

a dose to be taken every three hours, and nothing else. The child probably took six or eight doses and recovered, but it never had another convulsion.—*Dr. W. A. Cotton, Escanabia, Mich., in the Clinique.*

LACHESIS IN SCARLET FEVER.—If we look around among our remedies we find but one "king" of blood poison; his vision is that of acute gangrene, and these septic cases of scarlatina or any other disease which presents to us the visage of acute gangrene, which the Germans call "Heiser brand," no matter whether local or general, this remedy is the similitum, and that is *Lachesis*. For many years I had no confidence in it, because Hempel, in the first edition of his lectures on *Materia Medica*, ridiculed its use and considered it one of the outgrowths of Hering's fancy. But since I began administering this remedy, scarlatina brings no more terror to me. It is like pouring oil on troubled water. After a twenty-four hours' use the patient becomes restful, the fever decreases, the eruption assumes a lighter color, and convalescence proceeds rapidly. In severe cases I give the remedy in water, every half hour.

With other remedies I have never been able to prevent the disease from assuming a malignant form, when it chose to do so. Consequently, I have for the last fifteen years given *Lachesis* in every case of scarlatina, not as a remedy for scarlatina, but as a prophylactic against septic complications. And since doing so, my cases have all terminated as mild cases. If the fever had run high, when I first visited the patients, and if there were indications of a probable severity of the case, in twenty-four hours my case would always be in calm water and recover within the normal time. This remedy is not a new one, but since so many new-fangled fads are continuously puffed up, it is well to be sometimes reminded of our old, faithful and reliable "anchors."—*F. X. Spranger, in Pacific Coast Journal of Homœopathy.*

CONVULSIONS.—K. B., aged 36 years has borne four children; the first and third were still-born, while the second, born about four years ago, had died of convulsions on the second day after its birth. On the 11th of August at 7 P. M. she was delivered of her fourth child, a girl. On the next day, the 12th of August, I was called to the child because it was suffering of convulsions.

When I came there at 3 P. M., I found the child quietly sleeping in bed and of healthy appearance. But scarcely had I observed it for five minutes, when the eyelids began to twitch and soon the twitchings extended all over the face, so that the mouth was altogether drawn to one side, the upper extremities were stretched out straight, the fingers were clinched and the whole body, but especially the face, was of a dark-blue, extremely-cyanotic appearance. After this had lasted for five minutes, the child returned in a similar period of time to its former healthy appearance, so that nothing morbid could be observed in it. I gave some pellets of *Ignatia* 6. During the use of the medicine, this state continued for yet twenty-four hours, when the convulsions ceased and the child recovered. I heard that the second child had shown similar morbid symptoms, but it had succumbed to them.—*Dr. J. Ganz, Allg. H. Z. p. 60.*

GOUT.—Dr. D. S. Hanon, of Cleveland, O., has a paper on gout in March number of the *Cleveland Medical Gazette*, and he sums up as follows:

"RECAPITULATION."

"1. Gout does harm, not only to joints, skin, blood vessels and kidneys, but notably to heart, brain, nerves and other tissues."

"2. Gout, when acute, is rarely uncomplicated in this country, but is generally rheumatic."

"3. The exact cause is not *definitely* understood, but is certainly in some way due to imperfect digestion."

"4. Gouty changes are probably due to a pre-existing lithæmia, and to some unknown products that cause necrosis of tissue."

"5. The best time to make treatment effective in preventing this tissue degeneration is during this lithæmic stage."

"6. The best treatment, both for the lithæmia and sub-acute and chronic gouty manifestations, are those measures that increase oxidation and elimination; these are, increased physical exercise, hot bathing, milk and alkaline waters taken freely, the avoidance of an excess of meat, fats, alcohol and carbohydrates, and finally administration of the thymus gland of the calf—something I have only used in one instance, and that for so short a time that I can not yet judge of its effect."

To the foregoing rather barren summary we may add that if any reader wants to *learn* something practical about gout and how to cure it he must get Burnett's recently-published book on the subject. For practical purposes it is worth all that has hitherto been written on the subject.

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HOMŒOPATHY OF TODAY.—Dr. Richard Hughes is delivering a course of lectures at the London Homœopathic Hospital. From one published in the *Monthly Homœopathic Review* for March we quote the following summary of Homœopathy as it exists to-day:

"In the considerations which have now passed under our notice I think I have fairly set before you Homœopathy as it exists to-day, nearly a century after the first promulgation of the method by its founder. That our school has an "extreme left," rigidly exclusive and (I must add) highly exaggerative, I have already admitted; and it possesses also an "extreme right," the practice in which differs little from that of traditional medicine. But speaking for the simple "right" and "left," with their corresponding "centres," and allowing for the shades of difference these names represent, I believe that the conduct of the immense majority of the twelve thousand or more Homœopaths of the world is what I have now described. We are all hygienists; we give more or less place to surgery, hydrotherapy, electricity, gymnastics and massage; but when we come to drug-action, save for an exceptional allopathic adjunct or antipathic palliative, our whole endeavor is to follow the rule *similia similibus*. We work it with both specific and individual similiarities, when we can get them; but in default of either are content to lay hold of the other, and, where both fail, to fall back upon clinical experience, only requiring as the issue of each mode of discovery the dynamic, constitutional agent, operating directly, silently, and in small dose, which we know as the homœopathic remedy.

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A GRAPHITES SYMPTOM.—"The following symptoms occurred about the 10th day on three separate occasions, in a male aged 25, who was taking *Graph.* 2x and 3x in three-grain doses night and morning, for psoriasis unguialis. The symptoms would disappear in a few days with *China* 1x. Patient described the pain as 'an intense, heavy weight, or dull pressure, in the upper

part of the occiput, with a feeling as if the head were drawn back and the neck would break, *obliging him to rest his head.*' While the pain lasted he was quite unable to read or work."—*Dr. Washington Epps in Monthly Hom. Review.*

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CHRONIC RHEUMATISM.—Mrs. M., 75, a martyr to rheumatism many years. Hands much deformed, fingers crippled and joints swelled. Her chief complaint is of obstinate, gnawing pain in the stomach, which is very distressing. She has hot, acid heart-burn and eructations, severe gnawing pain in the loins and lower limbs down to the toes. Often feels as if a cold wet sheet were round her, and is always very chilly. Urine clear and copious. *Kali bich.* effected little. Heavy sweats at night which do not relieve pain. Gave *Merc. dulc.* This gave her some relief, but the pain returned, "as if bones were gnawed." I prescribed *Rhododendron* 1x, gtt. v. ter. die. In a few days the pain and acidity were relieved, and she rapidly became much better, and a month later was still keeping so.—*Dr. Cash in Monthly Homœopathic Review.*

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BE "UP TO DATE."—"I do not ask you to accept as true the fact that a potency of *Staphisagria* will cause lice to disappear from the hair of the head; it is a fact that they must have a certain condition in which to exist, *Staphisagria* will change that condition and they will not be found; but do not teach this in the present generation, it has not the ring of science, some one will copy it in an old-school journal and you will be considered a back number."—*C. N. Hart, M. D., in Minneapolis Hom. Magazine.*

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EPIPHEGUS, 3x dilution, will cure headache arising from excitement from any cause—as from being out on the crowded street, in the whirl of excitement, overwork, delayed meals, impaired digestion, nervousness. The physician can soon learn the indications so as to make no mistake. The dose is six drops every two or three hours in a swallow of water, until relieved. Not unfrequently one dose will give entire relief, at most, the second will cure. I have found but two or three cases where it was of no benefit.—*Dr. J. C. Andrews, Los Angeles, California Medical Journal.*

THE *Medical Record* thinks that you should avoid the doctor "who has acute exacerbations of insanity when exposed to any new fad. The one who is always successful with all his difficult operations. The one who always sees hundreds of cases of a rare disease. The one who can always match your case and improve on your treatment. The one who always finds you have omitted something in the examination of your case. The one who thinks he can talk well and is always ready to discuss any paper of the evening. The one who is always the first to do the new operation. The one who is in a chronic fear of being anticipated in his important discoveries. The one who in consultation feels it his conscientious duty to explain to the patient why he differs with the attending physician."

### BOOK NOTICES AND GOSSIP.

**Special Pathology and Diagnostics, with Therapeutic Hints.** By C. G. Raue, M. D., formerly Professor of Special Pathology and Therapeutics in the Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia. Fourth edition. Revised and Augmented. 1039 pages, large 8vo. Cloth, \$7.00; by mail, \$7.54. Half morocco, \$8.00; by mail, \$8.54. Philadelphia. Boericke & Tafel. 1896.

This work of practice, at once the oldest and the newest in the field, has been out of print for over a year, and this elegant new edition will be welcomed by all who believe in the pure homœopathic practice, for which it stands to-day, and has stood, often alone, during the thirty years that have elapsed since the first edition appeared. The difference between a true and a false science is that the former does not (indeed *cannot*) change, but only develop, for if a thing is false and has to be given up it is not science; while a false science to-day contemns those principles that it advanced yesterday as "up to date." That which is ever shifting has no right to the use of that shining word "science." Science is mundane truth, and truth is indestructible; it was "up to date," though, perhaps, unknown, in the days of the patriarchs, and is the same to-day (and often quite as unknown). Homœopathy stands in the *real* scientific world for mundane truth in medicine, and this book stands for true homœopathic practice—as the old *Medical Advance* in its palmy

days said, "We are willing it should stand as a representative of our homœopathic practice"—hence it is not a shifting work; what was said in the first edition is not contradicted in the fourth, though much developed and enlarged.

Comparing the third with the fourth edition, we find that the third had 1094 pages, while the fourth has 1039, though a great deal of new matter has been added. This difference is accounted for by the fact that the publishers have built the new work on modern lines which require a larger page—broader and longer. The paper used in this new edition is the finest we have seen in any medical work without exception, and is a delight to the eye and touch. The binding is the same strong and durable kind that characterizes nearly all of this firm's work.

The distinguishing feature of this book is its "Therapeutic Hints," which alone are worth all the book costs and more; this is a strong statement but it is a true one. "Yes," said Dr. Raue one day to the writer, while conversing on this topic, "other writers have made free use of these 'hints' and very seldom have they given my book the credit. But they are welcome to them."

**A Manual of Anatomy.** By Irving S. Haynes, Ph. B., M. D. Pp. 680. \$2.50, net. Philadelphia. Wm. B. Saunders. 1896.

Dr. Haynes has written a very excellent work on the facts, or essentials, of anatomy, and his publisher has brought it out in first-class style, both as regards text and illustrations; there are one hundred and thirty-four half-tone plates, and forty-two diagrams, all—or nearly all—done in good style. The book ought to be very useful to students of anatomy.

"*Auto toxis, in its Effects Upon the Eyes,*" is the title of a pamphlet reprint of a paper from *North American Journal of Homœopathy*, by F. Parke Lewis, M. D., of Buffalo, N. Y.

One case of rheumatic iritis was cured, and the general health greatly improved, by cutting down the amount of nitrogenous food ingested. The point made by Dr. Lewis is the same as that insisted on by Dr. Keith, of Edinburg, in his recently-published work, and it is a good one.

THE following is a rather interesting excerpt from a letter from an "old-school" man: "Perhaps you would like to know how the *Chronic Diseases* strike an old-school man. In the first place, I did not know anything about Homœopathy. I find it by reading this book. Secondly, the next book on my list to get is *Materia Medica Pura*. Is there anything that goes into the *Materia Medica* of Nosodes?" Query: May it not be within the bounds of probability that Hahnemann was right in his theories of disease advanced in the *Chronic Diseases* and the rest of the medical world in the wrong? Our Homœopaths with scientific proclivities should have care lest the old-school, by a flank movement, take up the *Chronic Diseases* and thereby gain much fame and profit.

LET *Harper's* and *The Century* and other high-priced, "monopolistic" publications look to it! We have the ten-cent magazine, the five-cent magazine, and now comes the one-cent magazine. This is rock bottom. No doubt a good many people will say to *Harper's*, *The Century*, et al., "We prefer your wares, but we will not pay you your monopolistic price when we can get others' wares for a cent."

THE author of *The Medical Genius* and the *Bee line Repertory*, Dr. Stacy Jones, dropped in to say "Howdy" to the RECORDER a few days ago while on his way from North Dakota to Massachusetts, where he will spend the summer. Since giving up his practice at Darby, near Philadelphia, the doctor has traveled considerably, and incidentally practised his profession when called upon to do so. Speaking of B. & T.'s decoction of *Apocynum cannabinum* he remarked that for the effects of a liquor and tobacco debauch it was away ahead of *Nux vomica*; down in Texas he had an opportunity to test it pretty effectually on the hard drinkers there, and in every case it set them on their feet at once. This confirms what Dr. Waterhouse wrote some years ago on this remedy; he had a tough customer who after every spree would come for "some more of that d—d bitter water," so effectual was it in straightening him out.

WE have received a copy of the "Twenty-fifth Annual Report of the Middletown State Homœopathic Hospital." It contains a number of full-page, half tone illustrations of the beautiful

buildings and grounds of this superb hospital. The Report also contains a number of able papers on the treatment of the insane, and the tables show that Middletown maintains its high rate of cures, being easily first of all the asylums for the insane in New York.

THE first homœopathic medical college "Announcement" that comes to hand this year is that of the State University of Iowa. They have a good faculty, and the list of text-books is commendable; among them we notice, Arndt's *System*; Raue's famous work on practice, the *Special Pathology*; Norton's *Ophthalmic Diseases and Therapeutics*; *The Organon*; the Dewey *Essential* books; Farrington's great *Clinical Materia Medica*; Dunham's *Science of Therapeutics*; Malcolm and Moss' recently-published *Regional and Comparative Materia Medica*; Allen's *Hand book*; Wood's *Gynecology* and Guernsey's *Obstetrics*—all of them sound homœopathic books. We have often wondered why none of our colleges include in their list of text-books Hahnemann's two great *Materia Medicas*, *The Materia Medica Pura* and *The Chronic Diseases*, which two books are the foundation of the whole structure of homœopathic *Materia Medica*. Surely every student should have at least one unabridged *Materia Medica* in his library, and what better can be recommended than Hahnemann's?

PROFESSOR FRANCIS A. MARCH, LL.D., is editing a series of Standard Readers for The Funk and Wagnalls Company, publishers of the Standard Dictionary. The same firm has in preparation a "Student's Standard Dictionary," which will contain about 50,000 words, and also a book of "Synonyms, Autonyms and Prepositions." These will be useful publications.

DR. GATCHELL, of the Medical Era Publishing Company, announces in preparation a "Manual of Surgery," by Drs. Adams and Chislett, and a work on "*Urinary Analysis*," by Dr. Clifford Mitchell. See advertisement in this number of the RECORDER. Dr. Gatchell himself is also preparing a work on the "*Practice of Medicine*." There is always room in the "upper stories," as Daniel Webster remarked, and we hope Dr. Gatchell will be able to get in that desirable part of the building.

MESSRS. BOERICKE & TAFEL have in press at present writing, a work on *Genito-Urinary Diseases*, by Dr. Doughty, of New York, edited by Dr. George Parker Holden, that bids fair to be a most popular, useful and practical book for students and practitioners. Dr. Doughty's position in the medical world is a guarantee for this.

Another work, about half completed, is *Veterinary Homœopathy in its Application to the Horse*, by John Sutcliffe Hurdall, Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, of England. This work will mark an epoch in the homœopathic treatment of the diseases of animals, as it is the first original work on the subject that has been published for a life-time.

A third work in press by the same firm is *A Repertory of Tongue Symptoms*, by Dr. M. E. Douglass, of Danville, Va. It will be one of those handy little volumes that lighten the labors of the prescriber.

B. & T. are also bringing out a fine reprint of that immensely popular work, Pulte's *Domestic Physician*, of which sixty thousand copies have been sold. The first edition of this work was brought out over forty years ago by Dr. Pulte, the founder of Pulte Medical College of Cincinnati, and there is no doubt but that it had a powerful influence in winning public approval for the then new system of medicine.

This firm has also the manuscripts of a large number of works in hand awaiting their turn, and others engaged on which the authors are still at work.

It does not look as though Homœopathy were "dying out!"

**HAHNEMANN'S CHRONIC DISEASES.**—It is to this book that Homœopathy owes *Calcareo carb.*, *Lycopodium*, *Baryta carb.*, *Graphites*, *Sepia*, *Phosphorus* and *Silicea*.

The publication of this work is a great task, well done. It contains the original provings of the drugs above named, and many others of equal importance. Later Books on *Materia Medica* have but an abstract of the records in this volume. All real students of *Materia Medica* will need the *Chronic Diseases*. The work contains 1,600 pages, and it is well printed and bound.

Boericke & Tafel deserve great credit for having made it possible for the profession to have the benefit of this important work —*Medical Era*.

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### SHALL HOMŒOPATHY REMAIN IN THE REAR?

The other day a paper appeared in one of our leading journals the tenor of which was that Hahnemann, while ahead of his time, would, if he had not kept up with the bandwagon, by this time have been far in the rear. In this paper occurs the following paragraph:

Even religion, the very warp upon which the woof of civilization is woven, has had to keep pace with the restless tread onward; old things are passing away and all things are becoming new. Shall Homœopathy remain in the rear, or shall we, following the example of her founder, keep in the front?

Man-made, or even man-improved, religion is a logical and consequently scientific absurdity. The fundamental of religion is that it is based on God's revelation of Himself and His purposes, to His creatures, *i. e.* ourselves, who as a mass are so prone to squabble with each other. If God's revelation can be improved upon by professional theologs and other creatures, then the creature is greater than the Creator; in which case as each creature thinks no small things of himself we would have great doings. We know that some men think they are improving religion but they are not; they are merely ripping up their own individual belief in it.

As to the question, "Shall Homœopathy remain in the rear?" we would suggest that it cannot; its place is and always will be in the front of medicine, and man cannot change it. Homœopathy is a law of nature, one of God's laws, and the talk of leaving one of these laws "in the rear" seems to indicate a lack of thorough appreciation of the fundamentals of the subject.

*Aconite* will cure its own cases and no others. You may get unto yourself a clearer comprehension of that fact and its appli-