

who allow themselves to be seduced to make an application of their knowledge in this branch of medicine, and are, therefore, only too ready, instead of carefully studying the homœopathic materia medica, to shut up the books, and instead of looking for the fault of their lack of success in their personal lack of knowledge, think that they can find an escape either in larger doses, or by calling to aid other therapeutic measures. In these times—which may frankly be styled a time of retrogression in Homœopathy—which is justly proud of her success, an appeal to cling more perseveringly to our pathogenetic acquisitions seems to me, more than ever before, in place.

Now for the example which is to prove this position.

Mrs. L. consulted me for gastralgia. As she had been much debilitated by the previous severe loss of blood during her menses, the case seemed much more suitable for *Ignatia* than for *Nux vomica*. But both of these remedies failed to give any relief. *Calcarea carb.*, the specific remedy for chlorosis also failed. The patient continued to lose flesh; the pains seemed actually to wear her out; and as the tongue was very much coated, the appetite was lacking and she had fallen into a despondent mood, was growing thin and other seemingly suitable remedies also failed to have any effect, it was natural to suspect that a material organic disease of the stomach, *e. g.*, an ulcer, was forming, though there had been no vomiting. Her habitual costiveness and chlorotic constitution made me think of *Graphites*, when Mrs. L. prevented me and caused me to find the right remedy by describing to me unquestioned, her cramps or unspeakable pains. She mentioned the fact, that they commenced quite gently, but gradually kept increasing until they reached their highest point. Such neuralgias are, as it were, made for *Stannum*, though they more frequently affect the face or the head (*Nervous trigeminus*), with the well-known morbid symptoms of *prosopalgia*, or nervous cephalalgia, or also those of common megrim.

I gave her the first centesimal trituration, daily three times 5 grains, and after taking but a few doses, and thus in about a half a week this disease which in no way permitted an absolutely favorable prognosis, very gradually gave way, just as it had gradually increased, and Mrs. L. recovered, while a really voracious appetite developed; this she was able to satisfy with milk, with four eggs in the morning, red wine, etc., without causing a return of the gastralgia.

This case to the allopath would have been a great opportunity for exhibiting *Morphine* and all the lately introduced "Oles" and "Ines," *i. e.* for the use of the strangely sounding and strangely compounded drugs that mostly end in "ol" or "ine," those worthy darklings, that for the good of humanity had best have been exposed to die on the day of their birth and forever immersed into the sea of oblivion. An eminent and advanced professor of materia medica openly declared to me that they were "a humbug."

COMPARATIVE JUXTAPOSITION OF SOME DIPHTHERIA REMEDIES.

By Dr. Moeser, of Offenbach, A. M.

Translated for THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER from "*Willst du gesund werden?*"

When the homœopathic treatment of diphtheria is mentioned, all who are not so well acquainted with Homœopathy, think only of *Mercurius cyanatus*. Now, *Cyanide of Mercury* is, indeed, one of the remedies for diphtheria, and a very excellent one, but by no means the only one. He who considers *Mercurius cyan.* the only remedy in this much dreaded disease, need not be astonished if he should have more failures than he likes. The mercurial preparations (inclusive, therefore, of *Mercurius cyan.*, *Mercurius sol.*, *Mercurius vivus*, *Merc. subl.*, etc.) are usually unsuitable in laryngeal diphtheria, where we find both hoarseness and dyspnoea. Nor are these preparations any better suited for those forms of the disease which have a very rapid course, and which show the symptoms of a very violent *blood poisoning*. In this malignant form of diphtheria *Arsenicum*, *Lachesis*, *Acid. hydrocyan.*, *Acid. muriat.* and *Acid. nitric.* are more appropriate. When the larynx is implicated in the diphtheritic process *Bromium* or *Ammonium bromatum* are suited best of all. The two last mentioned remedies are by most homœopathic physicians supposed to be efficient only when used in the 1st or 2nd decimal potency. On the other side I might mention that Dr. Grubemann, of St. Gallen, according to a verbal communication made to me, in laryngeal diphtheria has seen the best effects from the high potencies (30th) of *Bromium* and *Iodium*. Dr. Siegrist, of Basel, has had good effects in the same disease from *Aurum muriaticum natronatum*, and this was confirmed in his extensive

practice by Dr. Mattes, of Ravensburg. Besides these remedies in these dangerous ailments of the larynx also *Hepar sulph. calc.* is to be considered.

We would then have the following remedies to choose from:

1. *Mercurius cyanatus* for throat—diphtheria in general, where the characteristic symptoms of the remedies that follow, are lacking.

2. *Mercurius jod. flavus*, when the process most manifestly affects the *right* side.

3. *Mercurius bijod. ruber*, in alternation with *Lachesis*, if the *left* side is especially affected.

4. *Kali bichromicum* when the exudation and discharges are very tough (stringy), the tongue is coated yellow and dry, the nose is stuffed with brownish, tough and sometimes bloody contents. The children are fair, bloated with fat, and of a torpid scrofulous habit.

5. *Acidum nitricum* in severe diphtheria of dark-haired, older children who, even before their illness, showed an inclination to tuberculous diseases, and who have either themselves been treated with *Mercury*, or whose parents were syphilitic and had been treated with *Mercury*,

6. *Acidum muriaticum*, when the disease shows a severely typhous character, the character of severe general blood-poisoning.

7. *Arsenicum* in similar cases when paralysis of the heart is threatened.

8. Those favorable to Schüssler's therapy should especially consider *Kalium chloratum* and *Kali phosphoricum*. The latter remedy also deserves a most hearty recommendation in paralysis consequent on diphtheria.

9. Of the remedies from the vegetable kingdom I consider *Vinca minor* (the lesser periwinkle) as most useful. It should be given in a low (1 or 2 dec.) potency. Others praise *Arum triphyllum* and in diphtheria attended with eruptions *Ailanthus glandulosa*.

The appearance of paralysis could frequently be avoided, if in all cases of diphtheria care were taken to keep the bowels moving by a clyster at least twice a day, and this applies to the fatal paralysis of the heart as well as to paralysis of the oesophagus or of other muscles appearing after diphtheria. The hydropathic treatment of diphtheria also deserves consideration.

October, 1896.

ECHINACEA.

"Thus it is that while we are at a loss to express the mode of action of *Echinacea*, we do know that it fills a place to which we have applied the term 'a corrector of blood dyscrasia.' Whatever the changes may be, we know that a better condition of the blood and the fluids, results from its use. It seems to cover the ground ascribed to antiseptics, antiferments, and antizymotics. Its first use was in those profound depressions produced by the introduction of such poisons into the blood as the virus of serpents and insects. Even extraordinary claims have been made for it in hydrophobia—a disorder that many persons believe to have an existence chiefly in the minds of the laity and some practitioners. That the poison which we know as typhoid, whatever that may be, but which condition we know well by its manifestations, is impressed by *Echinacea*, we are assured by the many reports of its efficacy in typhoid and other adynamic fevers. That it corrects that disturbed balance of the fluids resulting in boils, abscesses, carbuncles, and many pus-forming cellular inflammations, we know by experience."

"Careful observers have attributed wonderful properties to it in cerebro-spinal meningitis, in the slow and low form, and evidence is not wanting of its efficiency in diphtheria. Its place in the latter disease, however, is not definitely established, for it will not cure all diphtheria patients, but seems remarkably useful in a good proportion of cases of this much dreaded disease. Fetid conditions of the bronchial tract, as fetid bronchitis, the stench of pulmonary gangrene, and of carcinomatous disorders, are said to be effectually removed by the internal administration of this drug.—*H. W. F. in Eclectic Medical Journal.*

BOOK NOTICES AND GOSSIP.

An American Text-book of Physiology. Edited by William H. Howell, Ph. D., M. D., Professor of Physiology in the Johns Hopkins University. Pp. 1052. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders, 1896.

We cannot undertake to do more than call the attention of the medical profession to this magnificent addition to medical literature, for any thing like an extended notice would develop into the size of an essay. The contributors are Bowditch and Porter, of Harvard; Curtis and Lee, of Columbia; Donaldson, of Chicago University; Lombard, of University of Michigan; Lusk, of Yale; Reichart, of Pennsylvania; and Sewall, of the University of Denver; the whole under editorship of Dr. Howell, who also contributes one of the papers, that on "Blood and Lymph." The contents are divided into fourteen chapters making as exhaustive a work on physiology as was ever published. The work is a companion volume to Mr. Saunders' American Text-

book series in size, type and paper. It is sold by subscription only. The prices are, \$6.00 in cloth; \$7.00 in sheep or half morocco.

A Text-book of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Pharmacology. By George Frank Butler, Ph. G., M. D., Professor of Materia Medica and Clinical Medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago. Pp. 838, 8vo. Cloth, \$4.00, net. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders, 1896.

Two such books as this and *The American Text-book of Physiology* noticed above, is, from the medical publisher's point of view, a pretty good record for one month, and Mr. Saunders' list will, if it is not already, be the leading one of our "regular" friends. "The present work," writes Dr. Butler "has been undertaken with the immediate object of supplying the student of medicine with a clear, concise and practical text-book adapted for permanent reference, no less than the requirements of the class room. The arrangement—embodying the sympathetic classification of drugs based upon therapeutic affinities—the author believes to be at once the most philosophical and rational, as well as that best calculated to engage the interest of those to whom the academic study of the subject is wont to offer no little perplexity." The work is divided into parts treating of "Pharmacology and General Therapeutics," "Pharmaceutical Preparations," "Disease Medicines," "Antiseptics," "Symptom Medicines," "Topical Remedies" and "Prescriptions," the whole very thoroughly indexed. "Rational Therapeutics" we are told "is based upon the use of medicines in accordance with a scientific knowledge of pathology and the physiological effects of remedial agents. Here nothing is left to chance, etc." This may be true but it seems to us that the therapeutics Dr. Butler appends to the various remedies are about the same as those found in other works of this nature, and, as all know, these are not very precise—at least not so to one accustomed to precision of homœopathic therapeutics.

WRITES Dr. Kraft in his notice of Raue: "One of the first books in which we, as willing infant, learned our homœopathic letters was Raue's *Special Pathology and Therapeutics*, and the first book purchased after graduation was this same book in its later edition. We shall ever remember the lessons of sturdy

and sterling Homœopathy which we gathered at the knee of dear Father Raue. It was always Homœopathy. It was never anything else. The temptation may many times have sat at his elbow, to give way to the dominant spirit of the age—the craze for scientific medicine—and so incorporate in his newer editions somewhat of the floating fads and theories of the other schools. If the temptation was ever there, it was never anywhere except behind him. It never dared to face him. He nobly withstood every effort to popularize his book by catering to the "liberal" trend which one time seemed to dominate our school. His book * * * will stand to the end of homœopathic time."

"BOERICKE & TAFEL promise us another new book from an eminent specialist in nose and throat troubles. Professor George H. Quay, M. D., of the Cleveland Medical College, has written a small and popular-priced handbook on this topic, especially designed for the student and general practitioner. This book it is hoped to have out of the printers' hands some time this month. From a personal acquaintance with Professor Quay, and his method for teaching as well as writing, we feel assured that the profession has a treat in store for itself in the book referred to." *American Homœopathist.*

THE following is from the *New York Commercial Advertiser* of Oct. 5:

"There are two creatures that most men like to think they understand. They are a woman and a horse. Every callow youth will discourse learnedly on 'the sex, sir!' on the slightest provocation, and will tell you a great deal on the subject that you never suspected, and every man, young or old, who is not above all human weaknesses, will wink with awful knowingness when you ask him what he thinks of a certain horse. He may be as ignorant of the animal as he is of the psychic philosophy of Mars, but nothing could make him admit it. There are men who have acquired as much information about women and horses as it is vouchsafed to man to learn, but it is not those men that boast of their erudition."

"Some people really do understand horses pretty well, and among them is John Sutcliffe Hurndall, M. R. C. V. S., England. He has written an interesting book, entitled, 'Veteri-

nary Homœopathy in Its Application to the Horse,' a copy of which I have. He tells us in his preface that his object in preparing the book has been to furnish, in concise, and, so far as possible, unconventional language, information that will enable those who have the charge of horses to discover what ails the animal when signs of illness or incapacity for work are observed; and, further, how to treat a patient under such conditions."

"Dr. Hurndall is a homœopathist, and as might be expected, he bestows some hard knocks upon allopathists. These two schools of medicine have been fighting ever since they found themselves in opposition, and they fight as heartily in veterinary practice as in the treatment of human beings. Aside from this, however, the author of the book gives many useful hints in the care of horses. In large districts of the United States there is no qualified veterinary surgeon, and owners of horses are obliged to depend on their own judgment in emergencies."

"Until one reads this book he is not likely to realize the multitude of diseases to which horses are heir. But the author is equal to them all, and he never fails to suggest a remedy. One peculiar statement he makes is that in all his experience he has never come across a case of disease of the ear in the horse, and adds that, with the exception of occasional injuries, there would appear to be nothing calling for special treatment on the organs of hearing among the equine race."

"The work is complete, as the index shows. If a horse owner were to read it through carefully and studiously he would be so well informed on all ailments, as well as with regard to the best general treatment of his animals, that he would never require the services of a veterinary surgeon at any time."

"A more useful book for all who have anything to do with horses has never been issued."

DR. DOUGHTY'S book on "Genito-Urinary Diseases" is not out yet, but is approaching completion; slow work, but careful work, and the book is worth waiting for; it does not give the student the dry husks to be found in every text-book, that leave him as unsatisfied as though he had not "looked up" the subject, but clear, unconventional, practical instruction, that will probably make it a favorite with *all* students and a model of how to do it for future writers.

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CHELIDONIUM IN CANCER.

Dr. Burnett's favorite organopathic remedy for the liver, *Chelidonium majus*, has come to the fore as a remedy for cancer, and not in a homœopathic journal either, but in the *Deutsche Medizinal-Zeitung* (No. 30, 1896), where Dr. Denissenko relates his experience with *Chelidonium* in the treatment of carcinomatous growth in the municipal hospital at *Bojansk*. He gives the remedy internally in quite large doses, and into the tumor as close as possible to the boundary between it and the healthy tissue he injects from two to four drops of an equal mixture of *Chelidonium*, *glycerin* and distilled water. If the tumor is ulcerated he paints it with a mixture of *Chelidonium* and *Glycerin*. The summing up of the results of the treatment we take from the *New York Medical Journal*:

"The effects of this treatment were shown in the course of a very few days. They were the following: 1. The sallow hue of the skin disappeared. 2. Softening of the tumor set in. 3. After from three to five days, there formed at the points of injection fistulous tracts about which the softening process went on with special rapidity. 4. In from fifteen to twenty days a line of demarcation could be distinguished between the morbid and the healthy tissues: the one seemed to be forced away from the other. In general, the tumor diminished more than half in circumference, and the affected lymphatic glands of the neighborhood underwent involution."

The sallow hue of the skin disappearing is a confirmation of what Dr. Burnett says of this important remedy in that excellent work *Diseases of the Liver*, a work that every practitioner, regardless of school, should carefully study.