but the pulse ran up as high as 132.

“I am convinced that the spasms are brought on more by severe exercise than by heat. He went out and pitched one or two innings of ball, but had to give it up to go off and have a spasm—which he did before he could get to the house.

“I am sorry to say it, but I believe these attacks are epilepsy. When you have him examined ask the physician to have that in mind, and let him know the character of the attacks.