

- headache. The next day without repetition of the dose, stool repeated at the same hour, pappy and less than the urgency seemed to indicate, with subsequent pain in the bowels; the third day, slight urgency to stool the whole day, until the ordinary urgency to stool follows at evening; after the  $\frac{1}{5}$  taken five times. *Rave.*
- . Thin pappy stool, in the morning. 1361.
  - . Five stools the tenth and twelfth days, he could have gone still oftener. 741, 749

*Watery and Diarrhœic:*

- . Two liquid stools, after fifteen grains; the second day. *Giacomini.*
  - . Copious evacuations of the rectum, with severe purging. *Schœpf.*
685. Watery stool, after large doses. 628.
- . Watery, long continued diarrhœa. 589.
  - . (Evacuations are not watery.) 667, 670, 671.
  - . Copious watery evacuations from the bowels mixed with blood. *N. T.*
  - . Yellow pappy diarrhœa, and pain in the umbilical region increased by pressure. 499.
690. Fluid stool with griping. 630.
- . She is wakened, after midnight, with gripings in the bowels, diarrhœa yellowish, green, with pains before and after. *t, Rave.*
  - . Pappy stools, after abdominal cuttings. 579.
  - . \* Colic and diarrhœa. *Muhlenbein Archive* 6, 3, 78. 1826.
  - . It is exceedingly injurious in bilious diarrhœas, bilious dysentery and cholera, and scoffs at the laws of Hahnemann's Homœopathy. *W.*
695. Diarrhœa the next day, and dry coryza. 580.
- . Diarrhœic evacuations, with pain in the hyponchondria and chilliness. 434.
  - . \* Diarrhœa, with pains in the back. *Williamson.*
  - . Diarrhœic stools, with burning in the rectum. 879.
  - . Passage of blood, with diarrhœa. 589.

700. Blood with watery stools. 688.
- . Thin or soft stools mixed with blood, entirely ceased the first two days, they then return less often and after four to six days, are of a natural consistency. *C. Hg.*
  - . Yellow diarrhœa, toward morning. 578.
  - . Copious pappy evacuations, mornings; the second day. *Preu, d.*
  - . Diarrhœic stools on the morning of the seventh day after daily doses of a small quantity.  $\Delta$  *C. Hg.*
705. Easy and copious stools in the morning. *Williamson.*
- . At nine to ten o'clock in the evening, a diarrhœic stool, then again the next day more frequent in the afternoon very thin, very yellow; every thing that the child had eaten could be seen therein. From sucking Aloes. *C. Hg.*
  - . Two pappy yellowish stools, with much passage of flatus; the same evening after taking the  $\frac{1}{5}$  at ten o'clock in the forenoon. *N. a.*
  - . In the evening, a diarrhœic stool; the second day.—*Preu, c.*
  - . Eight hours after taking it (at five in the evening) again, indeed, a small thin stool, something entirely unusual; followed by more fullness and pressure in the anus. 3. *C. Hg.*
- Hard then Soft:*
710. At first hard, then fluid stool, which seems to be very hot. *F. R. L.*
- . The first part of the stool is hard, the latter part thin, pappy; very often, for many weeks. *II and III.*
  - . At first hard, then, toward the end, diarrhœic. *III.*
- Solid, Hard, Retained:*
- . Late in the evening a copious evacuation of the bowels, though more solid, occurring in addition to the usual forenoon one; the first and the same on the third day; *Preu, d.*
  - . Scanty, crumbly evacuation, with a feeling as if more ought to come; after one hour. *Hencke, c.*

715. There is a daily stool indeed, but yet it is difficult to pass, it distends the rectum at first. *Helbig*.
- . Two days constipation follow a pappy, diarrhœic stool. *Helbig, c*,
  - . Hard stool; fifth and subsequent days. *t, Henke, a*.
  - . No stool; the fourth day. *t, Henke, a*.
  - . The stool ceases, after a small quantity,  $\frac{1}{3}$ . *C. Hg.*
720. Hard lumpy stool, then obstinate constipation. *N, b*.
- . Constipation with indolence and loss of irritability of the abdominal organs. 145.
  - . The stool is wanting, and an unendurable condition of mind. 24.
  - . Cessation of stool; the eleventh day. 772.
  - . \* Sluggishness and constipation of the abdomen. *aa*.
725. To people, who eat and drink well and exert themselves little, who sit much immediately after a meal, generally enjoy excellent health, who are not very sensitive nor inclined to colic and diarrhœa, but in whom abdominal disturbances appear by reason of infrequent stool, which often takes place only every two or three days and is not passed without very great exertion, Aloes in small doses is exceedingly suitable. *J. A. Schmidt Mat. Med.*
- . \* Constipation from a torpid atonic condition of the intestinal canal, especially in sedentary, old, and people who perform much intellectual labor. *K*.
  - . In habitual constipation with a want of secretion of bile, torpidity of the lower intestines, especially in hypochondriacs and people who have little physical exertion. *A*.
  - . In dilatations in the intestinal canal, where all tone is not yet lost, it should call forth contraction and so expel the accumulations of fœces. *Huebner Gastric Diseases, Leipsic, 1844, in A. Z. f. H. Vol. 2, pt. 3, p. 610*
  - . \* Accumulations of fecal masses in the colon, in females. *Copeland Dict. Pract. Med. Article, Colon*
730. \* The leading indication for Aloes is, constipation from a deficient secretion of bile, or insufficient irritability of the bile, or from atony of the colon and rectum. *W*.
- . Habitual constipation. *Hong*.
  - . Constipation generally results if one ceases to use Aloes after having used it somewhat. *Hahnemann in Cullen Mat. Med., 2, 584*.
  - . Used for constipation the latter always returns. *Cullen*. I also can testify to this. *S. Hahnemann*.
  - . Obstinate constipation. *Richter*.
735. After the use of Aloes, moderate constipation remains. *Arnemann, sixth edition, p, 419,*

- . In some, constipation should certainly result from the purgative action (from dryness of the intestines), after too long a use especially in large doses. *K*.
  - . Constipation and straining at stool. *Honigberger*.
- Various Symptoms from One Prover:*
- . 1. At two o'clock in the afternoon, an unusual time, a stool too small, in disconnected small pieces, with much offensive flatus, two hours after dinner during a disturbed state of mind, which was still increased after the stool; after three hours.
  - . After the morning stool, the feeling many times as if he ought to go again; at four in the afternoon, a thick pappy, natural stool with the sensation as if it were solid; the second day.
740. A stool at ten o'clock in the evening, thirty hours after the previous one, less than usual, with the feeling again as if it came indolently, it does not present itself in a right way; the fourth day.
- . In the morning, before eight, after breakfast, a disconnected soft stool, with pressing, passing flatus and eructations, at ten o'clock in the evening another stool, soft, disconnected and copious; the sixth day.
  - . A stool at three, p.m., and nine in the evening; the eighth day.
  - . A stool at six and eleven o'clock in the evening; the ninth day.
  - . A stool at six o'clock in the morning, after getting up, small, thin, pappy, easy; the same again at noon and at three in the afternoon with sputtering, that is, with gushing flatus and thin fœces. Just the same in the evening at six and before ten o'clock; could have gone still oftener; the tenth day.
745. Urgency to stool on passing water at night; the tenth and eleventh days.
- . At nine o'clock in the forenoon a second stool, small yellowish, slimy, with much sputtering flatus, with some tenesmus, he dreaded lest he should let fœces and urine both go together; whilst he would force out yet at the

same time he held back, at eleven in the forenoon again; the eleventh day.

- . Cold feeling, with a soft stool; the eleventh day.
- . A stool at three and six o'clock in the afternoon and nine and eleven in the evening; with the last, much loud flatus with very little fœces; the eleventh day.
- . At seven in the morning, immediately after rising, another stool as yesterday; five times through the day, sometimes, only flatus with little fœces, also many passages of flatus besides; could have gone oftener; the twelfth day.

750. Must take care that he does not have an involuntary stool when passing flatus; the twelfth day.

- . Stool five times up to three o'clock in the afternoon, then again five times; continual passage of much flatus, wherewith he must fear that a stool will escape with it; in the evening he could pass flatus loud and strong, without being obliged to fear this; the thirteenth day.
- . A stool at eight in the morning, the same at noon, then indeed twice, just as liquid, though less flatulence; the fourteenth day.

. Straining as for a solid stool, which was then soft or liquid; the fourteenth day.

- . On rising, he must immediately go to stool, thin, and so indeed three times; much flatus besides wherewith some stool easily escapes involuntary; the fifteenth day.

755. Four copious stools sometimes appear undigested; the sixteenth and seventeenth days. In the forenoon, copious fluid stools within three hours, after hasty urging, greyish yellow, undigested, with much growling about in the abdomen; the eighteenth day,

. Thin stool mornings, till the twentieth day.

- . 2. At three in the morning he awakes with hasty urgency to stool, dull gripings; movings about in the abdomen, thin, pappy evacuations; afterwards a feeling as if more ought to come; the second day.

(To be continued.)

## CLINICAL CASES AND OBSERVATIONS ON HIGH POTENCIES.

BY B. FINCKE, M. D., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

### FIFTH SERIES.

"I approve much more your method of philosophizing which proceeds upon actual observation, makes a collection of facts, and concludes no further than those facts will warrant."—DR. FRANKLIN TO ABBE SOULIAVE.

The cases here reported were treated with High Dilution Potencies of my own preparation, carried up by further dilution on a new plan. The notation is on the centesimal scale. Every thousand is denoted by the letter "m," e. g., Apis mel.  $\frac{1}{2}$ m. means two pellets of the forty-two thousandth potency of Apis mel.

The success obtained by these potencies not only confirms the observations made in the first series,\* but also establishes the fact, that the action and efficaciousness of homœopathic potencies is not limited to 20000 or 40000—the highest made by Jenichen—but evident even in higher centigrade dilutions as in the 42000 of Apis mel., in the 50000 of Nux vom., and in the 55000 of Sepia.

The question, then, where by potentiation, the terminus of medical action for homœopathic remedies is to be found, at all, is still an open question.

The experience in case number eight settles the fact, that our high potencies, and more particularly doses of a third Globule Dilution Potency of a 10000 centesimal potency, preserve their medical properties, and exert their curative action, when prepared and prescribed in America, mailed in a letter to Europe, and taken at Dresden in Saxony.

In the observations subjoined we commence summing up. When the first series was published (March, 1860), von Bœnninghausen did them the honor of noticing them, publishing a translation and glosses of his own, cordially approving and supporting the views advanced.† Now, before the last series reaches his eyes, they are closed forever. The great master of our art, the champion of true Homœopathy, the standard-bearer of High Potencies in Europe—he is no more.

With feelings of gratitude I cherish, personally, the memory of him, who by words of encouragement and assurance strengthened my purpose when I first professed Homœopathy. "Man kann Alles lernen," he said, in true Frank-  
linian terseness.

But with deep sadness comes the thought, that his powerful aid should be withdrawn now, when we most need it, to put down the false prophets, criticasters, double-dealers, and disunionists, who by supercilious misrepresentation and disparagement of Hahnemann's labors, betray and endanger the good cause. Oh, that he were still with us in the coming battle, to be fought on the true ground of Infinitesimality, which is finally to decide, by the high potencies of scientific truth, the final triumph of genuine Homœopathy!

\* "American Homœopathic Review, Vol. 2, p. 282."

† "Allgem. Hom. Zeitung," Vol. 61, pp. 63, 134, 140, 159, 164.

## CASES.

1. ANGINA. OPHTHALMIA.—Therese S., 7 years and 9 months old, of German descent, dark complexioned, at a time when diphtheria was prevalent in the neighborhood, presented the following symptoms.

December 28th, 1863, three, p.m. High fever with dry burning skin; aching in the forehead; maturing of the eyes which stick together, so that she can hardly open them; swelling of the throat on the left side, with pain in swallowing; nausea; pains in all her limbs; sent her one dose of *Apis mel.*  $\frac{4}{2}$  m.

29th. The fever had ceased very soon after taking the medicine. Otherwise she is about the same.

30th. Much better. The swelling went from the left to the right side. Tonsils very red, swollen, looking as if scratched.

January 1st, 1864. Stench from the throat in speaking. *Lachesis*  $\frac{6}{20}$  m.

2d. The swelling goes down. Two days after she was well.

2. HERPES CIRCINATUS.—Same patient.

February 13th, 1863.—Ringworm, red and burning, as large as a copper cent under the lower lip, for a week. *Sepia*  $\frac{6}{3}$  m.

After that the eruption subsided within a fortnight

3. INDIGESTIO.—Mary S., sister of the same, 10 years old, blonde hair, blue eyes, short, fat.

December 7th, 1863. After eating potatoe-salad and pork, vomiting early in the morning in bed; diarrhoea with tearing pains in the bowels; sour taste; coated tongue. *Aluminium met.*  $\frac{2}{4}$  m. Soon relieved.

4. ANGINA. OPHTHALMIA.—Same patient.

December 30th, 1863. Headache, both eyes watering and latterly maturing. *Apis mel.*  $\frac{6}{2}$  m.

January 1st, 1864. Watering and maturing of the right eye; gum-boil. *Belladonna*  $\frac{6}{40}$  m.

January 3d, 1864. The right eye maturing yet; fever, red swollen cheeks; pain on swallowing in the throat on the left side, externally and internally; no appetite. *Apis mel.*  $\frac{6}{2}$  m.

4th. Slight fever in the night; slept but little; throat red, swollen; left tonsil swollen; pain on swallowing still; right eye maturing; no appetite; little thirst. After a day or two well.

5. HÆMORRHOIDES CECÆ.—Mrs. N., American, blonde hair and blue eyes, 30 years old; after the loss of a valued friend. February 27th, 1864, complains of aching in the lower part of the back, followed by blind piles with stinging pains; stool regular. Used to have piles when pregnant, which she is not now. Neck and shoulders rheumatic. She is unable to walk. Great depression of spirits. Took *Opium 200* (Lehrmann) herself without effect. After *Nux vom.*  $\frac{2}{30}$  m., in some sugar of milk, she got well and went the next afternoon some distance to church. She said, "it acted like a charm."

6. RHEUMATISMUS.—Ch. F., boy 10 years old, dark complexion.

February 4th, 1864. Rheumatic pain in the right knee on walking. *Bryonia* 40 m, some pellets.

5th. The pain disappeared in the morning after taking the medicine, and returned in the afternoon. *Bryonia* 24 m., some pellets.

6th. The pain was gone.

7. ABLACTATIO.—Mrs. B., of French descent, dark complexion, well formed, was, March 1st, 1864, delivered of a healthy child. She did not want to nurse the child, although she had nursed her previous children, and was in good condition to nurse again now.

March 4th. Breast very sore, swollen as far as the left arm; pressure and soreness in motion and on touch. The milk is running out. *Bryonia* 40 m., some pellets, to be dissolved in about one gill of water, and one teaspoonful to be taken once in three hours.

5th. She is doing well. The swelling went down; but still the milk is being secreted and oozing out. *Pulsatilla* 51 m. in solution as before.

9th. The milk is gone; the breast is quite natural. She has no more uneasiness about it.

14th. Patient called at the office, reporting herself perfectly well.

8. HERNIA INGUINALIS.—J. F. F., of Dresden, Saxony, 75 years old, fat, middle stature, in

August 19th, 1861, during a walk, got stinging pains in the right inguinal region, shooting over into the right hip and the right thigh with difficulty in walking. Coming home, he noticed a swelling just above the pelvis near the hip. After *Aconite* 30 it disappeared, but afterwards it returned. He then must pass water more frequently than usual. The spine is curved on the right side in such a way that, when sitting, the lowest ribs touch the right hip-bone, the ribs having already assumed a corresponding curvature. Thereupon mailed him three doses. 1. *Nux vom.*  $\frac{2}{3}$  m. 2. *Nux vom.*  $\frac{3}{3}$  m. 3. *Rhus tox.*  $\frac{2}{10}$  m, to be taken dry, successively one a week.

June 1st, 1862. Patient reports, that the remedies had acted successfully, when by a sudden and violent motion in bed he got a relapse. The next physician on hand was called in, and he declared that it was an inguinal hernia which, besides the bowels, contained also some omentum; he then reduced the hernia and put on a truss. Mailed a powder with a quantity of pellets of *Rhus tox.* 10 m.  $\frac{3}{3}$ ,\* with the direction to take three pellets once a week.

November 23d. Patient reports that the hernia had no more protruded behind the truss as often as before, and that, whenever it occurred, it was hardly to be distinguished from a fold of loose skin.

April 3d, 1863. Mailed some more pellets of *Rhus tox.* 10 m.  $\frac{3}{3}$ , three once a week.

December 7th, 1863. Received the good news that the hernia had come down no more, that there was no more any difficulty about it, and that patient had stopped taking medicine.

March 12th, 1864. Patient reports that the hernia did no more protrude.

## OBSERVATIONS.

"E paucillis atque minutis."—LUCRETIVS.

It remains, to gather the consequences and proper deductions, for general science, to be drawn from the facts and observations collected in the preceed-

\* High Globule Dilution Potency, see the "American Homœopathic Review," Vol. 3, p. 88.

ing articles, and also to sketch the position which Homœopathy, especially as determined by high potencies, deserves to occupy among the sciences. But we must here limit ourselves to the following suggestions:

1. The high potencies which form the basis of our observations, are fully known as to their preparation and elements, all having been carefully registered in our books, and the clinical effects of them having been taken from our journals. So there is no mystery, nor uncertainty, about these high potencies and they, at least, claim immunity from the sweeping objections by which heretofore even Goullon, Meyer and others, actually, excused themselves from considering high potencies at all.

2. The general principle of potentiating remedies appears to be a working out of the old theorem: *corpora non agunt nisi soluta*.

3. From the views presented in the observations, it results, that homœopathic remedies are agents and reagents, and more particularly that they are as homœodynamic with the organism in its actual condition, as the organism is homœopathic with them in their proper application. Hence, when they are indiscriminately termed homœopathic, it is done metonymically.

The organism in its healthy condition is by homœopathic remedies always similarly affected, as it is in its diseased condition by the disease, and it is always contrarily affected by them in either condition.

A further result is, that homœopathic drngs are, likewise and contrariwise, morbid and curative, pathopoetic and hygiopoetic, pathogenic and pathotonic, pathic and antipathic, nosantic and hygiantic, according as they are applied to the given state of the organism.

Conformably to these views, the character of homœopathic remedies is always *pathematic*, and at the same time always *homœomatic*, and always *dynamic*. It might be aptly designated as equally *homœopathopoetic* and *homœohygiopoetic*, equally *homœopathogenic* and *homœopathotonic*. Such, or a similar terminology would seem to be serviceable for a short-hand description of the peculiar and distinctive nature of medical *Homœodynamicity*, in which we recognize the basal principle of that Homœopathy and Potentiation which were both discovered, and established, by Hahnemann, the true son of Hippocrates, the equal of Columbus upon the vast ocean of Medicine. These discoveries, being positive enrichments science, form his highest original merit, his *monumentum aere perennius*!

4. Inasmuch as the direction of the action of our remedies in relation to the organism, and its constituent or integrant parts, is in every case distinct, and peculiar, and unerringly specific, as has been recently so well elaborated by von Grauvogl; it is certain, that their effort is always specific in each individual case, where it is properly administered and proves curative; and in this sense a homœopathic remedy is a *specificum*.

But this would seem to be about all that is tenable of the theory of the specificists and of the schools which enjoy the delusion of being orthodox. There is no such thing as a *specificum* for any generic class of diseases, unless it means only a generalization and abstraction of pathognomonic symptoms of single remedies—*Organon*, 5th ed., § 147.

5. The specific direction of the several remedies, or drug-matters, compared with the equally specific direction of the several hypothetical nosopoeses, or

disease matters, presents again a similitude and, on account of it, another property of homœopathic remedies, which is recognizable in that they are *homœotropic*.

6. In relation to *Therapia* the inferences from the views developed in the observations, do not here need any more explicit elaboration. Generally these observations may contribute to a correct understanding of what Paracelsus described as the pith of our art, in these words: "Summum artis mysterium erit in *naturæ et remedii convenientis cognitione*."

7. Inasmuch as each homœopathic remedy has, and, especially in its high potencies, maintains, its own, and peculiar, pathematic sphere, and its own pathognomonic character, reflected in the pathogenetic picture,—the old *Nosology* will not be sufficient for any thing else, than a mere nominal index.

But a better system of Nosology, that is, a true and real Pathology or Pathognosis, might be built up on the basis of scientifically comparing, and contrasting, and carefully and cautiously grouping, the different symptoms of the different remedies according to the traits which they have similar and in common. This might be done by combining the true pathognomonic symptoms with cautious and correct generalization, in which already Hahnemann, von Bœnninghausen, Hering, Lippe, Jahr and others have succeeded to a great extent. The nomenclature, then still desirable, would most naturally be taken from the names of the drugs which produce the same or similar symptoms; e. g., Aconitism, Carbonism, Digitalism, Helleborism, Iodism, etc.

Such a Pathognosis would mainly depend upon the study of high potencies, because they, as is confirmed by Jahr, "present the real, proper and peculiar characteristics of the remedy."

True, such Pathognosis would certainly presuppose considerable help from micrological, microscopical, anatomical, microchemical, and other exact observations, finer than those hitherto made by physicists, chemists, and physiologists. Yet it may confidently be hoped, that, as science and arts proceed in their onward march, they will, with a fuller appreciation of the throughout micrological character of *all* matter, and of *all* natural processes, find, and acquire, those finer methods and instruments which are required to elucidate, palpably, what Homœopathy, without them, has already commenced to secure by her experience and observations, and by her operations with finest substances upon the fine organization of the human body.

8. Inasmuch as the true *Remedium* is that drug which in quality, substance, and effect, is *contrary* to the given state of the organism, or its concerning organs, therefore capable of unmaking the disease in the sick, and making the disease in the healthy organism; and which, at the same time, in relation, quantity, form and modality, is conform and equal, ergo *similar*, to the given pathopoesis or morbification, and most nearly so, and in the exactest possible proportion unto the quantity and form of the disease; and which is, therefore, *homœotic*, or capable of assimilating the disease; and inasmuch as the corresponding pathopoesis, or morbid agent, must be *equally homœotic*, or capable of assimilating the drug, or hygiopoesis; it is clear, that such a *remedium*, necessarily, is thorough, direct, positive, radical, and precise in its effect, and that any other drugs, selected and administered after other theories, can only be

more or less indirect, negative, palliative, or alterative, and uncertain in their action—*Positivity of Homœopathy*.

9. The correlation of physiological and pathological Assimilation in the view we have taken, will find its illustration in an examination into the effects of our best known remedies from which we select Arsenic as an example.

The pure metallic Arsenic undergoes no oxydation in the alimentary canal, is eliminated in its pure metallic state, and not poisonous. (See Schmidt and Bretschneider in *Moleschott Untersuchungen*, Vol. 6, p. 140.)

The arsenious acid, if taken in large and massive doses, terminates life more or less rapidly, and is one of the most formidable poisons.

The same arsenious acid is taken habitually and regularly, in small doses, by mountaineers, in some places, for the purpose of improving their "wind" and of preserving and bettering their general health. And there its effects are, that the people who make a regular practice of Arsenic eating, with certain precautions, grow upon it sleek and fat and red-cheeked, and their appearance improves generally. Likewise it is given to horses, cattle and hogs for the purpose of fattening them up. And we are informed that in the Styrian stud of the King of Prussia it is made a rule to give Arsenic to the horses. Thus Arsenic serves as a nutritious element.

The same arsenious acid is, in some places, taken regularly, and in small doses, by persons who are connected with the manufacture of Arsenic, for the purpose of avoiding the deleterious effects of the fumes of the poison, and this is done not only with impunity, but with marked benefit, as it preserves their lives. Thus Arsenic serves as a prophylactic, and at the same time as a remedy and a nutriment.

The same arsenious acid, if taken in infinitesimal quantities, cures such complaints as are similar to those produced by it in large doses. Thus Arsenic serves as a true *remedium*, and is one of the most efficacious remedies in our *Materia Medica*.

Arsenic, therefore, stands as full proof for the fact that the same substance may be indifferent, poisonous, nutritious, morbidic, or curative, as the case may be; the effect depending upon the mutual action of the organism and the drug, according as it is assimilable in different degrees.

We are aware of the objection against considering arsenious acid as a nutriment, on the ground that it diminishes the ordinary waste of the tissues and causes an amount of fat and albuminous substances, equivalent to the repressed carbonic acid and urea, to remain in the body and to increase its weight, when the animal receives at the same time a sufficient amount of food. (*Schmidt and Stuerzwage Jour., f. pr. Chem.*, 1859, Vol. 78, p. 373.)

But this objection rests on the narrow view physiologists take of assimilation. The arsenious acid must be assimilated by the tissues in some way or other, if it is to diminish their waste. And, that it is so assimilated, is conclusively proved by the chemical test in post mortem examinations.

10. Hippocrates already observed the correlation of physiological and pathological assimilation, and laid down illustrations, and rules drawn from it for practice, in various passages of the books which we have under his name. His

views in this respect are concentrated in this sentence: "For any other thing is food to one and injurious to another," (*de morbo sacro. ed. Adams 2, p. 843*).

But this, like many other good things, was mostly neglected by his epigones, and so it is, that the profession generally, even homœopathic physicians, still cling to the untenable definition of a "remedy" which assumes it to be unassimilable matter.

It must be acknowledged, however, that Falck, of the physiological school, refers to the difference in the effects of toxication as depending upon the dose and the state of the organism. But he, too, completely ignores what, before him and in the very same direction, was observed by Hahnemann and others, and what might be well made available for *Toxicology*.

11. With that understanding of remedial action, which is adopted in our observations, Boërhaave's, "*Idem remedium aliter afficit sanum hominem, quam aegrotantem,*" and Hartman's, "*Corpus etiam aegrum longe alium ac sanum a medicamento effectum experiatur necesse est,*" are easily reconciled and scientifically confirmed. Of course the same drug operates differently upon different states of the organism. And by our Homœopathy it is proved that it operates contrariwise as well as similarly.

Of the Holmesian witticism, "that, what is injurious to the healthy, must be injurious to the sick," it is hardly worth while to say more, than that it is, at best, an injury to logic.

12. In regard to *Biology* our theory of homœopathic high potencies leads to the following views:

Nutrition is the result of *assimilation of nutritious matter*, contained in the particles of food, comminuted and refined by mastication and digestion, and combined with indigestible matter which serves as a vehicle to keep the nutritious matter in the required condition of fineness and comminution.

Nutrition is thus carried on by *potentiation of nutritious matter* in the organism, rendering it assimilable by the concerning parts or organs of the system.

Every part of the organism assimilates of the nutritious matter, presented to it in a variety of forms, whatever is affined to its own substance, and nature, and required to meet its wants.

Consequently, any food which by such assimilation contributes to the self-preservation of the organism, is proper nutriment.

As there is an assimilation of nutritious matter, so there is an *assimilation of noxious matter*, and whatever does not tend, or contribute, or agree to, or concur with, the self-preservation of the organism, is noxious to it.

The indigestible matter of the particles of food which, as a vehicle, keeps the nutritious matter suspended in a state of comminution or fineness, forms one source of assimilation, of noxious matter, being itself comminuted and refined by the process of digestion, in such a manner, that its assimilation is facilitated, which again is *potentiation*.

The ingestion of poisons and drug-matter in a crude state, by their contact and chemical action upon the organism, forms another source of assimilation of noxious matter.

The ingestion of nutritious matter, when nutrition is deranged, forms a third source of assimilation of noxious matter, the nutriment, thus ingested,

itself becoming noxious to the organism, by virtue of its chemical and physical properties.

The perversion of nutrition, taking place where the self-preservation of the organism does not require nutrition, and being contrary to self-preservation, forms a fourth source of assimilation of noxious matter.

The ingestion into the healthy organism of drug-matter in a condition of comminution or refinedness, obtained by high potentiation, forms a fifth source of assimilation of noxious matter.

All this taken together, it will be perceived, that *all* matter assimilated by the organism, through its various parts and organs, stands in the signification of nutriment or noxious matter, conversely, as the case may be. And whether it act as the one or the other, depends upon the place, and upon the part in the organism, where the assimilation is going on, and upon the velocity of the assimilating process, as well as upon the (infinitesimal) comminution, or fineness, of the matter, and, of course, upon the affinity of the assimilating particles to those assimilated, and *vice versa*.

Noxious matter may be assimilated, and by nature prevented from exerting its specific action, by being enveloped with indifferent tissues so as to remain indifferent, or innocuous, to the self-preservation of the organism for a longer or shorter time. *Innoxious assimilation of noxious matter.*

*Assimilation*, everywhere, is accomplished by *potentiation*, that is by rendering the infinitesimal particles of matter susceptible and active according to their inherent affinities.

*Disease* originates in the specific action of noxious matter which is either produced within the organism, or brought in from without, and it is always carried on by a process of assimilation.

As homœopathic remedies are obtained by potentiation, that is by comminuting and refining drug-matter, by means of a *vehicle* easily assimilable, so nutritious matter appears to stand as the vehicle in the natural potentiation of those noxious materials which the organism itself prepares as remedies for its own self-preservation.

As the whole organism draws upon digestion, as the source of its nutrition, so every part and particle of the organism draws upon the various materials successively worked out by the different processes of animal chemistry for its own proper nutriment, and assimilates them for its own particular use and subsistence. Thus the lacteals draw upon the chyle prepared by digestion; the lymphatics upon the transudation of the capillaries; the blood upon the fluids of either of these; and the nerves upon the blood.

Those parts of the organism which do not satisfy their wants and requirements by this intra-organic nutrition alone, assimilate from the outer world, whatever is necessary, not only for their own existence, but also for their cooperation with others and for the self-preservation of the organism. Thus the blood assimilates oxygen from the air; the eye light; the ear sound; the nose olfactory matter; the tongue gustatory matter; the skin surfaces; the brain and nerves phosphorus; the mind operations of other minds by means of the senses, and so on; the organism, in fact, continually assimilating from the planet and the universe as long as it lasts. Consequently, the whole organism

is the product of assimilation of matter, and its action is the results of potentiation of matter. And so is disease. And so is health. And so is all life.

The hypothetical ether is, possibly, infinitesimally comminuted matter in space, forming, as it were, the reservoir of the high potencies required for the *Universal Assimilation or Homœosis*, which is continually going on and mediating all life in the world.

13. The inferences for *Aetiology*, to be drawn from the above advanced biological views, are easily understood.

Inasmuch as the properties and effects of homœopathic remedies are similar to the properties and effects of what we must conceive to be the causes of the diseases which they cure, it would not seem unlikely that the material substance, or nature, of both, the drug-matter and the disease-matter, should be also similar.

And, if so, it would give an important addition, if not a new basis, to *Aetiology*, which, therefore, will have to direct its attention to the homœopathic *Materia Medica*, and complete its investigations by the results of the homœopathic provings which are, in fact, as many *ætiological* studies.

The probative process is the reverse of the curative process, and there is no reasonable doubt, but that by proving the disease is produced under the same laws of nature under which the disease is produced otherwise.

14. The *homœotic hypothesis* proposed in the course of these observations and deductions, is an unpretending effort of harmonizing, and subsuming under one common head, many important physiological and physical phenomena, which appear to bear near relation and resemblance to the healing process by homœopathic high potencies.

It can hardly be denied, that the homœotic nature of our healing process shows itself in the fact, that the remedies, in different degrees of potentiation, exert their natural selection and affinity for certain parts and conditions of the organism in different degrees of intensity and susceptibility.

Considering, that the conception of *Mutuality* of action is, indeed, as Herbart observes, transferable and applicable to *Chemical Affinity*; believing that the character of our *Homœosis* corresponds to Newton's "*propensity of nature to transmute everything into its contrary*," and to Leibnitz, "*harmonie preetablie*," and remembering Kant's conception of "*chemical interpenetration*" which Herbart once thought, deserved to be made the foundation of all natural philosophy;—we may feel assured, that further examination will be accorded to this subject, for the purpose of more fully elucidating its comprehensive relations to science; and that it will ultimately lead to good practical results.

As it is, our *Homœosis* presents a generalization and combination of Grove's and Faraday's *universal correlation and mutual conversion of the physical forces of matter*, and of Herbart's "*concurus incompletus*," applied to *Physiology*, *Pathology*, and *Therapia*.

The homœomatic idea in general is proverbially expressed in Pope's sentence: "All nature's difference makes all nature's peace;" and poetically rendered in the lines of Tennyson:

"Nothing in this world is single,  
All things, by a law divine,  
In one another's being mingle."

It is classically depicted by Goethe's master hand in the words:

“ Und es ist das ewig Eine,  
Das sich vielfach offenbart,  
Klein das Grosse, gross das Kleine,  
Alles nach der eignen Art,  
Immer wechselnd, fest sich haltend,  
Nah und fern, und fern und nah,  
So gestaltend, umgestaltend,  
Zum Erstaunen bin ich da!”

And, it is, with characteristic emphasis and precision, embodied in Faust's exclamation;

“ Wie Alles sich zum Ganzen webt,  
Eins in dem Andern wirkt und lebt!”

But the practical realization of this homœomatic idea, and its application to medicine, is properly due to Homœopathy.

#### BOOK NOTICE.

NEW REMEDIES: *Their Pathogenetic Effects and Therapeutical Applications in Homœopathic Practice.* By E. M. HALE, M.D., Etc., Etc. 8vo., pp. 447. Detroit, Mich., E. A. LODGE. 1864.

This work of Dr. Hale, which has been looked for with no little impatience, will be welcomed by our colleagues. Many Homœopaths hear much talk about a variety of remedies in more or less common use in this country, and particularly in the Western States, but respecting which they have little or no knowledge and no means of acquiring any. Dr. Hale has undertaken to collect into one volume all that has been published and all that his own investigations and those of his immediate associates have yielded respecting a number of those “indigenous” vegetable drugs. Much of what he offers us is sifted from the publications of the Eclectic School, by which chiefly these drugs have hitherto been used. To what he has gathered from this source, Dr. Hale has added a number of provings by himself and his colleagues, and a host of more or less interesting clinical records and observations from Homœopathic, Eclectic and Allopathic sources.

The work hardly deserves the title which the outside of its cover bears—“New Homœopathic Provings”—since in the sense in which we have been accustomed to use the word “proving,” most of these are nothing of the kind. But, as collections of all that is known, in an empirical and clinical way, of substances that must prove to be valuable drugs and richly deserving of a thorough homœopathic proving, these essays are certainly valuable and highly suggestive. That this view is taken of them by the author himself is evident from a portion of his preface: “I do not claim that this work is *complete*. Indeed I shall be satisfied if it is only pronounced by the profession as *eminently suggestive*. Many of the provings are very imperfect, and some of the clinical remarks are open to criticism. Let the wheat be separated from the chaff by the inextinguishable test of honest trial.”

If the volume prove really so “*suggestive*” as to induce exhaustive provings, especially on women, of such remedies as *Caulophyllum* and *Cimicifuga* and *Phytolacca* seem likely to prove, it will have accomplished a great good

The scope of this volume and the animus in which its preparation was undertaken may be gathered from the following sentences of the preface:

“The causes which led me to investigate the properties and virtues of the remedies mentioned in the following pages, will be patent to every progressive mind. After using for many years those invaluable remedies found in our standard *Materia Medica*, most of which were handed down to us by Hahnemann and his colleagues, I found that although their curative scope was very wide, it did not apparently include many symptoms and diseases.” We believe that the careless construction of a sentence or, more probably, an error of the printer, has made Dr. Hale say what he could hardly have intended to say.—For, assuredly, the curative scope of the remedies in Hahnemann's *Materia Medica* does “include” very “many symptoms and diseases.” We suppose he meant to say, “although their curative scope was very wide there were nevertheless many symptoms and diseases which, apparently, it did not include.” He proceeds: “I was led to investigate the field of indigenous remedies for these reasons: First, the suggestion of Teste that plants are adapted to cure the diseases which infest the same localities; and, second, the many cures which had come under my observation made by these remedies in the hands of eclectic and domestic practitioners.”

Reason first, is rather fanciful. The same Providence which created plants to serve as remedies for diseases, gave to man the intellectual faculties necessary for the discovery and application of remedies for sicknesses, and also inventive genius which supplies him with the means of traversing the globe in search of whatever may minister to his needs. It would be a very narrow view of Divine Providence to suppose, for an instant, that the Creator meant the enterprising inhabitants of Michigan to sit down upon that peninsula in close communion, their every want supplied, and every craving satisfied by the productions of its bountiful soil or its stores of subterranean wealth. While he caused *Phytolacca* to grow in their fence rows, a ready cure for their diphtherias, and *Baptisia* for their fevers, he also designed them to rely on their wide-searching and adventurous energy to seek out and procure the Mercury of Idria or of Nevada for their dysenteries, the Aloes of Socotra for their hæmorrhoids, and the *Croton tiglium* of Ceylon for the camp diarrhœa which is decimating their brave regiments in Virginia.

The second reason is as good as could possibly be given. Dr. Hale continues, “After several years spent in the investigation and study of the new remedies, publishing, from time to time, items from my experience with them, I was induced to attempt the work of collecting all that had been published concerning the indigenous plants of this country, and to add to such all the knowledge, clinical and theoretical, which could be gleaned from my colleagues, together with my own.” For this much desired knowledge, so acceptably offered, we present hearty thanks to our colleague and we shall best show our appreciation of the service he has rendered us all, by laboring diligently to make more complete and exact the provings he has given us.

In hastily looking over Dr. Hale's book, we are surprised to observe that under *Arum triphyllum* he has omitted all notice of the great use made of this remedy in scarlatina, by Drs. Hering and Lippe, and of which Dr. Lippe pub-