

CRATÆGUS OXYACANTHA IN THE TREATMENT OF HEART DISEASE.

The *New York Medical Journal* of October 10th, 1896, contains a letter from Dr. M. C. Jennings under the above heading that is interesting and introduces a remedy which may be of some considerable use in the treatment of certain forms of heart disease. This is the substance of the letter.

Until about two years ago there lived at Ennis, County Clare, Ireland, a well-known physician named Greene.

Dr. Greene was well and favorably known over the greater part of Ireland and parts of England and Scotland for professional skill and learning, but chiefly for his reputed ability to cure heart disease.

People flocked to him from all parts of the land to be treated for that disease.

He amassed a good deal of money out of his secret remedy, but lost caste with the profession for refusing to disclose his secret. About two years ago he died, and his daughter, a Mrs. Graham, the sole beneficiary of his will, directed the executor of the will to make public the heart cure. This he did, and it was found to consist of *Cratægus oxyacantha*.

Dr. Jennings procured some of the fruit and prepared the remedy himself. In practice he obtained the following results:

Case I was that of a Mr. B., aged seventy-three years. I found him gasping for breath when I entered the room, with a pulse-rate of 158 and very feeble; great œdema of lower limbs and abdomen. A more desperate case could hardly be found. I gave him fifteen drops of *Cratægus* in half a wineglass of water. In fifteen minutes the pulse beat was 126 and stronger, and breathing was not so labored. In twenty-five minutes pulse beat 110 and the force was still increasing, breathing much easier. He now got ten drops in same quantity of water, and in one hour from the time I entered the house he was, for the first time in ten days, able to lie horizontally on the bed. I made an examination of the heart and found mitral regurgitation from valvular deficiency, with great enlargement. For the œdema I prescribed *Hydrargyrum cum creta*, *Squill*, and *Digitalis*. He received ten drops four times a day of the *Cratægus* and was permitted to use some light beer, to which he had become accustomed, at meal time.

ear, after failure of *Hepar* and *Silicea* and the dry treatment as above, improvement set in at once under the internal use of *Calendula* 3x, continued until the discharge was almost stopped, when a return was made to *Silicea* on account of the great glandular enlargement, which was present on both sides; the improvement begun under *Calendula* continued until perfect recovery resulted.

"I have been lately using this powder in a number of cases of

CALENDULA OFFICINALIS.

Dr. Joseph O. Garrison, Easton, Md., comes to the rescue of *Calendula* against the assertions of its worthlessness in recently published works on surgery. After quoting the statements of the bacteriologists against the drug and many eminent men's opinions in its favor, he gives the following interesting personal experience with it which is both interesting and useful (*Medical Century*, Oct. 15):

"My personal experience with *Calendula* dates back to my boyhood days, when Dr. Phillips, of Cape May, N. J., our family physician, prescribed it for all kinds of incised and lacerated wounds, and with the happiest of results

"My second experience with the drug was when I was clerking in the office of a machine shop, and procured for the mashed and torn fingers of the men, from too close contact with hammer and cogwheel, a bottle of *Calendula*, which was so satisfactory that to this day a bottle is kept handy. The men would cleanse, as best they could, a begrimed, greasy and mashed finger, apply the *Calendula* solution, wrap it up in an indifferently clean rag, keep it saturated for a few days and then go to work—result, no soreness, very little tenderness and no pus or sloughing, and no cicatricial contraction.

"Since commencing practice I have verified the use of *Calendula* as a dressing for various diseased surfaces.

"In one case of very extensive abscess of the cellular tissue extending from the clavicle anteriorly to a point below the lower border of the ribs posteriorly, which came to me from an old school doctor, who diagnosed the case as malaria, and from which on first opening there came not less than four pints of pus, I used *Bichloride of Mercury*, *Carbolic Acid*, *Permanganate of Potash*, *Hydrogen Peroxide*, Laborac's and other solutions, but with no good effect; the pus was sanious and offensive, the septic chill continued and the fever was increasing. I then began using

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"I use the tincture in solutions of from one part to eight parts to one part to one hundred and twenty-eight parts (teaspoonful to the pint) of hot water, mostly in the solutions of from one to ten, to one to twenty. I have used these solutions in cases of lacerated wounds in which there was much soreness and bruising of the tissues, with abatement of soreness and entire absence of pus, healing taking place by first intention where the integument was brought together, and by granulation where there was much loss of tissue, and with no or very little contraction.

"In several cases of parturition with bruised and lacerated tissues, after severe instrumental deliveries, *Calendula* has proved of great value, relieving the intense soreness and preventing extensive suppuration and apparently promoting healing; especially in one case, where *Bichloride of Mercury* in solution of 1 to 7,500 had proven poisonous, was it valuable.

"It is also of value in leucorrhœa when it is very free and purulent, and the patient complains of much soreness in the vagina, with or without external excoriation.

"In one or two cases of obstinate gonorrhœal urethritis, where the pus continued and great soreness was present, an injection of hot water, followed by a solution of *Calendula*, has rapidly cleaned up the case, after failure of the more commonly used solutions.

"In suppurative otitis media the solution aids healing and cleansing; or after cleansing with simple warm water the meatus can be packed with a powder made as follows:

Tinct. *Calendulæ* ℥i

Sacch. lact. ℥i

M. and triturate to dryness and add:

Acidi boracici ℥i

"For the dry treatment of this condition this combination will give better results than *Boric acid* alone.

"In a recent case of double suppurative catarrh of the middle

ear, after failure of *Hepar* and *Silicea* and the dry treatment as above, improvement set in at once under the internal use of *Calendula* 3x, continued until the discharge was almost stopped, when a return was made to *Silicea* on account of the great glandular enlargement, which was present on both sides; the improvement begun under *Calendula* continued until perfect recovery resulted.

"I have been lately using this powder in a number of cases of minor surgery, simply covering the wounded surfaces with it after they were cleansed by hot water and ready for dressing; in cases of clean-cut wounds, knowing to a certainty there would be healing by first intention, and in cases of laceration and loss of tissue, feeling sure granulation would come on quickly and healing take place with a minimum of suppuration.

"*Calendula* cerate, as made by our homœopathic pharmacists, has many uses, among them coverings for burns and scalds; some cases of eczema with soreness; almost a specific if used in the dry stage for herpes labialis, and promoting healing when vesicles and pustules have formed and are broken. Good for the fissured lips we so often see, covered with scabs. Any break or abrasion of the skin finds a reliable remedy in it.

"In erythema of hands and face from either cold, wind or heat, it is almost a specific, either as a *Calendula* cerate or in a preparation which has given me much satisfaction:

R—Tinct. *Calendulæ* ℥ij
 Tinct. *Benzoini* ℥j
 Sp. *Vini Rect.* ℥i
 Glycerinæ ℥iv
 Mucilago *Cydonii* q. s. Oij

M.—Sig., apply locally.

"This is more cleanly than the cerate and contains enough dilute glycerin to lubricate the skin and enough *Calendula* to promote healing.

PRACTICAL POINTS.

[Translated for THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER from Pop. Zeitschrift für Hom., Sept. 1, 1896.]

Respecting THE DIAGNOSIS OF HEART DISEASE, Prof. Dr. Eulenburg remarks: "Anyone who is well acquainted with diseases of the heart knows that a diagnosis should be made with the utmost caution when he examines the patient FOR THE FIRST time during a fainting spell.

HYGROMA PATELLÆ (Inflammation of the Synovial Membrane of the Knee).—"I can only confirm your communication in the last number of your periodical concerning the extraordinary effects of *Arnica* 3 in this ailment. In two cases which had lasted respectively $1\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a year, and had been treated internally, and where I myself had used without effect *Iod.* and *Calc. carb.*, *Arnica*, administered externally and internally, effected a cure in less than 14 days. No one could doubt the medicinal effects in these two cases, for the ailment had existed too long unchanged for any such supposition. DR. T.

VORACITY OR BULIMIA is a state that generally is developed quickly, in which a person is seized with an extraordinary hunger, which is attended with pains in the stomach or even fainting fits when the appetite is not satisfied. We must distinguish this from the so-called canine hunger (*Fames canina seu lupina*), in which the appetite is directed to things not usually eaten, as well as the morbid appetite with children and certain (diabetic) patients. Bulimia may appear with persons whose stomach or intestines are diseased, or also in involution. It may be a so-called nervous phenomenon, or also simply a natural one, caused by fasting. It is most rational to moderately satisfy the appetite—*i. e.*, to eat, but to take care to masticate properly. If such states recur frequently the causes must be investigated and removed—*i. e.*, an appropriate treatment must be given. If no causes can be discovered, this condition must be treated symptomatically:

Menyanthes 3, when the hunger passes away after eating a little.

Rhus tox. 3, when it is aggravated by eating.

Spigelia 3, when there is voracity with nausea and vomituration.

Kali muriat. 3, when it disappears by drinking water.

Sabadilla 3, in voracity after eating sweets or farinaceous food.

To effect an eventual cure, *Schelling* especially recommends *Calc. carb.* in children, but *Asafœtida* in nervous persons. I myself have always seen good effects in such patients from *Ignatia* 4. Farrington gives *Lycopodium* as a specific in voracity, when there is considerable fullness after eating. P.

HEMOPTÆ.—Besides the usual remedies in hemoptœ, as *Ipecacuanha*, *Hamamelis*, *Arnica*, *Aconite*, *Millefolium*, *Acalypha Indica*, *Secale*, etc., we ought also sometimes to consider *Ledum palustre*. It is especially employed in the hemoptœ with persons given to drinking and also with persons of a rheumatic constitution. Jousset recommends its use and points to his good success in many cases. Its use is especially indicated by frequent impulses of coughing and by the coughing up of great quantities of blood. It must, however, according to Jousset, be given in a low potency—even up to 1-20 drops of the mother tincture for a dose—as higher potencies frequently show no effect at all. It may be given in much larger doses without any apprehension, as it has no poisonous qualities. It is often given in alternation with *Aconite*.

BOOK NOTICES AND GOSSIP.

A Monograph of Diseases of the Nose and Throat, By George H. Quay, M. D., Professor of Rhinology and Laryngology in the Cleveland Medical College. 214 pages, cloth, \$1.25; by mail, \$1.33. Philadelphia. Boericke & Tafel. 1897.

This fine little work will unquestionably fill a long felt want in homœopathic circles, *i. e.*, for a fresh, ably written, up to date book on the nose and throat by an experienced specialist, and for a book on nose and throat that is sold at a low price. It is designed especially for the general practitioner and the medical student, and is therefore concise, and right to the point, in its treatment of the various nose and throat diseases. The author says on this subject, "Few general practitioners have either the time or the inclination to wade through a volume on rhinology and laryngology which deals with exhaustive details, though a working knowledge of the diseases of the nose and throat is absolutely essential to the successful physician." The reader does not have to "wade through" this book, for he finds what he wants in its pages concisely and clearly put. The 214 pages of the book are divided into twenty chapters, which will cover ninety-nine cases of "nose and throat" out of every hundred. The type is clear, paper and press work good and binding all one could ask. It is a safe prediction that this book will be one of the successes of the year.

The Principles of Medicine. An introduction to the study of special pathology, being a course of lectures delivered to the classes of the Cleveland University of Medicine and Surgery. By E. R. Eggleston, M. D. 128 pages, 12mo. Cleveland University of Medicine and Surgery. 1896.

This neatly printed little book is a condensation of the lectures delivered by Dr. E. R. Eggleston, of Mt. Vernon, O., at the Cleveland University of Medicine and Surgery. The contents cover such topics as disease, etiology, nutrition, tubercle, temperature, diagnosis, prognosis, etc. In his preface Dr. Eggleston says that the day of didactic teaching is drawing to a close and the text-book will soon take its place. This interesting little work, we are also told, is the forerunner, of "a larger and completer work on same subjects in course of preparation."

Essentials of Physical Diagnosis of the Thorax. By Arthur M. Corwin, A. M., M. D., Demonstrator of Physical Diagnosis in Rush Medical College. Second edition, revised and enlarged. 199 pages. Cloth, \$1.25.

This little book is about as complete a guide to the diagnosis of diseases of the chest as one could ask for; it covers all the diseases of that part of the body and gives all the prominent signs, as well as the finer shades, by which each disease or disorder may be detected or differentiated from others. The fact of a second edition also speaks well for the work.

Physician's Visiting List for 1897. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co.

With the approach of the new year the 1897 edition of this famous visiting list puts in its appearance, slightly enlarged with a few new features and as elegant as ever.

The Standard American Encyclopædia of Art, Sciences, History, Biography, Geography, Statistics and General Knowledge. Prepared under the supervision of John Clark Ridpath, LL. D. Encyclopædia Publishing Co., 156 Fifth avenue, New York. 1897.

This work is divided into eight volumes, pages of long quarto size, 11x7¼ inches. The aim of the publishers has been to

make it a busy man's encyclopædia. In doing this they have omitted no subject that is to be found in works like the *Encyclopædia Britannica* but have condensed the text—in place of giving the reader an essay of ten or thirty pages on a given subject have boiled it down into a column or a page. Half of the 7th and all of the 8th volumes are taken up with tables on almost every conceivable subject, from college yells to a condensed biographic table of every great man, from horse racing records to a complete chronological outline of history from the discovery of America. If you want a book of this sort write to the publishers for prospectuses and terms (see also advertisement in this month's RECORDER), and say you saw it in THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER.

A WESTERN physician sends us a copy of a Chicago spiritualist paper containing the advertisement reproduced below. Our correspondent writes that the RECORDER ought to give this

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matter some prominence for the benefit of the medical profession, in order that they may all know the character of the man whose

book is being so extensively advertised in our leading journals. This man Carey's character is self-advertised in his card; his medical degree, as the *RECORDER* has shown in the past, was self-conferred in a diploma mill started by himself. Needless to add that a book from such a man would be a disgrace to any medical library.

THE *Monthly Homœopathic Review* says: "We can heartily commend Dr. Douglas' *Repertory of the Tongue* to our readers as a useful and carefully compiled book."

THE *Homœopathic World* gives high praise for Dr. Hurndall's recently published *Veterinary Homœopathy in its Application to the Horse*. Among other things it says: "He does not look upon the horse from the purely commercial nor even from the clinical material point of view; he regards them with the sympathetic fellow-feeling that all patients of whatever race ought to receive." The book is undoubtedly the best one on the treatment of the diseases of the horse ever published.

MESSRS. BOERICKE & TAFEL have broken the record for new homœopathic books in the year 1896. Up to present writing they have published ten new works (not counting reprints of standard works from plates) and have four others in press, one or two of which may appear before the first of January. They have many new and important works under contract.

WE have received a copy of "Vaccination Funeral March" set to the music of "Rock of Ages," by the veteran writer, homœopathist and anti-vaccinationist, Dr. J. J. Garth Wilkinson. It is as vigorous as anything the author of *Epidemic Man* has written. Here is a sample verse:

Pollution dire, and no escape,
Law has taken Herod's shape.
Herod's judge. The likes of them
Slew the babes of Bethlehem.
Vaccination, skin and bone
Reigns upon his gory throne.

"THE book," Hurndall's *Veterinary Homœopathy*, "is well worth the price to every doctor who owns a horse, and of inestimable value to the farmer and ranchman," saith the *Denver Journal of Homœopathy*. Let us indulge in the hope that sooner or later every doctor will have a horse, if not a span; but while waiting for the coming equine let the doctor study that animal with the aid of Hurndall, of whom the *New York Commercial Advertiser* said: "Some people really do understand horses pretty well, and among them is John Sutcliffe Hurndall, M. R. C. V. S."

WE have received two interesting pamphlets on the subject of "Inoculation" (which term in the pamphlets covers the serum therapy craze), reprints from I. H. A. Transactions of 1896, by B. Fincke, M. D., Brooklyn, and Walter M. James, M. D., the well-known editor of that staunch homœopathic journal, the *Homœopathic Physician*, of Philadelphia. Needless to add that the follies of "serum" and its tribe are handled without gloves.

DOUGHTY'S *Genito-Urinary Diseases*, the publishers report, has passed the 300th page and ought to be out near the first of January. From what we have seen of the advance sheets the book will be unique and as popular with one school as the other, and yet, withal, a sound homœopathic work. If in need of such a work it would be well to wait the appearance of this book, as otherwise it might involve the purchase of two books where one would answer your purpose.

WE are glad to be able to announce that the veteran Dr. James B. Bell has prepared the copy for a fourth edition of his famous work on *Diarrhœa*, and that it is now in press. The size will be different from the third edition, returning, at the author's suggestion, to the small form of the first edition. Aside from this there will be very few differences between the fourth and the third edition, no new remedies having been added and none dropped. In fact, Bell on *Diarrhœa* comes very close to being a perfect book. But, then, what homœopath is there that does not know all about that work?

THE publishers of Malcolm and Moss' *Regional and Comparative Materia Medica* have turned over the stock of that work to

Messrs. Boericke & Tafel, as selling agents. The arrangement of this book is original, and with many practitioners it is highly popular; the reason for this is the arrangement; for instance, one is looking for a peculiar skin symptom, or heart and pulse, cough, eyes, mind, or any of the divisions into which homœopathic materia medica falls, instead of looking up each remedy separately he can, in this *Regional and Comparative Materia Medica*, find all the skin symptoms of the recognized materia medica grouped under one heading; and so are they grouped for mind, inner head, outer head, etc., etc.; and, to further simplify matters, each of the forty two chapters is followed by a repertory. The book is worthy of careful examination, as it may be just what the reader has been wanting.

DR. ARNDT, we hear, has nearly completed the manuscript of his work on the practice of medicine, to which he has been devoting himself for several years. It will be a one volume work, with nothing superfluous, yet nothing left out that the practitioner or student has a right to look for in his work on practice.

"Raue himself had been absorbing wisdom for nearly twenty years when, in 1867, his first homœopathic work, *Special Pathology and Therapeutic Hints*, appeared. It was dedicated to Hering in the following words:

"HONORED FRIEND:—As a token of most grateful acknowledgment of your uniform friendship so long enjoyed by me, and of my appreciation of your high attainments in science and vast experience in practice, I would dedicate to you this fruit of my humble labor.

"Your ever grateful

"PHILADELPHIA, December 3d, 1867."

RAUE.

This book, marvelous in its completeness and practical scope, into the last edition of which (1896) the author put what was new in the progress of medical science, as well as the remainder of vitality left him, the writing of the preface being his last stroke of work upon earth, is a monument to his industry—surely a book no homœopath can afford to be without. It represents the making practical of what was theoretic, the showing of *how* the thing should be done. Hering inscribed his *Condensed Materia Medica*, likewise a text-book for students, to his friend Raue."—*Dr. C. B. Knerr in Hom. Physician.*

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CLOSE OF THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER'S ELEVENTH YEAR.

The first number of the RECORDER, succeeding *The Bulletin*, appeared on January 15, 1886, under the able management of that respected physician, Dr. J. T. O'Connor, of New York. The journal continued under Dr. O'Connor's management for three years, published bi-monthly.

In 1889, Dr. C. F. Millspaugh, the well-known botanist and author of that great work, *American Medicinal Plants*, controlled the journal.

In 1890 the present management assumed control of the RECORDER.

In 1893 the publication was changed from a bi-monthly to a monthly, and since then has prospered and its list of subscribers steadily grown until it is now probably second to none, in point of bona fide subscribers, among homœopathic journals.

The aim of the present management has steadily been to make the RECORDER a homœopathic forum, from which the physician who prescribes D. M. M. potencies on down the potency scale to him who pins his faith and practice to the mother tincture doses, the physicians who stick to the single remedy and those who believe in alternating, and all others, could be fairly heard, always barring personalities. No attempt has been made to intrude in the field of the many specialists, so ably occupied by a number of our contemporaries, but the effort has been to keep the journal in the broad field of general homœopathic medicine, a field interesting to the specialist as well as the general practitioner. The pursuance of this policy, to judge by the increase of subscribers, has met with the approval of the profession, and