

stuff, became rapidly worse, went to twelve physicians during the next three months, and then gave up the ghost, with what was said to be cancer of the stomach. Two days before his death, he sent for me, and now comes the interesting part of the case.

Immediately on using the first application, the eruption disappeared, but within ten days, he began to vomit. This led him to leave the mongrel homœopath, and he went to a stomach doctor, who laundried his stomach in the most approved fashion, but with unsatisfactory results. The trouble was then declared to be in the liver, and he called a liver doctor, who declared the trouble to be cancer. This made him angry, and he called another liver doctor, who said it was not cancer. This led him to call in a general pathologist, who thought it was his kidneys. So they called in a kidney doctor, and so on, until the job lots gave him up to die from incessant vomiting which they could not control. At this stage of the game it was impossible for me to do anything for the patient, except to assure him that "I told you it would be so." However, I held the fort, and as all these men were anxious for a post mortem, I consented. Now, one curious feature of this case is that during all the confusion which followed so many doctors being present at once in the house, a member of the family took a lock of his hair to a Root and Herb Spiritualist Doctor, somewhere in the region of the Five Points. This man went into a trance, the hair was placed in his hand, and he described accurately the symptoms of the patient and stated that there was an ulcer in the second stomach. I knew nothing about this statement given to the family by the Clarivoyant until about to enter the room with the other physicians, where the post mortem was to take place. I was requested by the wife of the deceased not to open the letter or speak of it until after the other doctors had expressed their opinions, and the post mortem had been completed. There were seven or eight physicians, besides myself, present at the

post mortem. One man said it was cancer of the liver; another man swore that his liver was perfectly normal; another man said the trouble was in the kidneys; some did not say anything, and so on through the list. I asserted that it was the suppressed eczema, but where it could be found, or in what form, I would not undertake to say, as I had not been with the patient during any of the disturbance following the suppression of the eczema. One of the physicians ventured the suggestion that my ideas were damn nonsense; another physician remarked that the aforesaid physician was a damn blatherskite. Finally, after searching each organ, an ulcerated patch as large as a silver dollar was discovered well below the stomach. I then informed the gentlemen that I held a diagnosis in my hand, which was to be read at this time, and to our utter surprise, the clarivoyant had exactly described the state of affairs, to the disgust and annoyance of the learned faculty.

I have no doubt had the man followed my instructions, he would have continued to improve and avoided his premature and painful death.

Second Day—Evening Session.

The Secretary read a letter from Dr. Maro F. Underwood of San Francisco, Cal., announcing the downfall of an Eclectic Homœopathic Hospital in that city, as a direct result of the progress of Hahnemannian Homœopathy among the people in San Francisco.

BUREAU OF SURGERY.

HOWARD CRUTCHER, M. D., CHAIRMAN.

A CASE OF WARTS.

A. MCNEIL, M. D., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

A. M. N., fifty-four, portly, vigorous, every function is performed without a jar. He is bald on vertex, anterior thereto his hair is thin and gray.

Two warts appeared on the vertex at first. Soon others followed till he had twenty-five. Of these, twenty are on vertex, two near the forehead where the hair is thin, two on the right side of the chin in his full beard and one on the rim of left ear. I am only mentioning the large ones. There were whole groups too small and too numerous to count. The large ones were pedunculated and what are popularly called seed-warts. His health being so good there was but little on which to prescribe, only he was irritable and thirsty at night.

I first gave Thuja²⁰⁰ one dose before the great increase in numbers. All this did was to remove an offensive sweat on the toes. But the warts grew in size and number. I then took one of Yingling's Checking Lists, and Bœnninghausen's Pocket Book and worked out the case thereon. The result pointed to Sepia of which he took one dose of the 200th.

At the end of two months only two remained and they were much smaller. As there was a halt, I then gave Sepia⁵⁰⁰ one dose, and in a month no trace of the warts remained. This was six months ago and no return and perfect health continues.

What would have been the result if they had been removed mechanically? I boldly assert that impaired health would have followed it. The vital powers were vigorous and removed the disease to the skin where it was innocuous. But surgery could not by the means at its command have cured the miasm or diathesis which produced the warts. The disease would then be lurking in the system and if anything should weaken any of the vital organs there the disease would fasten. And it is not probable that it would again assume the comparatively innocent form of warts. And this is true with more important diseases. Nature or the vital powers as a conservative measure drives the enemy as far from the vital centres as she can. This may be in the

skin, mucuous membranes, glands, bones, or in an organ of second or third rate importance to the system, and thus it does not interfere with the action of the vital organs, viz., heart, lungs or brain, and the patient may enjoy comparative health. But if these morbid manifestations are suppressed by local treatment or by the removal of the morbid product, nature can no longer keep the enemy at bay and the result is usually fatal. We should always bear in mind Hahnemann's precept "*That there is no local disease except recent injuries.*"

I heard at a so-called homœopathic society meeting, the attendant and consultant coolly tell how they had caused the death of a patient. The attending doctor related that he had been consulted in a case of polypus of the ear which had been removed either by torsion or escharotics. He then removed it again the different way from what the allopath (the honest one) had done. The polypus returned and was twice more removed by him. After nature had been thus thwarted four times she was unable to hold the disease at bay any longer. Cerebral symptoms soon after set in resulting in death. The consultant and attendant made an autopsy and found the bones of that side of the skull necrosed so that they would hardly hold together. And yet these men did not know that they by their ignorance had caused the death of a human being. Such cases remind me of a friend of my boyhood who studied medicine who was endowed with but a small stock of brains and still less education, whose preceptor was asked if Walter would not kill his patients. "Yes!" the preceptor replied with more wit than reverence, "Of course he will but some preacher will give out the hymn 'Jesus calls them to his arms' and it will be all right."

CLINICAL NOTES.

G. G. GALE, QUEBEC, CANADA.

Case I. Paronychia of the left index finger ; finger red, swollen and painful to the touch, formation of pus around the finger nail. After taking a couple of doses of *Gymnocladus* ³ pain disappeared. Next day was at work of the roughest kind with no inconvenience. The whole morbid process disappeared without any discharge of pus.

Case II. A boy about twelve years of age had a *nævus* on the point of his nose about the size of a flea bite. At times it bled profusely. One dose of *Phos.* ^{cm} was given on the indication "Small wounds bleed much." The bleeding ceased and the *nævus* disappeared.

Case III. A young woman nursing a child complains of severe pains in the breasts whenever she nurses, feels as if the breast was being pulled out by the roots, i. e. pains run in the direction of the lactiferous tubes. She has been suffering in this way about three months.

Phellandrium aquaticum, one dose of *Jenicheu* 1 m cured her *at once*. See indication in Lippe's M. M.

Case IV. Young man aged nineteen suffers from large fleshy warts on his hands, in front of his ear, and also at the corners of his mouth some small ones are showing themselves. Says he has a tired, worn out feeling, no desire to do anything, listless and apathetic. *Phos. acid* ⁵⁰⁰, one dose, removed his warts and apathy. His mental symptoms decided the selection.

Case V. A horse about five years of age has a very nasty warty growth about the size of a fifty cent piece on right hind leg on the inside, half way between the hock and fetlock. The owner tried many things to cure it, viz.: blue stone, nitrate of silver, etc. The wart is now large, prominent, red and raw looking, covered at times with a fetid, creamy discharge. The horse looks stunted in growth, is

narrow chested, has a large abdomen, with much rumbling of flatus ; has an eruption on withers of a scaly, chalky nature. Gave three doses of *Calc. c.* ²⁰⁰ on bread about three or four days apart. In about one month wart was half the size, and in about three months it had disappeared altogether. The *calc. c.* ²⁰⁰ cured this case nicely. The diseased entity in the horse appeared to require nothing stronger than a few globules of the 200th potency, to set the curative process in motion.

TRIED BY FIRE.

J. H. ALLEN, M. D., LOGANSPORT, IND.

Margaret B., age seventeen, of Danish birth, a very beautiful blonde, and a nurse in a small family living at L. While burning some waste paper her clothes suddenly ignited, and the flames in a few moments reached her woolen undergarments, and before they could be extinguished she was severely burned, from the upper dorsal region over the whole surface of the back and extending over the hips and gluteal region, even to the knees. Water had been thrown on her by some one who had come to her assistance, as a means to extinguish the flames, which, of course, very much complicated matters.

I was called by 'phone and arrived soon after the occurrence of the accident, to find about one hundred people surrounding my patient ; each, of course, very much excited, and clamorous with suggestions as to the proper thing to do for the suffering one. I quietly dismissed her neighbors and had her removed to her room, her garments removed—by cutting them when they could not be removed otherwise—and the burnt parts exposed, which were indeed frightful to behold. Large blisters had already formed, from the size of a half-dollar to that of a large saucer, filled with a yellowish serum. Around the waist, where the clothes were belted

tightly, the wounds were very deep, extending to the muscular tissue. Two places I noticed were fully five inches long and three inches wide. The pain and burning was very severe. She, being very sensitive to pain anyway, was screaming at the top of her voice. After cleansing the wounds I applied simple olive oil with an oil silk cleansing, and gave Cantharis^{10m} every ten minutes for three times, then every thirty minutes for three times, then every hour until better. After the second dose she ceased screaming and in one hour she was asleep. She suffered more from mental shock after that, but at the end of the seventh week she went to work. No skin grafting was used, although I think it would have been better as the cicatricial tissue gave me some trouble afterward, which I think could have been much modified by skin grafting in the worst denuded spots. She was in perfect health at the time, which, of course, aided much in her cure.

This case occurred in a neighborhood where the law of cure had never before been demonstrated and, while it was an eye-opener to many, and a means of turning a number to my way of thinking, a great many would not believe but that morphine was administered to relieve that pain and suffering, although they would not doubt the word of the employers of my patient on any other thing. And how can they? Of those who are not educated up to such wonderful results as this it is beyond the grasp and is as much a miracle as any cure can be when such means are employed. It is so disrobed of the material that it cannot appeal to their senses; and if it does not appeal to their senses they can have no conception of it, as they have no understanding conception, and not being acquainted with law and its action, or of dynamics or the action of dynamics they have no starting point or basis of reason; therefore they must create an hypothesis of their own and base their judgment from that hypothesis, which must necessarily be narrow and prejudiced;

seeing no virtue can come from anything that does not partake of the material, judging from a materialistic standpoint of reasoning. The materialist views only from a mathematical standpoint, while the non-materialist from an algebraic. The first with definite quantities, the second with unknown quantities. The one is confined in the domain of the finite; the other has the freedom of the infinite. The one, having chemical or mechanical effects on life; the other, dynamical effects on life or on disturbed life. The former is in contrariety with life; the latter in harmony with life. The former is not in sympathy with life, but by its powerful and crude action suspends temporarily the reaction of the life forces; retarding cure, though it may modify pain and suffering; but the lay mind cannot analyze the phenomena, therefore it cannot be expected of it to understand the internal workings of an occult science, as it is not made apparent by mere inspection, nor deductible from what appears to be apparent to a mere superficial observer, but only by experimentation and a close study of its phenomena, through the inductive method of reasoning, in some simple disturbance of the life forces. Some allowance might be made for the quantity of medicine used, but here in my case the test is a severe one. It is a tried-by-fire, a proof test. If it has not the ring of pure gold we must recede from our lofty position in holding it up as a law universal; infinite in its circuit and deep in its action. But, thanks be to God, it is true; a law immutable, a science based upon one of the proximate principles of the universe, and the fire test is but one manifestation of its power.

"Will she live"? said an assistant, while dressing my patient's wounds next morning. "Can that back, that is scorched and crisped and parboiled flesh, be restored again to the normal, like the tender, soft and delicate tissue that surrounds it"? What shall be my answer? Then the thought comes to me, "You know the power of the law;

you have had the fire test before and it did not fail to be overcome by that Prince of Power, Similia. Shall we yield now, even before this jellied mass of dying tissue"? "Yes", I can answer this earnest inquirer, "*she will get well*; by a higher and mightier power, even the power of similia, that has power even over the Fire King, even to stay death." And by virtue of that inherent power in itself she lives to-day.

DISCUSSION.

Dr. W. L. Morgan—I have used a solution of about the 30th potency of Cantharides, half a dozen pellets in half a glass of water, for small burns, and found a bath with that gives almost instant relief to a large majority of burns. I have used it for a good many years in all such cases, and have but in one case found it fail to give almost instant relief, and that the burn or sore gets well remarkably quick. It seems to be the real similimum in the case, both from the looks of the burn and from the results I have found to come from it. I had a little test of it myself at one time, by getting my hands scalded with boiling grease. It took all the skin off the back of that hand, and it was paining most intensely. The very first thought was that it was about like a fly blister, and I lost very little time in putting a few pellets in a wash basin of water and putting my hands right into it. It gave almost instant relief, and the hand got well without any trouble, or even making a sore. The skin all came off, but it never got sore. I have used it in all such cases since, and it failed to work in only one instance, and then I could not find any other reason except that the man had a large amount more of whiskey in him than fire of any other kind. That is the only way I can account for its not working.

Dr. Fincke—I think there is no better remedy than cantharis for burns; I have it in my house in every story—a bottle of a cantharis potency dissolved in water. An ounce of

prevention is worth a pound of cure. We use the remedy immediately when the burn is made and it cures it right up. I use generally the nine hundredth potency; the more severe the burn the higher the potency, 50m to Cm in water externally and internally.

I had a case once that I lost, of a young lady twenty or twenty-one years of age. She went to her room in the evening with a kerosene lamp in her hand. On reaching her room she let something fall from her hand and stooped to find it. Somehow the lamp set fire to her clothing, and immediately she was wrapped in flame. In a short time she was frightfully burned about the breast and abdomen, and the face and hands; the skin came off from her fingers like a glove. The poor thing was in a miserable plight. It was much worse being on the breast, for the back is not as sensitive as the front; I don't know what potency I took, but I did as the doctor says, dissolved it in water, and rags were moistened with it and laid on, and she felt relief from that; then we gave it internally, but she could not be saved. She died the next day. It was a terrible case.

Dr. Morgan—In Lynchburg, a colored man was burned by the explosion of a boiler, and the skin on his face and arms up to where his sleeves protected them, was scalded off; the upper part of his face was scalded, not only to a blister, but burned in. I went to my drawer and got out a vial of a dilution or alcoholic solution. I could find nothing but an old tin basin, when I got there, and the man was in terrible distress. I just poured in a portion from the bottle of this tincture, I suppose I put in a half a teaspoonful, stirred it up, and another man brought me an old shirt that was in the engine house. I tore it up and wet the strips with this solution, and put them on him and he was perfectly comfortable at once. I went home with him. His abdomen was badly scalded too. By the time I got home

he was suffering again. I fixed him up again and he got thoroughly well. When he got well the places that were burned were white, although he was a perfectly black man. When he got out, about three day's sunshine turned him black.

Dr. Geddes—I had a case of burn that cantharides would not touch at all. I treated with cantharides and it got worse and worse. It was the forearm; I had to bandage it and put it in splints to hold it in position. It was burned down to the deeper tissues and the tendons were involved. The third day she complained so of the stinging in this hand, she could not endure it any longer, and I gave one dose of Apis. She got well very promptly and there was no further trouble and no scar.

Dr. Stanton—Can anyone tell me the action of bicarbonate of soda in such cases? I have found that it relieves almost instantly.

Dr. Fincke—I have never tried it.

Dr. Campbell—It is an old fashioned remedy.

Dr. Wesselhœft—Saleratus.

Dr. Thatcher—Several years ago, I think it was Doctor Pusey's patient who was terribly burned deep into the muscles; there was a dreadful amount of sloughing, and no one thought it looked reasonable to suppose the patient could live. I don't know what remedy the doctor gave her, but I thought it would be interesting to relate what he did for her locally. He took castile soap and shaved it and boiled it until it was like thick starch, and applied it on lint to the surfaces piecemeal each day, and the patient made a beautiful recovery. Of course there were scars remaining because more than the two skins were destroyed; it was a very deep burn, and fully a third of the surface of the body was burned. That is the only time I ever heard of a dressing of that kind, and it certainly was very splendid in its result.

Dr. Wesselhœft—Yahr's Forty Years' Practice recommends that. I have used it very successfully in one or two cases.

Dr. Thatcher—He heated the soap then he made a paste of it. He let that remain on; dressed it, I think about every eight hours, and would only take off one little layer and immediately put another on. He dressed it by piecemeal so as not to expose any surface for any length of time.

HAHNEMANN'S INFLUENCE UPON SURGERY.

HOWARD CRUTCHER, M. D., CHICAGO, ILL.

Samuel Hahnemann said very little about the practice of surgery, but what he did say is of the first importance as indicating the soundness of his reasoning and the value of his teachings.

In an original volume of the *Organon* published in 1833 ("The Homœopathic Medical Doctrine, or 'Organon of the Healing Art;' A New System of Physic, etc., Dublin: W. F. Wakeman, 1833.") I find the following in paragraph 183:

" . . . The treatment of these maladies belongs to surgery. So far as it is necessary to bring mechanical aid to the suffering parts in order to remove and annihilate mechanical obstacles to the cure, which can only be expected from the powers of the organism itself. Among these may be ranked, for example, the reduction of dislocations; uniting wounds by bandages; extracting foreign substances that have penetrated the lining parts; *opening the cavity of the abdomen either to remove a substance that is burdensome to the system, or to give vent to effusions and collections of liquids*; placing in apposition the extremities of a fractured bone, and consolidation of the fracture by means of an appropriate bandage, etc."

I do not know in what year these words of Hahnemann were written, but it should be a matter of profound pride that, as early as 1833, he advocated an operation which was

then almost unknown and which was opposed at that day by a great majority of old school surgeons. The first deliberate abdominal operation in the world was performed by Ephraim McDowell at Danville, Kentucky, in December, 1809, and it speaks volumes for Hahnemann's far-seeing sagacity that he is found advocating the operation twenty-four years later. It must be remembered that abdominal surgery was in its infancy many years after Hahnemann was in his grave. Instead of opposing the march of surgical practice, Samuel Hahnemann was one of the first to recognize its value and to advocate its adoption. It is a matter of profound regret that many of his professed disciples have not possessed the wisdom to follow in the footsteps of the great teacher.

Reasoning by analogy, it seems perfectly fair to conclude that if it be Hahnemannian practice to drain a peritoneal cavity, it is also legitimate to drain other cavities; that if it be proper to drain off serum it is still more proper to evacuate pus. Why should a dropsical effusion be removed from the peritoneum and a collection of foul matter allowed to remain in the triangles of the neck? For my part, I evacuate pus wherever it can be located, whether beneath the periosteum, or in the chest, or in the abdomen, or in the axilla. The same rule applies to certain unsightly tumors which are "burdensome" to the eye, if not to the system. Yet there are honest men and women who stand aghast at the opening of a felon, at the tapping of a hydrocele, and at the shelling out of a fatty tumor. It is to be deeply regretted that Hahnemann is so often quoted as being opposed to these procedures. In this connection I recall the fact that I was once roundly lectured because I wanted to open the bladder for exploratory purposes where remedies had been tried in vain for months.

There is enough reckless surgery, as all of us know, and against this kind of practice our voices should be raised in

season and out of season; but to suppose that Hahnemann, who was one of the greatest thinkers who ever lived, arrayed himself against the legitimate use of the knife is to defy the teachings of all human experience. The Hahnemannian surgeon, who is able to look beyond tissues to forces, is thereby enabled to steer clear of many of the pitfalls that lie in the path of his less fortunate colleagues. The medical history of many a patient will reveal the fact that he is not an ideal subject for a surgical operation. There is something more in the problem than dividing tissues, ligating vessels, and running the chance of bacterial infection.

Hahnemann taught clearly the necessity for legitimate mechanical work; he also exposed the absurdity of regarding a carcinoma as a local growth, and one day the world will come to view the pathology of morbid growths in the true light of the Hahnemannian philosophy. We have a great educational work to do along these lines. The pathology of malignant tumors is not understood by old school authorities, and with their present light they never can understand it. But the truth will stand revealed at last. And when the truth shall stand forth in its might and power, great will be the glory of Hahnemann, the pathologist, the healer, the surgeon.

DISCUSSION.

Dr. Wesselhoeft—I think Dr. Crutcher has misquoted Hahnemann in regard to the opening of the abdominal cavity alone. He says, "The opening of the cavities of the body," I think, if I am not greatly mistaken. I have only this to say in regard to that paper: I am very glad that he has made out Hahnemann a good surgeon. I don't know whether he was or not, but I know that Hahnemann would never, even in the present day, have seconded Dr. Crutcher in saying, "I go for pus wherever I find it." We do not go for pus with a knife wherever we find it, as Hahnemannians.