

giving Belladonna. It will probably afford prompt relief. There need be no nervous excitement here to give *much* of the drug, or to give it *very often*, for fear a worse state will ensue if this is neglected. These symptoms are so characteristic of the drug that it will not fail if it has a fair chance, i. e., if it be not given in too great quantity or too often, and if it be not interfered with by the presence of other drugs, as sometimes will happen from the nervousness and apprehension excited by the bad reputation of the disease, because of its known fatal tendency to assume sudden and unfavorable appearances and conditions. The thought is, perhaps, that this may be forestalled by the interposition of one or more drugs, the action of which it is hoped will anticipate and prevent this lapse, if only the patient receives enough of them. This is a great mistake. Like as in many other instances, nervous apprehension here, by this resort, insures the realization of its fears, by the very means it adopts to prevent it. It arrests, embarrasses, or destroys the action of the true remedy, if this indeed has been found; or it adds to the confusion produced by the action of the wrong, by increasing impressions, which are not curatives, from other wrongly selected drugs, till to the dismay of the prescriber he may find, when he least suspects it; the same of these confusions to constitute the very evil he dreaded, and to avoid which he has resorted to the very means which has produced it. To avoid all this let the prescriber be sure of his remedy first, before giving it, and then trust it for the desired result. If the remedy be the right one, it needs no supplementary aid; if not, then the patient needs something else, but not this. There can be not the slightest doubt in the mind of any enlightened and reflecting practitioner, that very many of these sudden and unfavorable changes in the progress of cases not yet disclosing malignant character, are the result of wrong and excessive medication.

It can hardly be necessary to say that the *mere* condition of the throat with the sensations, etc., attending, is never to be isolated from the other elements of the case, and made the

basis of a prescription. The present intention is only to present it as one of the localizations of the disease which is a source of danger to life, and to endeavor to simplify its successful treatment by a clearer view of its relation to remedies by the law of cure. The variety we have just considered is generally the least dangerous of them all, and usually easy of control. It is met in the milder forms of the fever, and often disappears, with the other elements of the case, giving little trouble beyond the increased difficulty of swallowing and the comparatively slight addition to the sufferings of the patient it may have caused. If the inflammation does not proceed to attack other tissues, it rarely requires for its removal more than a dose or two of Belladonna. But it may require Nux vom. if there be rawness, burning and smarting with loss of dryness, and the absence of the constrictive and suffocating sensations; if the dryness be rather of the *front* part of the mouth, than of the back and throat, and if there be at the same time shootings in the uvula and maxillary glands. Or Baryta carb. may be preferable if there be great difficulty in opening the mouth, of speaking and swallowing.

(*To be continued.*)

#### OBSERVATIONS ON BRYONIA.

BY CARROLL DUNHAM, M.D., NEW YORK.

The tincture of the root of *Bryonia alba* or dilutions made from it were used by Hahnemann in his provings.

Pareira calls *Bryonia* a violent emetic and purgative. Trousseau and Pidoux speak of it as an active purgative, to be used like *Colocynth* and *Elaterium*. But Hermand de Montgarney declared that he had frequently cured vomiting, colic, diarrhœa and dysentery with *Bryonia*. An illustration, from allopathic sources of the homœopathic curative action of this drug!

*Bryonia* is not mentioned by the majority of modern

writers of the old school on *Materia Medica*. Yet it has for centuries been recognized, among the people of Europe, as a specific for certain ailments, and eminent physicians of earlier ages have recorded many cures by it. Cataplasms of the root were successfully used to scatter inflammatory swellings of the joints. This was a homœopathic prescription in so far as the selection of the drug was concerned. The ancients cured dropsy with it, and especially hydro-thorax (and we use it for pleurisy with fluid exudation). Sydenham used *Bryonia* as a remedy for intermittent fever. Teste says the French peasants of Lorraine use the root as a specific remedy for hernia. I learned from observation that, among the peasants residing in the Maremma on the shores of the Mediterranean, North of the Pontine marshes, *Bryonia* is commonly (and successfully) used as a remedy for the peculiar type of intermittent and remittent fever which is endemic there.

Our entire knowledge of the action of *Bryonia* on the healthy subject is derived from Hahnemann's Proving (*Materia Medica Pura*, Vol. II) and from the Austrian Proving, arranged by Prof. Zlatarovich (*Æst. Hom. Zeitschrift*, Vol. III, 1857). From these sources we construct the following resume:

*Sensorium*.—Every prover describes, in language more or less emphatic, a "confusion of the head," a "distracted state of the sensorium." Great heaviness of the whole head. Weight upon the vertex. Vertigo, when fasting, when standing, and especially on first rising from a seat; often conjoined with headache in the occiput.

*Headache*.—Dull, pressing headache in the forehead and temples; drawing and tensive headache in the temporal region; drawing and tearing pain from the temple down to the malar bone and to the lower jaw (this symptom promises aid from *Bryonia* in prosopalgia). Sticking, jerking, throbbing headache from the forehead backward to the occiput. (This symptom is characteristic, being paralleled in no other drug. *Spigelia* has pain darting from behind forwards through the left eyeball. *Silicea* has pain coming up from the nape of

the neck, through the occiput and over the vertex and so down upon the forehead. *Carbo veg.* has dull heavy pain extending through the head, from the occiput to the supra-orbital region.)

The majority of the head-symptoms of *Bryonia* refer to the occiput. In this respect it may be compared with *Petroleum*.

The sensorium is blunted.

All the symptoms of the head are aggravated by motion and by warmth.

The pathologico-anatomical results of *Bryonia*-poisoning are: "redness of the diploe, injection of the inner surface of the cranium. Congestion of the membranes. A section of the cerebral substances is dotted here and there with blood."

Zlatarovich says, "the head-symptoms point to congestion and inflammation of the brain;" but, I think, the character of the fever and of the affection of the sensorium is such as to show that it is not likely to be a remedy in pure idiopathic Encephalitis. If a remedy in Encephalitis at all, it must be in those cases in which Meningitis has supervened, by metastasis or otherwise, upon some previously existing miasmatic or other disease, e. g., one of the exanthemata.

The affections of the head and sensorium are worse in the morning; not immediately on awaking (as with *Lachesis*) but, after waking, on moving the eyes and head (see *Stool—Diarrhœa*).

*Face*.—Red, hot and puffed. The pains are those that have been described as extending between the temple and the malar bone, and are of a tearing, drawing character.

*Eyes*.—Lids swollen. A sensation of pressure from within outwards in the globe of the eye. The conjunctiva seems to be moderately inflamed, judging from these symptoms: sensation as if there were sand in the eyes; increased secretion of tears; discharge of muco-pus from the eye, obstructing vision; itching and burning of the margin of the lids. The right eye is most affected.

Contrary to the general rule with *Bryonia*, the eye-symptoms are aggravated by warmth.

*Ears.*—Sensation of obstruction.

Noises in the ears.

*Nose.*—Frequent and repeated epistaxis; a symptom recorded by many provers. It occurs in the morning, sometimes awaking the prover from sleep. The blood is florid. Nose-bleeding after the sudden suspension of menses has been observed under the action of Bryonia. It is probably this symptom which has induced the use of Bryonia in vicarious menstruation.

*Mouth.*—The lips are swollen. Aphthous patches appear on the living membrane of the mouth and fauces. Dr. Huber, of Linz, one of the Austrian provers, states that his proving of Bryonia cured him of a constitutional tendency to aphthous formations in the throat.

The *Teeth* feel long and loose; drawing or jumping tooth-ache when eating or just after eating, or in the evening in bed; aggravated by warmth, contrary to the general rule with Bryonia.

*Throat.*—Sticking pain on swallowing, on feeling of the throat and on bending the neck. Great dryness in the throat.

*Digestive Organs.*—Taste unpleasant, flat, even with good appetite; sometimes bitter, sometimes putrid, with offensive breath; *appetite*, generally diminished or destroyed, with aversion to food. One prover (Fr. H.) records an excessive desire for food, which, however, ceased as soon as the prover began to eat.

*Thirst* increased.

After eating, eructations, sometimes tasting of the food, but generally bitter or sour, with an accumulation of sour water sometimes tasteless in the mouth.

Hiccough is a frequent symptom.

*Nausea* after a meal, although the food tasted well and was eaten with relish.

Nausea and vomiting, morning and evening, chiefly of water and mucus. Also, vomiting of food and of a fluid consisting of mucus and bile and very bitter.

Food oppresses the stomach, is felt like a load at the epigastrium and is often regurgitated.

*Stomach and Abdomen.*—Pressure in the epigastrium, worse after eating and when walking. This pain sometimes extends down to the umbilical region; sometimes even to the bladder and perineum.

After eating, there is often a constricting pain in the stomach, then a cutting in the epigastrium and then vomiting of food. The pains are worse during motion as is the general rule with Bryonia pains.

Sensation of distension and sometimes actual swelling in the umbilical region.

Pains, sticking and shooting in both sides of the abdomen, aggravated by motion and sometimes changing into stitches from the abdomen into the stomach. The stitches are most frequent in the region of the spleen.

In the hepatic region, on the contrary, we find a tensive, burning pain; with a stitch which occurs only when the region is pressed upon, or when the prover coughs or takes a deep inspiration.

Flatulence moderate. Its movements produce pain.

*Stool.*—It is a peculiarity of Bryonia that, in moderate doses, it produces, in the healthy prover, retention of stool; the stool is infrequent, large in form, solid and evacuated with difficulty and attended by prolapsus of the rectum and burning sensation. Besides this characteristic action, Bryonia produces also, as an alternate action, a kind of diarrhoea, preceded by colic, occurring especially at night (or early morning as soon as the patient rises and begins to walk about) and coming on so suddenly that the prover can hardly prevent an involuntary evacuation. (For a comparative notice of the diarrhoea of Bryonia, Sulphur, Thuja and Podophyllum, see Dr. Lippe's lecture—*AMERICAN HOMŒOPATHIC REVIEW*, Vol. V, p. 441.)

(*To be continued.*)

## MISCELLANEOUS.

VETERINARY HOMŒOPATHY.—To the Editor of the *Field, Sir*: As your columns occasionally admit the narration of cures, on the homœopathic principle, I hope you may find the following particulars of a very hopeless case of a sick cow successfully so treated, of sufficient interest to command a place in your widely read journal. During my visits to a friend suffering from pulmonary hæmorrhage, near Iver, Bucks, I was asked if I could advise a neighboring farmer concerning the sudden illness of a valuable Guernsey cow, which had calved on the morning of the previous day (Saturday), June 3rd, 1865.

Independent of a great fondness for animals, the deep scientific interest and instruction attaching to the study of comparative pathology enlisted, without delay, my services on behalf of the poor animal. On being conducted by a gentleman to the paddock where the cow stood with her calf by her side, I found the farmer, Mr. Goff, Mr. Lamb (the owner of the cow) the veterinary surgeon from Uxbridge, and an old farmer who had seen much illness in animals, all watching the case, the nature of which was a puzzle to all present. I was informed by Mr. Goff—a very intelligent man, who has, in the brief experience of this cow's illness, become, with moderate instruction, a wonderfully expert auscultator—that he left the animal apparently well when he went to church at eleven o'clock, but on his return, between one and two o'clock, p. m., he found her unable to walk, without a shaking of her limbs, and giving way of her joints, as if she would fall. Believing the illness to be milk fever, Aconite and Belladonna had been administered frequently, with no beneficial result. The cow could scarcely move a step without appearing as if she would fall. Her injected eyes had a glassy, dull expression of some serious illness. The milk was suppressed, neither had there been for some considerable time any signs of intestinal or urinary function. On applying my ear over the cow's ribs, I soon discovered her disease to be a severe attack of inflammation and congestion of the lungs. Her condition was one of great danger, for which I recommended Phosphorus. Mr. Goff tended her all night, scrupulously giving the medicine every two hours. In the early morning (Whit-Monday), I was asked to look at the animal "before she died." On visiting her, in company with another gentleman, I found her lying on her right side under a shed, where she had been for some hours unable to rise. Her neck was stretched out, and on the left side of it there was a large globular swelling, such as may be observed in large fleshy muscles when drawn up in severe cramp. Her breathing was short; her eyelids, when raised by the finger, remained in that position until they slowly and imperfectly recovered their former position. This was a marked proof of exhausted vitality, and the rapidity with which life was ebbing. While making a minute and careful examination into the state of her respiration, the cow gave a distressed moan, as if dying, when I observed a peculiar deep, fan-like motion of her nostrils, a characteristic

symptom for the selection of *Lycopodium* (sometimes called vegetable Sulphur) in the treatment of young persons suffering under inflammation of the lungs' and to which I called the attention of the profession and the public in the July number of the *Monthly Homœopathic Review*, 1863. Although years of study and observation had satisfied me that many of the severe attacks of diseases among animals yielded as rapidly to accurate homœopathic selections administered in an infinitesimal dose, as the like diseases in children, I must confess that I had very little hopes of a favorable result in this extreme case. Twelve globules—yes, twelve globules of *Lycopodium*, more attenuated or dynamized than the 200th dilution, were dissolved in a quart bottle of cold water, and a tablespoonful administered every half-hour. I left the apparently dying animal at half-past eight on the morning of Whit-Monday, Mr. Goff, Mr. Lamb, and other persons being present, promising to see her when I returned in the afternoon, if she were still alive. As the forenoon advanced, there being no visible improvement and her death being momentarily expected, a messenger was despatched to Iver, for the butcher to come and kill her. Fortunately, it being Whit-Monday, the butchers were absent, holiday making. At last a slaughterer was found at Uxbridge, but his men were also otherwise engaged, so the poor cow was allowed time for the *Lycopodium* to work upon her disease, and to the astonishment of all who witnessed this apparently hopeless case, the cow rose up and stood firmly on her legs, at a few minutes before two, p. m. She walked without trembling, and gave most satisfactory evidence that there was neither intestinal nor urinary impediment in her case. I saw her at half-past six in the evening, when she was feeding, and there was scarcely a remnant of the peculiar action of the nostrils to be discovered. One gentleman who observed the symptom, remarked that he could never understand what that peculiar action meant, as he had often remarked to his bailiffs and servants when his cattle were dying with pneumonia, "How that beast sneers." This is really a very graphic expression of the symptom as it occurs in animals, and the hint may be of use to future observers. The *Lycopodium* was continued at longer intervals, for although great and marked relief had been afforded to oppressed organic life, it was not to be supposed that a grave lung disease had been thus suddenly cured! In fact, while I write (June 24th) the remnant of the crepitating *râle* characteristic of pneumonia may yet be heard by a capable auscultator in the posterior margin of the left lung. During the progress of the case the left posterior quarter of her udder became hard and tender and suppuration was dreaded. Blood instead of milk came from the teat, still a marked indication for *Lycopodium*, which I ordered to be continued, and the udder threatening also soon disappeared to the delight of Mr. Goff, who watched night and day most assiduously this truly marvellous case. \* \* \* In answer to your Natal correspondent of last week, asking for information in regard to the sore mouths in sheep passing into "blue tongues" when they fall down, kick and die; I should recommend him to study out of a reliable *Materia Medica*, the action of Arsenic, Muriatic acid, Digitalis, and Sabadilla. Amongst the first two or three remedies he will probably find more corresponding to the whole disorder of the sheep than he has yet observed.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully, D. WILSON, M. D.

A MEDICAL TEST IN POLITICS.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* has the following. "A novel element has been introduced into the Westminster election. There is a suspicion of heterodoxy against even Captain Grosvenor, not, of course, on theological points, but it is doubtful whether he is not a medical heretic. It is hinted that he is a Homœopathist, and Dr. Tweedie, who was on his committee, wrote to ask him if the insinuation were true, for in case it was he should wish to withdraw his support. To this the gallant candidate sent the following reply: 'Whenever I am ill, which, by the blessing of Providence, does not happen very often, I apply for advice and assistance to the doctor of my regiment, who is, to the best of my belief, a very orthodox practitioner.' The doctor characterized this reply as 'equivocal,' and withdrew his name. The *Lancet*, with a zeal for orthodoxy as ardent as that of the *Morning Advertiser*, holds him up as an example to his brethren.

"As a profession," says this journal, "we can have no faith in the political wisdom or legislative fitness of a man who, on questions of medical and sanitary legislation, stands on the senseless platform of the homœopathic delusion. Dr. Tweedie will deserve and meet with the cordial approbation of his professional brethren. The question put is plain and distinct; the answer is singularly unsatisfactory. It remains for Captain Grosvenor to speak in language which cannot be mistaken. The profession will pause for his reply. The question admits of as clear an answer as one which relates to the extension of the suffrage or the vote by ballot. It must be borne in mind that the honest practitioners of medicine, in withholding their support from Captain Grosvenor, are acting from purely conscientious motives. They justly regard Homœopathy as a very senseless, and withal a very dangerous error, and they could not consistently vote for a candidate for their suffrages who holds a contrary opinion."

A MORAL LESSON TO DOCTORCRAFT.—Captain Grosvenor was returned at the head of the poll for Westminster; Colonel Hughes was returned at the head of the poll for Lambeth.

Our journal is not devoted to politics. Political discussions are not adapted to our pages; but a special interest was felt by all Homœopathists in the result of the contest in Westminster and in Lambeth, from the attempt made by the *Lancet*, the *British Medical Journal* and *Punch*, to oppose these two gentlemen, simply because they were known or suspected to be Homœopathists.

A signal defeat has overtaken these conspirators against the liberty of her Majesty's lieges in matters medical. The daily and weekly press poured out its torrent of remonstrance and ridicule against the course proposed by the serious and comic serials devoted to the worship of massive druggism, poisonous medication and destructive action on the blood-vessels, nerves and skin of the whole English race.

We have no wish to fight "our battles o'er again," nor "twice to slay the slain;" the victory belongs to Homœopathy and common sense, and we are not so devoid of generosity as to exult over the fallen. That we are led to allude to the subject at all is that it affords us a good illustration of the real progress

of the people in intelligence and civilization, and of their determination to resist the efforts of a party who would, if they had the power, substitute the *doctor* of 1865 for the *priest* of the middle ages. The *allopathic doctors* led by the *Lancet*, have inaugurated an "odium medicum" which rivals, if it do not surpass the "odium theologicum" of a past age. They have organized a system of terrorism within their ranks, embodying the worst and most debasing features of TRADES-UNIONISM. They have pulled down their *leaders* and made them their *slaves*; and now, in the pride of unbridled *democratic* power, they have attempted to push their vicious principles a step further, by making a man's medical creed a test of his fitness for entering Parliament.

This election will prove to these fanatics that the English people will not submit to be *doctor-ridden*. They have suffered too much in past ages from the comparatively mild sway of the *priest* (against which they made a spirited and a successful resistance), to sit down quietly to be bled and blistered and purged and leeches against their will, by order of the British Medical Association and its myrmidons.

The *Lancet* was appalled when it saw how very much in earnest the *people* and the *press* were in repelling its assaults on their liberties. Forthwith the Editor sat down to attempt to allay the storm he had raised. In two *leading articles*, one on June 24th, the other on July 8th, he strives to escape from his untenable position by offering excuses, which discover to us the whole weakness of the cause he advocates. For his excuses themselves are but slanderous accusations against Homœopathy, which the *Lancet* dared not have ventured to make, were it not that it refuses to admit any reply into its pages.

The accusations are these:

That "in 1855 Lord Robert Grosvenor, acting as *tout* for the interest of the class whom he patronizes, called Sir Benjamin Hall to account, in the House of Commons, for not officially recognizing the delusion of Homœopathy, and endeavored to impose conditions upon the Committee of the College of Physicians which would have been felt as insulting, while they were actually, as they were probably intended to be, obstructive."

Now these are the facts:

In 1854 cholera was prevalent in London. The President of the Board of Health (Sir B. Hall) sent schedules round to every *legally qualified medical practitioner* (whether homœopathic or allopathic), requesting him, if he had any cases of cholera, to report upon them, stating their course, their treatment and their termination. These schedules were then to be forwarded to a "Treatment Committee of the Medical Council," who were to embody them in a Report to be presented to both Houses of Parliament.

In addition to these schedules, the cases treated in the hospitals were to be reported on, and Medical Inspectors were appointed who were to visit the hospitals to check the Reports.

The Homœopathic Hospital received a large number of cholera cases, being situated in the middle of the infected district. Dr. MacLoughlin, one of the Medical Inspectors of the Board of Health, visited the hospital constantly, and thus wrote afterwards: "That there may therefore be no misapprehension about the cases I saw in your hospital, I will add, that all I saw there were true

cases of cholera, in the various stages of the disease; and that I saw several cases which did well under your treatment, which I have no hesitation in saying would have sunk under any other."

"In conclusion, I must repeat to you what I have already told you, and what I have told everyone with whom I have conversed, that although an Allopathist by principle, education and practice, yet, was it the will of Providence to afflict me with cholera, and to deprive me of the power of prescribing for myself, I would rather be in the hands of a homœopathic than of an allopathic adviser." Now will it be believed, that when the Medical Council sent in its Report on the Cholera to the Houses of Parliament, *no notice whatever was taken of the returns sent in by homœopathic practitioners*; and not only that, but *no notice whatever was taken of the returns sent in from the Homœopathic Hospital*, though the allopathic Medical Inspector himself had borne his special testimony to their truthfulness and to the superior efficacy of the treatment?

Accordingly, on May 14th, 1855, Lord Robert Grosvenor, from his place in the House of Commons, asked the President of the Board of Health the reason for this omission. The Medical Council was appealed to, and they returned for answer the following resolution: "*Resolved*, That by introducing the returns of homœopathic practitioners, they would not only compromise the value and utility of their averages of cure, as deduced from the operations of known remedies, but they would give an unjustifiable sanction to an empirical practice, alike opposed to the maintenance of truth and to the progress of science. John Ayrton Paris, President."

The immediate effect of Lord Robert Grosvenor's question was the publication of a second parliamentary paper, containing a Report of the returns so unjustifiably withheld by the Medical Council. To hide their ignorance of the homœopathic remedies, and to save their own futile attempts at cure from a comparison with that which was so infinitely more successful, this body, with the President of the College of Physicians at their head, suppressed a great truth, and were content to act as traitors to the trust reposed in them by their country. The ALLOPATHIC TREATMENT showed a mortality of 36.2 per cent.; the HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT a mortality of 16.4 per cent. Let it be recollected that the truth of these Reports *was verified by allopathic Medical Inspectors*.

For this determined effort on Lord Robert Grosvenor's part to prevent a gross injustice against humanity, he incurred the abuse and hatred of the *Lancet*. In 1855, this venal periodical applied to him the opprobrious epithet of "*touter*," which it has revived in 1865, with a continuation of the same rancorous spirit. It cannot forgive him the honesty with which he exposed a nefarious transaction.

The above simple relation of the facts will show how utterly slanderous is the accusation that Lord Robert Grosvenor "*obstructed*" any "*measure of organization desirable for the public interest*." On the contrary he prevented the Medical Council from using this "*organization*" for purely party purposes.

In 1855 Mr. Wakley, then Editor of the *Lancet*, threatened to turn Lord Robert Grosvenor out of the representation of Middlesex, for his determined opposition to this disgraceful medical cabal.

In 1865 we find the editor of the *Lancet*, with hereditary malignity, holding out the same threat against Lord Robert Grosvenor's son, with regard to the representation of Westminster. Either threat was equally impotent. We hope the *Lancet* will, in time, learn the lesson, thus, for a second time, repeated.

The second accusation is equally slanderous. It is this: the Editor of the *Lancet* asserts, that the protection of the public against quacks has failed chiefly through the efforts of Homœopaths; he says, after referring to the great evil of quackery, "*An act passed to prevent this imposture and villany has failed, because of the facility with which so-called homœopathic colleges and institutes present diplomas to any applicant with a few pounds in his pocket, and because, when such a person displays his parchment, it is impossible to deny that he has an apparent title to dub himself doctor . . . . . this is precisely the class of whom men of Lord Grosvenor's stamp are the advocates*." This statement of the *Lancet's* is a *deliberate falsehood*.

Those *quacks*, who in London and other large towns are the pests of modern society, are, *to a man*, ALLOPATHISTS. They are well known, they are avoided by all respectable men of either school, but their *diplomas* are ALLOPATHIC. We have none of them.

As to the sale of diplomas by homœopathic colleges, there have been, and we believe, are, one or two American colleges whose *diplomas* were to be bought by men who could prove, by certificates from qualified medical practitioners in this country, that they had studied and were proficient in medical science, but the BRITISH HOMŒOPATHIC SOCIETY *repudiates such men, and its rules exclude all such men from its membership*.

No medical practitioner can obtain the membership of the *British Homœopathic Society* unless he can prove the possession of diplomas, *gained by examination, and registered under the new Medical Act*. The above accusation, then, is slanderous and offensively untrue. *Bought diplomas* are far more frequent among the *Allopathists* themselves. *Erlangen, Giessen*, and many other *allopathic German Universities* made themselves notorious for the ease with which they, at one time, sold their diplomas. So also some of the Scotch Universities. Numbers of men holding Scotch diplomas obtained them by simple purchase, or after an examination which was but a farce. It is true that these things are now of the past, as the *new Medical Act* makes these *bought diplomas* of no use to their holders. We only mention them to show that the *Lancet* has made a false accusation against Homœopathy, in attributing the difficulties which have arisen from the possession of *bought diplomas*, to the action of the homœopathic colleges.

The notorious Dr. Pritchard was one of the many Allopathists who hold the *Erlangen* (allopathic) M.D. which he *bought* (without having previously passed any examination at that University).

We need not further expose the fabrications by which the *Lancet* has tried to wriggle itself out of the ridiculous position into which it fell, dragging with it poor Dr. Tweedie and the medical electors of Westminster. Every one knows that when the Editor pleads as follows, he is talking nonsense or worse: "*On all those momentous questions of sanitary law, upon the right solution of which*

hang the health, moral well-being and lives of millions, Captain Grosvenor is likely to seek guidance at the fountain of imbecility and mischief." Why? because he is a Homœopath.

We say, without fear of contradiction, that there are no more consistent *sanitary reformers*, no more pains-taking curators of public health and human life, than that body of physicians and surgeons who have adopted the homœopathic system of medicine. This is so well known to all who come in contact with them that we need not enlarge on their defence.

As to "*moral well-being*," we should earnestly advise the *Lancet* to look at home. It has a bad habit of treating *medicine*, not as a *science*, but as a *polity*. It enters into the question, not as an *enquirer after truth*, but as a strong *political partisan*. It uses all the worst arts of partisan warfare. It avoids a *fair fight*. It seeks to stab in the dark. Before striking a blow it carefully protects itself from the possibility of its intended victim being able to defend himself. Having cased himself in concealed armor, the editor uses big words, insulting expressions, deliberate mis-statements and downright lies, to the great injury of his own "*moral well-being*," and to the injury of the whole medical profession.

We warn the *Lancet* that as men who wore *concealed armor* were held as the most despicable and dishonorable of beings, in times when duelling was practised—as assassins who stole upon their victims from behind and pionarded the defenceless, were held as the most abhorred and depraved of men, so, in these times, journalists who assail the characters and reputations of their fellow men, and refuse the entrance of any defence into their pages, deserve and will receive the same loathing and detestation from all men of honor as have been heaped in all times on *assassins and cowardly perfidious assailants*. The medical moral-assassin of to-day, the secret poisoner of his honorable opponent's character and fame, deserves and will receive no pity at our hands; and it needs but to expose him, to ensure his receiving his full meed of public disfavor.

Candidly we advise the *Lancet* and the other medical journals to retrace their steps, and to adopt towards Homœopathy an *honest and honorable course*. The question of the *healing of the sick* ought not to be treated as one of *feeling or opinion*, but as one of *fact and reason*, to be determined as all other scientific truths are determined, by experimental observation.—*Monthly Homœopathic Review.*

THE  
AMERICAN  
HOMŒOPATHIC REVIEW.

Vol. VI.

NEW YORK, OCTOBER, 1865.

No. 4.

## OUR MATERIA MEDICA.

BY CONSTANTINE HERING, M. D., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

*(Concluded from page 54.)*

As a matter of course, the question pertains only to curable cases; for everything declared as incurable hitherto by "scientific" physicians must necessarily remain so. But supposing the cases were curable, even easily curable, and all other conditions were fulfilled,—but notwithstanding all this the patients did not get so rapidly well, or not at all, as we are told to believe—an important alternative remains—either we are to blame, or something else is.

If we mortals are unsuccessful, or have met with adversity, we are always ready to place the cause upon external objects. Since we are bound to consider all homœopathic physicians, from the recruit up to the scar-covered veteran, as men subject to adversities, we have a right to assume, that in case of failure in an attempt at curing, the reason must exist somewhere among us. As natural laws must be applied analogously in all instances, our first thought would be, in case of failure, that perhaps the dose was too small, or was not often enough repeated. Then supposing cures to