

# Homœopathic Recorder.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT LANCASTER, PA.,

By BOERICKE & TAFEL.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00, TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES \$1.24 PER ANNUM.

Address communications, books for review, exchanges, etc., for the editor, to

E. P. ANSHUTZ, P. O. Box 921 Philadelphia, Pa.

## THE SUPREME COURT'S OPINION OF DAMAGE SUIT SHARKS.

Dr. L. H. Willard, of the Homœopathic Hospital, Pittsburg, has been subjected to a severe ordeal in a suit for damages for malpractice; there was no malpractice, but the plaintiff's lawyers succeeded in making the jury believe otherwise several times. Finally, the case was taken to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, who gave an opinion that will encourage honest men and serve as a warning to "damage" sharks. This is an extract from it:

"It must not be overlooked that the medical and surgical service rendered by the defendant to the plaintiff was entirely gratuitous, the defendant receiving therefore no compensation of any kind. For many years Dr. Willard had been rendering such service to the hospital to which the patient was brought after receiving his injury. He was one of a corps of physicians who, from motives of benevolence and charity, contribute, as they do in many other cities and towns, their time, their skill, their labor and their most valuable and humane services in relief of the sick and suffering of their race. If such gentlemen are to be harassed with actions for damage when they do not happen to cure a patient, and are to incur the hazard of having their estates swept away from them by the verdicts of irresponsible juries, who, caring nothing for the law, nothing for evidence, or plain teachings of common sense, chose to gratify their prejudices or their passions by plundering their fellow citizens in the forms of law, it may well be doubted whether our hospitals and other charitable institutions will be able to obtain the valuable and gratuitous services of unselfish and charitable men."

## HOMŒOPATHIC JOURNALS AND BOOK REVIEWS.

"Last, but not least, our journals are a necessity for the record of fresh provings, interesting cases of poisoning, etc., all having a bearing on the materia medica, and for the record of clinical observations, successful and interesting cases of cure, or of interesting phases of disease which are worthy of record. In the journals we have a mass of information—general and special—instructive to read at the time, and valuable to bind and place on our shelves for future reference. Our journals, are as a whole, not to be ashamed of, but rather to be proud of. For their improvement little can be suggested. They ought not to be heavy and uninteresting, but containing a suitable portion of dogmatic teaching, original observations in drug and disease action, papers on subjects of general professional interest, and personal items, as of obituary notices, and of any events in the life of any of our colleagues that may be of general interest to the profession at large. Further—and this is a very important point—we look to the journals for criticisms of all medical works published from time to time. In regard to these, to make this part of their work really valuable, reviews of books must not be always smooth and laudatory for fear of giving offense, but they should be fearless and honest, finding fault where fault exists, while praising where praise is due. The reviews will then be of real value, encouraging merit, and shutting up mere advertisements, which certain books are in truth."—*Dr. D. Dyce Brown, at International Congress.*

## PHYTOLACCA BERRY JUICE IN CROUP.

As specific medication is the order of the day, I want to offer one for the benefit of the profession:

R—Expressed juice of ripe poke berries, alcohol, aa. Mix.

Dose, ten drops in teaspoonful of water every thirty minutes.

I saw this in *Medical Brief*, in 1875, and I have used it ever since, and never lost a case of spasmodic or membranous croup, or diphtheria, and had but very little trouble in treating them. Of course I control the fever with *Aconite*, *Veratrum*, *Gelsemium* or *Ipecac*, as indicated. I publish this in the hope that some, like myself, will try it. It is worth all the lactic acid and emetics ever made.—*Dr. J. N. Riley, Reading, Kan., in Eclectic Medical Journal.*



### LOEFFLER'S BACILLUS AND DIPHTHERIA.

Hennig, of Königsburg, at the recent congress at Wiesbaden, stated that he had made exact clinical and bacteriological examination of 63 cases in relation to Loeffler's bacillus, which he had found present in 35 cases; in only some of these was the disease clinically true diphtheria; in others it was follicular sore throat or tonsillitis; and one was a case of pharyngitis aphthosa Heryng. Moreover the bacillus was not present in 7 cases that subsequently exhibited typical paralyses, and Hennig therefore concludes that this microbe cannot be invariably the determining agent in Bretonneau's diphtheria, and that no treatment based on the hypothesis that it is so can be accepted as specific. He proceeded to point out that the results of serumtherapy are by no means as brilliant as they seem; that other methods have given better results before the antitoxin had come into fashion, many writers having saved all but 3 or 4 per cent, of their cases, including gangrenous and scarlatina cases.—*Charlotte Medical Journal*.

### YOU MUST ADVANCE A LITTLE FURTHER.

The Eclectic of fifty years ago was no more like the Eclectic of to-day than the allopath of that period was like the advanced, educated physician we see at the present time. It must be remembered that the reforms of which we have been speaking were demanded by the Eclectics in the early part of the present century. Since that time great advances have been made by our school. \* \* \* And when we say specific medication, there is a stir produced. The homœopathist says, "You took that from us." The old school man says, "There are no specifics." To the first we answer, possibly you are right. We accept every thing that seems practical in the homœopathic school. We believe, as they do, in direct medication, the small dose for the direct effect, the dual action of drugs, that the gross or physical action is seldom required, in the finer diagnosis of symptoms as representing pathological conditions, etc. But we can not accept high potencies of ordinarily inert substances, as for instance, the 30th decimal of burnt sponge. Nor can we believe that drugs act by any such law as "similia similibus curantur."—*From annual address of H. M. Campbell before Eclectic Medical Association of W. Va.*

### ORIFICIAL PHILOSOPHY.

Our Orifical friends advance the following original remarks anent disease in their *Journal of Orifical Surgery*:

"Disease is not sick, and why do doctors prescribe for it? It is health that is sick and has summoned the doctor, and only a health doctor is needed. Disease is no more an entity than is darkness or cold or death; it is merely the absence of health, as darkness is the absence of light, cold the absence of heat, and death the absence of life. Among other inconsistencies of which doctors are guilty is this one of disease-hunting. If their patient had lost his pocketbook, or his dog, or any other of his physical possessions he would have had the good sense to search for what was lost; but in the matter of health he pursues the opposite course and, aided by his doctor, engages in a hare-and-hound chase for the very thing he does not want, namely, disease."

### YOU SHAN'T PLAY IN OUR YARD.

"It is painfully ridiculous to note the offers of good locations made by resident medical autocrats in States where it is worth a man's life to make application to the reigning suzerain—*anglice*, the modern State examination board. Of this peculiar complexion are the offers of good locations found by a traveling man for a homœopathic pharmacist, in New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and so forth. 'Oh, yes, come over into our yard, you are perfectly welcome. but if I catch you there I'll break your back!'"—*American Homœopathist*.

### ANOTHER ANTITOXIN ACCIDENT (?)

Dr. S. S. Robinson, of Moorland, La., writes to the *Medical Brief*, September, his experience with antitoxin. The two children were three and four years old and pets of the doctor. On the second day after he was called in he saw evidences of diphtheria, and this is what followed:

"Cleaning my syringe thoroughly, I injected ten cubic centimeters, and left in about ten minutes. I had hardly seated myself in my office before I was recalled to see my little pets, and hastening to the house I entered, and, my God, what a sight met my gaze! The little boy was dead, and the little girl was in a most serious condition, but by close and constant attention the effect of the antitoxin passed off, and with the old time-tried remedies, I cured her diphtheria, and saved her life. The mother, wild with grief, and calling upon God in His infinite power to restore life to her dead boy baby, and the father, a stalwart man, bowed with grief over his dead child, was to me a sight I never wish to see again."

In connection with this read article on page 416 of this number of RRCORDER.



## PERSONAL.

He would have been a canny scientist who could have made people believe last August that "the sun is dying out."

"It has been used—by physicians as well as specialists," is the way a scientific "reading notice" puts it.

A medical editor recently asserted that "our own wives and children ride the wheel."

The therapeutic principle at the bottom of the new serum cure for consumption was exploited years ago in Burnett's *New Cure for Consumption*, now in its third edition.

**FOR SALE.** A city practice for sale. A six thousand dollar practice for fifteen hundred dollars in a rapidly growing city of one hundred and twenty-five thousand population in New York State. An ambitious man should increase it to ten thousand inside of three years. Reason for selling: developing tuberculosis which drives me from the city. Address, DR. B., NEWTON FALLS, ST. LAWRENCE CO., N. Y.

"Always say 'How do you do?' on shaking hands, never 'Good afternoon!' or 'How are you?'" says *The Queen of Fashion*. Now you know.

*Psorinum* is a remedy for chronic *Rhus* poisoning.

Dr. Megher Duz has removed to 124 Rue Victor Hugo, Paris, France.

"She was about 35 years old and built in proportion." So reads a medical ad.

Drs. C. Sigmond Raue and J. F. Raue will continue their father's practice at his late residence, 121 N. 10th street, Philadelphia.

Dr. W. A. Dewey, he of "Essentials" fame, has accepted the chair of *Materia Medica* at Ann Arbor. So now Ann Arbor is second to none in this important branch.

"The Irish hate the Chinese," said Li, "because the Chinese possess greater virtue." Go to, thou heathen!

The Metropolitan Post-Graduate School of Medicine (homœopathic) is welcomed in the RECORDER'S pages. If anyone feels the need of some finishing touches write to the secretary, Dr. Deady. See page xxi.

Once the fisherman and the lowly were sent out to reform the rich. Now the rich contribute money to "raise" the lowly, or go a-slumming.

Dr. Mary Brewer has removed from 1414 Arch street, Philadelphia, to 330 E. Chelton avenue, Germantown, Pa.

Dr. Geo. H. Quay's book on diseases of the nose and throat will be out in October.

Dr. Doughty's practical, terse and to-the-point book on genito-urinary affairs is nearly completed. Even ye olde schoole manne will want it.

Hurdall's work on the diseases of the horse, *i. e.*, *Veterinary Homœopathy in its Application to the Horse; Including a Code of Common Suggestive Symptoms* is out. Price \$2.00.

Douglass' *Repertory of Tongue Symptoms* will be out by the time this RECORDER is.

A new and elegant edition of that old favorite, *Pulte's Domestic Physician*, has been brought out by Boericke & Tafel, who henceforward will handle the work.

Bradford's wonderful collection of notes on the Pioneers of Homœopathy will be out before the snow flies.

## THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

VOL. XI.

LANCASTER, PA., OCTOBER, 1896.

No. 10.

### A FOILED ENDEAVOR.

It seemed to the late Carroll Dunham that the opening of a Homœopathic College in the University of Michigan afforded a much-desired opportunity for a needful revision of our provings. It was felt that they should incorporate the preciser *data* of the physiological laboratory, and it was to establish such a laboratory for experimental pathogenesis that the first dean of the homœopathic department accepted the position.

The carriage floor of a barn was used for the purpose, and the picked members of the first class of students entered upon the work. To-day they have the satisfaction of knowing that their's—the "barn laboratory," as it was derisively called—is the pioneer and parent of every laboratory for physiological research on the old *campus*. The work that they were doing in their "barn laboratory" aroused the jealousy of the older school, and its faculty bestirred themselves; the result was what is to be seen to-day.

The first homœopathic dean resigned his deanship in order that he might devote himself wholly to the laboratory for experimental pathogenesis, but the chairman of the regents' committee broke faith with him and thwarted his plans until such time as the old-school laboratory was in working order, and then he urged that a duplication of laboratories was not desirable. In vain did the ex-dean of the homœopathic department offer to conduct their own laboratory without one penny of expense to the State. All remonstrance was useless; it was not meant that the despised homœopaths should have a laboratory, nor have they to this day, eighteen years later. It is just as well, for the present homœopathic faculty would not know what to do with it.