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SHARP, (C. C.)

Read, Investigate & Judge for Yourself.

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A P L E A

FOR

ECLECTIC MEDICINE,

BY

C. C. SHARP, M. D.

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TEMPERANCE.

“Beware the bowl! though rich and bright
Its beauties flash upon the sight.
An adder coils its depths beneath,
Whose lure is woe, whose sting is death.”

Volumes might be written upon the evils of intoxicating liquors. It is a subject which presents a wide field of thought, a field, too, that is watered by the crimson streams of human gore and decked with the graves of fallen victims. If you open the dark scroll upon which is registered the evils of intemperance and the crimes of its victims, the whole earth would be darkened and the broad canopy of the heavens would be shrouded in mourning. Alcohol is the tyrant king that ensnares its votaries with garnished pleasure, and rules them with misery and woe. With the blood-stained history of the past, and the frightful realities of the present before us, its poisonous streams are still spreading misery and woe throughout our land, and the strong, deep current of its evils is cutting its way through the vitals of our race. Like the Bohun Upas of the sandy desert, its poisonous and deadly influence is wafted upon every breeze and spreads damnation over every clime and land.

The evils of intemperance are too well known to require special notice. Sum up the entire miseries, woes and crimes of the human race, and a very large proportion of them can be traced, either directly or indirectly, to intemperance as the prime cause.

In contrast with such results, we now ask the reader to pause and consider the noble virtues and blessings resulting from temperance. Life, health, peace, happiness and pleasure; virtue, honor, integrity and kindness; beauty, refinement, wealth, morality and intelligence, are all among the blessings and results of a temperate life. In the name of all these, and the duties you owe to yourself, to society, and to your God, we entreat you to adhere to the principles of temperance and sobriety. Jeremy Taylor has said that “temperance is reason’s girdle and passion’s bridle; the strength of the soul and the foundation of virtue.” Habits of intemperance are generally of slow and gradual growth. It is not often that a man becomes a drunkard at one step; but when he has taken the first, he is more liable to take the second. “It is the first step that ruins” is an old maxim of the French. “The path is smooth that leadeth unto danger,” and when you yield the first time to temptation you weaken your hold upon virtue, you turn your back to the current, and are liable to be swept along “with the multitude who do evil.” “Enter not into the paths of the wicked,” nor keep the company of those who indulge in strong drink. “If you would not be found in the devil’s power, do not be caught in the devil’s pound.”

If you associate with those who indulge in an “occasional glass,” and visit with them their favorite places of resort, you place yourself in the way of temptation, and are in danger. As it is the “little vermin that spoils the vine,” so it is the little evils that open the way and lead you into the “broad road” to a

drunkard's doom. Your only safety is to adhere strictly and rigidly to the principles of total abstinence—"touch not, taste not, handle not the unclean thing." Unite your voice with the Pagan youth who said he was "greater and born to greater things than to be a servant to his body." The desire for intoxicating drinks is based in a perverted appetite. Its gratification excites the animal nature and brings the moral and intellectual faculties under the control of the passions. Not only consider the advantages of temperance upon your own happiness and welfare, but let your example and your influence be such as to induce others to leave their habits of vice and join you in those of sobriety and temperance. In all cases turn your back upon the tempter and say, with your voice and by your example, as did Augustine, "how pleasant it is to be without these pleasures."

C. C. S.

TO THE CITIZENS OF LOUISVILLE AND VICINITY.

READ, INVESTIGATE, AND JUDGE FOR YOURSELVES.

Dr. Sharp, late of Lexington, Ky., having permanently located in Louisville, tenders his professional services to the citizens thereof and surrounding country. Dr. Sharp is a regular graduate of the Eclectic School of Medicine. He has been a practitioner of the Eclectic School for twenty-eight years, with many years experience in both hospital and private practice, and he has, during that time, treated all the diseases peculiar to this country, with unparalleled success.

The established reputation of Dr. Sharp in Lexington and the Bluegrass region of Kentucky, justifies him in announcing to the public that the afflicted can be treated as skillfully and successfully by him as they can be either in Europe or America, at less expense, with all the home comfort and good care available elsewhere.

In making this announcement to the citizens of Louisville, Dr. Sharp claims more than ordinary skill, and especially in the treatment of diseases incident to females, of which cases he has had a greater number and met with greater success, perhaps, than any physician either in Europe or America.

Ladies, the Doctor has effected permanent cures of hundreds of cases during a residence of six years in Kentucky, which have been pronounced incurable by the most skillful physicians in Kentucky. The Doctor feeling confident that he is engaged in a useful undertaking, and a practice that will be ultimately universally commended in Louisville as in Lexington, he makes that information available to the best of his ability, as a means of alleviating physical suffering.

Dr. Sharp will accommodate all patients from a distance with good boarding and rooms at his residence.

His Office and Residence is located on JEFFERSON ST., BET. SEVENTH AND EIGHTH, No. 269.

A PLEA FOR ECLECTIC MEDICAL COMMON SENSE.

I am often asked the question. "To what school of medicine do you belong?" My reply is, no school, except the school of nature, which I shall christen the Utilitarian School. I prefer the useful to the useless. I have been a diligent pupil of all the old masters, and have investigated all systems. I am now a devoted pupil of nature; intuition is my counselor; common sense is my pharmacopoeia. In other words, I am independent, bound by the tenets of no medical association, and consequently prejudiced against no new discovery which can be made subservient to suffering humanity. Whatever I find in earth, air, electricity, water and science, useful as remedial agents I appropriate and

resort thereto, when occasion demands, without fear of being confronted by a conservative brother who sees merit in nothing which has not the sanction of antiquity.

The literary productions of old school writers are often interesting, and contain much sophistry; nature is refreshing and pregnant with truth.

The knowledge of anatomy and physiology from the books is a good thing, but it is not sufficient for our purposes. Books are useful in this study, though not the object of study; it is the man we want to know, not the book nor its author.

Do you mean to say—asks the reader, “that the present system of nosology is useless?” Yes, so far as curing the sick is concerned, that is just what I mean to say. Not only useless, but worthless—a curse to physician and patient—preventing the one from learning the healing art, and the other from getting well.

Science has heaped wealth in the lap of commerce—to the healing art she has been a meagre patron. The commercial man cordially receives her magnificent contributions; the medical devotee looks with jealous eye upon her beneficent discoveries. The swift gliding locomotive whistles by the storehouses of the merchant and the luxuriant fields of the planter; calomel and old nosology hobbles along on crutches, before the doors of the old school, and some of the new school practitioners. I have preferred professional martyrdom to old foggy despotism. To such the public is indebted for what little advancement has been made in the healing art in this country. Here, in Kentucky a physician is not considered orthodox who does not keep a straight coat tail behind him. To look to right or left for new agents to relieve the sufferings of mankind, discloses professional heresy, punishable with wry faces and shrugged shoulders at their betters. Happily for suffering humanity, our transatlantic neighbors have been more tolerant and given to investigation. Hence it is that the therapeutic value of the electrical discoveries of Galvani, Farraday, Cross and others have been tested in the universities and hospitals in England, France and Germany. Regarding the important part which electricity performs in the animal economy, it does not require facts or arguments to prove the value of electricity as an auxiliary agent in the treatment of disease. The fact is self evident. Electricity, which the Almighty employs to move and regulate the sublime planetary world, is used by the mind to move the feet, arms, and perform the various functions of the animal mechanism.

Water, it has been beatifully remarked, is valuable as a medical agent. but its efficiency consists, not in the element itself, but in its subservience as a hand-maid of electricity. Electricity and Specific Medication is the queen of medicine; water is merely a pool in which she bathes her feet. In making use of galvanism as a therapeutic agent, it should not be relied on to the exclusion of every other treatment; neither should a cure of a chronic disease for which it is applied, be anticipated in a miraculously short space of time. Disease in any organ produces a change in the condition of the organ diseased, and time must be allowed for the process of absorption and deposition necessary to bring the organ back to its normal condition. It is of course of paramount importance to remove this corroding cause, but, having done this, effects, which have become diseased in themselves, remain, and must be disposed of. Here, too, mild, nutritious and blood-toning medicines must be given in connection with electricity.

It is idle prattle to talk of making the lame walk by the use of a single electro-chemical bath. Instances do occur upon which to base such exaggerations, it is true. I have seen many such surprising results attend my own operations. But he who indiscriminately promises such success does positive injury in eight cases out of ten. It is enough to say that a skillfully administrated electro-chemical bath will expel mineral poisons. This is a great achievement, and opens the avenues of health to thousands in Louisville and surrounding country who are suffering the effects of old-school malpractice.

Let not the temperate tone of the preceding paragraph lead any one to suppose that the blusterers, who startle whole communities with the announcement that they are curing everybody and everything with electricity, are better posted regarding its marvelous curative powers than the writer of this. I doubt if any one's experience in its employment can more than parallel my own. I say this in no spirit of boasting, but only in simple justice to myself, while cautioning the afflicted against exaggerated statements put forth by imposters. For the past ten years I have been a faithful student in electrical therapeutics, and I have employed the agent in thousands of cases. A large practice has given me every opportunity to test its effects in all sorts of acute and chronic diseases. I have made both rheumatic and paralytic invalids run and rejoice in the restoration of painful, contracted, stiff, and withered limbs. I have caused the haggard, downcast, cadaverous face of the dyspeptic to light up under the exhilarating effects of currents of electricity, sent down the pneumo-gastric nerves to the stomach. I have imparted an elastic step and glow of health to many a lady who had for years before crept about her domicile under the debilitating effects of female weaknesses. I have given the neuralgic sufferer occasion to rejoice in electrical therapeutics and eclectic medicines.

As evidence of my knowledge of medicine, and my success as a physician, I point to living monuments; to the men and women I have cured during my residence of six years in Kentucky; not to tombstones in the cemetery. It is said that "dead men tell no tales." They do tell tales. The eloquence of silence speaking from out the graveyard, whose hungry maw is well nigh glutted with its untimely victims, warns us to heed the tales the dead are telling.

The latin prescription *hydrargyra* is often the death-warrant, without a chance of a reprieve.

Success in healing diseases is the test of science and skill. Upon this test I challenge comparison with any doctor of the "regular school" in Kentucky. The sick man asks for the doctor who cures—not whether he be a "regular" or not. When his weak eyes turn toward the tomb, it is not the verbose pretender of a bigoted school of medicine, who begins at Esculapius and cavorts over the wide field of medical literature and chatters about his theories, that he wants; but rather him whose quick intuitions diagnose his disease at a glance, and from all schools selects and applies that remedy which saves him from the grave and restores him to health. I hold in my hand the key of success—I cure a larger proportion of my patients than the regulars do, and have cured numerous cases declared by them incurable, as you see from the best testimonials in the State of Kentucky.

A word to the wise is sufficient.

C. C. SHARP, M. D.

INFANT MORTALITY ARISING FROM THE MISMANAGEMENT OF PHYSICIANS.

The subject of this article is the causes of infant mortality originating in the mismanagement of physicians belonging to the "Regular" school of doctors in Louisville.

The physician occupies a peculiarly responsible position in society; one that is not well understood nor appreciated. The patient sins against nature by disobeying the organic laws—those laws established by the Creator for the regulation and government of his physical existence. After the sin has been committed, and the patient feels the infliction of the penalty—that is, the disease—coming on him, the physician is sent for to relieve him from the punishment. The physician thus becomes the mediator between the sinner and the law, and offers as a propitiation for the sins of his patient the means which bounteous Heaven has so munificently bestowed for the purpose in the shape of remedies. Hence the true physician is the servant of the Divine Master, interpreting his will in the great book of nature before us, and dispensing out his blessings to many an unworthy sinner. But, in the case of the child, the parents are morally responsible for the sins committed against nature's laws, although the penalties fall upon it alone. The physician, in thus assuming the functions of an interpreter of nature and a dispenser of her blessings, often takes in his hands the reins of life and death.

From the extreme susceptibility of the infant constitution to the action of both disease and medicine, the responsibility of the physician is much greater in treating this class of patients than it is in the treatment of adults. The life-power of the infant, compared to that of the adult, is as a candle to a blazing furnace. The one may be blown out by a blast which would but serve to increase the other's heat. Hence the necessity of treating these little beings with the greatest circumspection and the mildest and gentlest medicines. The physician may fire away at his adult patient with all the artillery of the apothecary shop, day after day, and week after week, and nature will finally come out victorious and restore the patient in spite of the disease and the treatment, and the physician will get all the glory of the victory. A little anecdote will illustrate the practice of some physicians admirably. Two men were riding together along the road, one a little in advance of the other; the foremost man rode under a swinging limb of a tree, as he did so, he caught it and pulled it after him as far as he could, then letting it go, it flew back and knocked the hindmost man from his horse. He got up, badly hurt, thanked his companion, and told him that if he had not held that limb as long as he did it would have killed him. Just so do many physicians get the credit of saving their patients lives by almost killing them. However much undeserved reputation physicians may gain by such practice among adults, it proves a blighting ruin to little children. Even those it does not send to the grave, often having implanted in their very vitals

the seeds of some lasting infirmities. I have no disposition to attack any system of medicine. There is much that is good in all systems, and many good, noble and successful practitioners of them all. But it is the evils, the abuses that I am striking at, and the results of those evils to the infant population.

The evils which are prevalent in the predominant systems of medicine may be discussed under three heads, viz :

First—Heroic medication, that is, too much powerful medicine.

Secondly—The use of such drugs as produce lasting infirmities.

Thirdly—The use of drugs in so infinitely small doses that reason and enlightened experience condemn as entirely worthless.

The first two are peculiar to many practitioners of what is known as the "regular practice," and the last one to some of the disciples of Hahnemann.

First—Heroic medication. Hahnemannism (homeopathy) would have died in its chrysalis state if it had not been for the wide-spread abuses of the prevailing practice. People were sick and tired of the practice that bled, salivated and blistered its victims into the grave, and eagerly caught at anything that offered the slightest shadow of a hope of delivering them from so murderous a practice. An hundred years ago everybody so unfortunate as to require the services of a physician was bled, mercurialized and blistered, from the infant in the cradle to the gray-haired sire by his coffin. Thus seas of blood were shed, and legions of human beings found a resting place in a premature grave as a consequence. Yet the doctors believed, in all sincerity and truth, that they were doing the very utmost that human efforts could accomplish to save their patients. Taking every sequense as a consequence, they believed that every patient that recovered had been saved by the treatment; and good and pious men prayed God to bestow his blessing on their efforts while they were unconsciously destroying their patients! In this dark hour homeopathy was born, and it was hailed by the people as the weary traveler hails the flickering of a lamp in a cottage by the wayside when he has lost his way in the darkness of the night. It was the greatest *negative* blessing that ever dawned upon humanity from the empire of medicine. It was as the watchman's lamp, it threw light upon what men were doing in the dark. It soon demonstrated the fact that a greater number of the sick would recover with no medicine at all (the homeopath's being equal to none) than did under the prevailing practice. But the people and the doctors who embraced the new practice attributed all the good results to the infinitesimal medicine, whereas Dame Nature should have had all the credit. Although the rise and progress of the homeopathic and eclectic systems of medicine have driven the lancet and many other implements of torture out of use, yet the dregs of the old theories still blubber in the bottom of the professional pot. The sticklers of these theories treat diseases as though they were killing snakes. A celebrated wit, D'Alembert, hits them by the following apologue: "Nature is fighting with a disease; a blind man armed with a club, that is a physician, comes to settle the difference. He first tries to make peace, when he cannot accomplish this, he lifts his club and strikes at random. If he strikes the disease, he kills the disease; if he strikes nature, he kills nature." Verily, such practice is not uncommon amongst us, even in the treatment of tender infants in Louisville.

Secondly—It is a well established fact that much mischief is done to children by giving them mineral poisons. If they do not prove the source of fatality at

once, they often lay the foundation of lasting and incurable ills, by impairing the vital powers. They are doubtless often resorted to when, if they do not prove positively detrimental, other more efficient remedies might be used that would often save life. Calomel, calomel, calomel, is the drug constantly resorted to by some physicians, in every ailment, from the slightest ill to the gravest malady. Such physicians may be, and doubtless are, entirely conscientious; but their judgment and education are, in my opinion, sadly at fault. No drug known to the human family has ever laid the foundation for so much debility of constitution, aches and pains, rotten teeth and pestilential breath as this. It is one of those drugs that wear on the axles of life, as sand on the gudgeons of a machine. The calomel doctor is the worst enemy to the future health of your family that ever set foot on your threshold. The celebrated late Professor Nathaniel Chapman, M. D., of Philadelphia, says: "He who resigns the fate of his patients to calomel is a vile enemy to the sick, and if he has a tolerable practice, will in a single season, lay the foundation for a good business for life; for he will ever afterward have enough to do to stop the mercurial branches in the constitutions of his dilapidated patients. He has thrown himself in close contact with death, and will have to fight him at arm's length so long as one of his patients maintains a miserable existence."

Opium is a dangerous drug for infants. A half a grain of Dover's powder, containing but a twentieth of a grain of opium has been known to throw an infant into convulsions. Prof. Christison says that less than three drops of laudanum have proved fatal to stout, healthy infants. Some physicians prescribe this drug for infants with too reckless a hand. The practice so prevalent among mothers and nurses of giving laudanum, paregoric, soothing syrup, &c., is doubtless fraught with a fearful amount of death. The cause of humanity demands that these evils shall be abated.

Thirdly—The administration of medicines in so infinitely small doses as to produce no effect is a negative evil rather than a positive one. It doubtless proves the source of much fatality by allowing diseases to go on to a fatal termination that might be cured by remedies used in a more rational way. But radical homeopathy, that is, high dilutions attenuations, is rapidly declining before the advances of rationalism, and many practitioners of that school are now using medicines in sensible doses; and some of the most successful physicians, especially in diseases of children, are among that class. Many homeopathic physicians are blatant on every occasion in their abuses of the physicians of every other system of practice, because, as they allege, all but homeopaths give medicines in such ruinously large doses. So thoroughly have they succeeded in inflaming the prejudices of some weak minded people in favor of their infiniteismals that many thus led astray are ready to go into tremors at the sight of an ordinary pill, although it may be made of crumbs of bread left at their last meal; or to fall into a fit of spleen when a labeled vial of colored liquid is prepared for them, even though it may be of the same bottle of wine from which they regaled themselves at dinner. What motives are these homeopaths actuated by in thus belaboring themselves continually to frighten the ignorant, and propagate prejudices against the sanitary and rational use of medicines? It cannot be philanthropy, for this is made of a different stuff. It cannot be a zeal for the advancement of science and the promotion of truth, for these ends are not accomplished by such

means. No! the whole secret lies in this—*their bread depends upon it*. Without such nursing the public prejudice, “to keep it warm,” the practice could not sustain itself, nor its practitioners succeed in making a livelihood by it. Different motives must actuate men who are engaged in the cause of science and the discovery and the development of truth, and their application to the relief of human suffering, the advancement of civilization and the promotion of happiness.

I have before observed that the only hope of greatly reducing infant mortality lies in preventing the diseases instead of curing them. Physicians can and do achieve much, more perhaps than is generally imagined, to save life. But so long as the causes of disease are left in active operation, so long will diseases arise, and many of them will prove fatal under the most enlightened and skillful management by physicians. It is true, the science of medicine is progressive, new discoveries are continually being made of means for the relief of the sick. But I doubt whether man will ever discover in nature remedies for all his physical ills. If he would avoid the penalties, he must avoid the sin.

There has ever been too much bigotry and intolerance among the medical profession. Everything new, every innovation upon the established practice, has met with the most determined opposition from the allopathic school. The priests of that school have looked for their tenets to dim, misty superstitions of past ages, instead of searching for them in the living present and promising future. Consequently they have become learned in the rubbish of superannuated doctrines and theories instead of in the philosophy of nature and truth. Such men are bigoted, intolerant of all opposition, superficial, impractical. They strut and swell in society like great Goliath, imagining themselves the personification and embodiment of all wisdom. A vast number of such individuals exist among us to day, but they are much less numerous now than they were in former times. The rapid rise and progress, within the past few years, of the Eclectic system of medicine, in Louisville, has done much to infuse into the profession a more liberal and democratic spirit, and to expose many of the shallow theories and destructive practices that have prevailed for so many centuries among those who are pleased to style themselves “regular physicians.” The Eclectics have modified the practice in many important features; they have almost driven blood-letting out of use. They have ever condemned the use of mercury, lead, antimony, arsenic, etc., as poisonous minerals which act only as foreign substances in the body, to impair its vitality and sow the seeds of premature decay. And they are still laboring with the industry and zeal of philanthropists to induce all physicians to discard them and use new and better remedies. They have discovered and introduced many new and valuable vegetable medicines, besides new modes of using old ones in curing the sick. They have done much toward rendering medicine a pleasant sanitary restorative, instead of a terror to the sick. Their practice shows a great reduction in the death rate. According to Prof. A. Jackson Howe, M. D., of Cincinnati, one will die out of every thirty cases of sickness, when left alone to nature without the aid of medicine. “In homeopathic practice one dies in every thirty three cases treated, showing a slight improvement of that treatment over no medication. In allopathic practice one dies out of every twenty-eight or nine cases treated—a result which shows, not that allopaths never administer relief, or assist in performing cures, but, as a whole, the fatality of that practice is a trifle more than where no medicine is

given. Fifty years ago, when every disease was attacked with a heroic system of depletion, one death occurred in every twenty-five cases treated. From reports lately obtained from several hundred physicians, I am warranted in stating that in the practice of eclectics *only one patient dies out of sixty cases treated*. Besides the saving of life, it is reasonable to suppose that there has been a corresponding economy of valuable time and expense to those who have been sick, rendering the benefits received of still more importance."*

As the physician is the interpreter of nature and the dispenser of her blessings to the afflicted, it is his imperative duty to seek out the means of relief in every recess of her vast domain. He is the true physician who can lay aside all prejudice, and acknowledge the truth wherever it is to be found. The man who confines himself to a set of text books, containing the written creed of a sect, and believes in them lies all the wisdom of the world, has an understanding too little to comprehend the broad domain of science or the depth of his own ignorance, and would better serve humanity at the plow than he can in the healing art. The cry quack, quack, quack, at every physician who refuses to square his opinions and practice by the tenets of the written law, or to ease his conscience at the confessional of a professional clique, has about ceased to command any respect among intelligent people. The people will judge for themselves, and give every physician credit for what he can do to restore the sick. Utility is the demand of rationalism, and rationalism is the demand of the age. The true spirit of the Eclectic profession is clothed in the majesty of truth and reason; "suffereth long and is kind; it envieth not; it is not puffed up; is not easily provoked; thinketh no evil; beareth all things; hopeth all things; endureth all things for the sake of the sacred cause in which its generous philosophy is engaged."

If I have contributed anything to the dissemination of useful knowledge, I am amply paid for the labor done. If there be any whose interests I have damaged, "him have I offended."

A TRUE ECLECTIC.

* An address delivered in Indianapolis, before the State Eclectic Convention by Prof. A. Jackson Howe, M. D., Aug., 1867.

MEDICINE, MEDICATION—ITS NATURE AND OBJECTS, ETC.

Medicine in General.

In all cases of disease, nature herself continually strives to bring back a state of health, and the object of medical treatment is to assist this natural effort, If the medicine acts one way, while nature is acting another way, it not only does no good, but possibly much harm. And this has really been the case with much of the past medication. Nature would be trying to bring matters right by throwing out an eruption, by a diarrhœa, or a profuse perspiration, and the doctor would immediately step in, with his medicines, to stop all these operations, which he mistook for the disease itself. The consequence was that nature's efforts were all counteracted, and she had the effects of the medicine to fight against, in addition to the disease. No doubt many thus died, from being doctored, who would have lived had they been let alone.

When the medication assists, or regulates, the proper natural effort, it may do much good; and this, therefore, is the important point to aim at.

Different Kinds of Medicines.

Anything which acts as an assistant, in the restoration of health, is a medicine, whether it be a material substance or merely a nervous or electrical influence.

Medicines, therefore, are of different kinds, and act in different ways, according to their nature, and to the circumstances in which they are given.

Chemical Medicines.

In some cases medicines are given to effect direct chemical changes, as when we give alkalies in sour stomach, or acids when there is too much alkali in the blood. But much of the chemical medication is a great mistake, founded on ignorance of the actual chemical state of the bodily fluids, and of the changes which the medicines undergo after they are taken.

Thus, very often when nitric acid is given, as an acid, it really acts as an *alkali*, or totally opposite. The change occurs in this way: The nitric acid is composed of *nitrogen* and *oxygen*, and in the stomach these may separate, the nitrogen combining with a portion of the hydrogen, which is always present there, and forming *ammonia*, while the oxygen combines with another portion to form water. The effect is the same, therefore, as if a solution of ammonia, or *sal volatile*, had been given.

Vegetable acids often decompose still more readily, and the gases that compose them enter into new combinations. Many of these acids are composed in a large measure, of *carbon*; which being liberated, may act much like charcoal. These vegetable acids may, therefore, be the very best things to counteract *acidity*, and are in fact, often used for that purpose; one acid neutralizing another.

It is but seldom that medicines can be given, with any certainty, to cause direct chemical changes in the living body, and much and serious evil is being done constantly in the attempt.

Nutritive Medicines.

In other cases medicines are given to supply some element in which the body is deficient. Thus, in some impoverished states of the blood, we find it is deficient in *iron*: and if that metal be given, in proper manner, it soon causes an improvement. In other cases lime is needed, or phosphorus, and the proper administration of these substances is then beneficial.

In this case the medication is a species of *nutrition*: and, if we know what really is needed, and can give it in a proper form—that is, in a form that the organs can make use of—we can effect much good.

Sometimes it is not very obvious what element the body does need, though it is obvious something is deficient, and this is one fruitful source of mistake and wrong treatment. Very frequently, also, the element is given in a wrong form, and the system can derive no benefit from it. Many of the metallic compounds given as nutritive medicines are thrown out of the body in the same state they were taken. Others are decomposed, combine anew, and act totally different from what they were intended to do. It is only in certain states, or chemical conditions, that such matters can be absorbed, and carried into the circulation, a fact which is often lost sight of.

Neuraphic or Nerve Medicines.

The greater part of the medicines taken are intended to act neither chemically nor as nutritives, but simply as regulators of the organic functions. And this regulation they effect by acting on the nervous centres, either directly or indirectly, in such a manner as to increase or decrease the force of the nervous current, according as may be needed.

Thus, such medicines as diuretics or purgatives, for instance, irritate the kidneys intestines; and this irritation being conveyed to the nervous centre, excites a reflex nervous action, which causes these organs to act energetically. In all cases, where any organ is excited, by medicines, to increase action, it is only in this way. The medicine does not *directly* cause the increased action, but it irritates the *sensor nerves* of the organ; and these, by conveying the impression to the nervous centre, cause a reflex action, and the transmission of a more powerful nervous current to the seat of irritation.

Most people suppose that it is the medicine itself which acts directly on the part, but this is a mistake. It is the nervous influence only that acts, and the medicine merely sets it indirectly in motion. If the nerves connecting the stomach with the nervous centres were cut through, no emetic, no matter how powerful, could excite vomiting. But with these nerves perfect, a mere thought or emotion, will do it, as has been before shown.

Medicines can also be given to act directly on the nervous centres themselves, to either increase or decrease their organic action, according as they are torpid or over active. Such stimulants as alcohol, tea and coffee, and all the various narcotics, are remedies of this kind. These constitute, in fact, the most important class of medicines, the proper use of which is comprised in the practice of neuropathy.

Excepting when used chemically, therefore, or as nutritives, all medicines act through the nerves; only in ordinary medication they do so indirectly, by reflex action; and in the neuropathic practice they may act directly as well, by operating at once on the substance of the nervous system, which they are enabled to do owing to their gaseous nature.

THE NERVOUS INFLUENCE IN MEDICATION.

Neuropathy.

The important fact that all diseased, as well as all healthy action is due entirely to nervous influence, though well known, as a general rule, has not till lately, been practically acted upon in medicine. In consequence of this, much of the medical practice has hitherto been, and is now even, not only useless, but positively hurtful—so much so in fact, that many an eminent practitioner, at the end of his life, has expressed doubts whether he has done most good or most harm. Some of them have experimented, unknown to their patients, by giving more inert substances, such as bread pills and colored water, and have found their *cures* just as frequent as when they used real medicines, while the harm done was certainly much less.

The ruling idea in medication, hitherto, seems to have been that the human system, when diseased, must be *well shaken up*, or strongly acted upon. Hence the most powerful remedies were thought the best, and they were generally used to the full extent the system would bear. The amount of purging, vomiting, sweating, bleeding, salivation and other violent actions, to which the human body has been subjected, is frightful to contemplate. The disease itself has been a mild affair compared with the treatment.

And all this has been without a rational justification or foundation. We now know that most of the results, if not all, sought to be obtained by these murderous means, can be obtained more certainly by other means, as mild and harmless as they were violent and hurtful, as will be shown further on.

If the nerve force is sufficiently powerful, and if each organ receives its due share, all the functions of the body go on in a healthy manner; but if an organ does not receive enough, it cannot act well, and becomes in consequence feeble or diseased.

Unequal distribution of the nerve force causes unequal action in the different organs some getting too much, and some too little. From this arises excitement, irritation or inflammation in some parts, or torpidity or feeble action in others. In perfect health each organ gets exactly its proper share, and there is enough for all.

This explains why men injure themselves by over use, or abuse, of any of their organs. If the student exhausts too much of his nervous power in thinking, there will not be enough for other purposes, and some organ will act inefficiently. Most usually he becomes dyspeptic, simply because the stomach cannot get nervous force enough to enable it to digest. The libertine, on the contrary, uses up too much nervous power in sexual indulgence, and becomes, in consequence, feeble in body and imbecile in mind.

Since all organic actions therefore, whether healthy or unhealthy, is caused

solely by the stimulus of the nervous current, it is evident that in one sense *all diseases*, except such as arise from direct violence, can be tracked back to *deranged nervous action*, and their cure can be effected only by making this action healthy again. Or, to use a mechanical illustration: If one portion of the machinery works too fast, we must lessen the amount of steam it receives, and if another goes too slowly we must increase the amount, till all receive exactly the right amount. Just so we must act with disease; the organic action must be increased or decreased, in the diseased parts, as needed, by regulating the supply of the nervous current. All diseases therefore, organic or functional, must be treated through the nerves.

It is however convenient, and proper, to divide all diseases into two classes, which for convenience may be here called the bodily or organic, and the nervous or functional.

The different nature of these two classes of diseases may be partially illustrated by comparing the human body again with an electric telegraph. In this there may be wires or other parts broken, and machinery deranged, so that it will not work, such accidents corresponding to the ordinary organic diseases in the human body. There may, however, be no parts broken, nor any out of order, and yet it may work irregularly, or not at all, from want of the *electric current*, owing to some fault in the chemical battery. Such derangements are analogous to functional or nervous diseases, which result from some fault in the brain of nerves.

Now when the machinery or apparatus is broken, or deranged, the machinist sent for, and he puts all right again with his tools and soldering irons. But when the battery is in fault, and there is simply no electric current, the chemist must step in with his acids and other elements to cause the necessary reactions.

The machinist's work will not correct the fault in the battery, nor will the chemist's proceedings mend the broken machinery. The two processes are entirely different things, and calculated to effect totally different purposes.

This is precisely analogous to what is needed in treating the two different kinds of disease. The purgatives, emetics, and irritants that are used in the bodily or organic diseases, are altogether inappropriate, and unsuited to the merely nervous or functional diseases. In most of them it would be as absurd to expect any good result from such treatment, as it would to expect an electric current from piling the mechanic's tools in the battery pot. Strictly speaking, therefore, *nervous diseases* are those arising from derangement of the nervous apparatus itself, and affecting its functions only. But in one sense all diseases are nervous, and can be acted upon only through nervous influence.

Mental, Emotional and Electric Medication.

But there is another class of medical agents, not usually considered as such, but which are, in many cases, more proper to use, and more effective than any drugs whatever. These are mental and emotional influences, and electrical conditions. That the mind and feelings do exert a real positive influence over the body, has already been shown, and it has also been stated that the extent of that influence is but little appreciated.

Electricity also, in many ways, can supersede drugs, and is a true neuropathic agent. If not identical with the nervous power itself, it can often take its place,

and either cause true organic action, or chemical change in the substance of the body, the same as violent emotions or powerful drugs, a fact which will be further illustrated.

In ordinary medication, drugs are given for the express purpose of causing an artificial local disturbance of some kind, which, being transmitted to the brain, through the nerves of sensation, causes the organ to send a reflex nervous current to the disturbed part. That is, the drug causes a reflex action from the nervous centre, and, so long as there is a plain indication to be fulfilled, it may be a proper plan of proceeding, providing the drug can effect the desired reaction. Emetics, purgatives, and diuretics are good illustrations of this principle, because their action is prompt and unmistakable. But a large number of diseases are so obscure as to their real nature and origin, that we know not what indications require to be fulfilled to cure them. When the stomach, bowels or kidneys are simply inactive, it is easy enough to decide what is needed to be done. But when a person is sick without any of these obvious derangements, especially in chronic cases, there are no obvious indications to be fulfilled, and drugs are given merely experimentally. In such cases there are almost as many different modes of practice as there are physicians, which, as some one wittily remarked, makes medicine a most accommodating science; for if you don't like your doctor, or his treatment, you can easily find another, who will tell you he is an ignoramus, and who will treat you on an exactly opposite system. And the very fact that all the different and utterly opposite modes of practice, on the whole, equally succeed or fail, as the case may be, proves that none of them are founded upon actual knowledge, but simply on routine or experiment.

A celebrated physician once put the case thus :

"A sick man," said he, "is like a man struggling with an enemy in a dark room. The doctor comes in with a club [*his medicine*] and begins to strike all around him in the dark. If he hits the enemy [that is the disease]—all right; but if he hits the man, why he make matters worse for him; and he is just as likely to hit one as the other—in the dark."

In all disease there is some deranged or irregular nervous action, which requires to be put right, and this can be done only through the nervous centres. But the old plan of depending only on reflex nervous action, excited by drugs, is too uncertain, too violent and too dangerous.

It is, in fact, an open question, whether drugs have not caused more disease than they have ever cured; or, in other words, whether the doctor has not *hit the patient* oftener than he has hit the *disease*?

Now, if the nervous centres can be acted upon directly, and if the nervous power emanating from them can be properly equalized and distributed without the ordinary powerful drugs, then they can be dispensed with. And this is precisely what Eclecticism professes to do.

The great bulk of the medicine used is given empirically! That is from mere *custom*, or at a *venture*. No one knows exactly what it is intended to do, nor the special way in which it is to act. The bulk of it, however, is meant to act either as a *stimulant* or *sedative*; that is, to either *increase* some organic action, or to *decrease* it; or, in other words, to *make a change*.

An indefinite idea of thus making a change, with the chance of its being for the better, is the ruling idea in nine-tenths of our medication. It is also a

rational idea, although the nature of the change sought, and the true way to obtain it, is seldom understood.

Since every organ acts only from *nervous influence*, it is evident that if we wish to either increase its actions or decrease it, we must do so by increasing or decreasing the amount of nervous influence it receives. All *change*, therefore, or alteration must be effected through the nerves; and only those medicines are really effective which act upon the great nervous centres. Further, bearing in mind what has been before stated, that the nervous substance is nourished, excited or calmed, mainly by matters in a *gaseous form*, it is evident why only those medicines are effective which can become gaseous when taken into the stomach.

The great point, therefore, in medication, is to know what medicines will decompose into gases when taken, and how those gases will act, whether chemically or as simple restoratives, or as stimulants, or sedatives, to the nervous substance.

When medicines are taken in a gross solid form, and are not changed, they act only on the bodily substance they come in contact with; in many instances only chemically, or as mere irritants. To produce a legitimate medical effect they must become *fluid*, or be dissolved, so as to be absorbed into the fluids of the body. When most effective, they pass from the fluids even into the gaseous state, as before explained; and in disease of the nervous system this is especially necessary.

Therefore the more perfectly *soluble* a medicine is made, the more readily it is taken up and disseminated; which explains why a small dose, properly prepared, may be much more efficacious than a large dose given in a crude form.

Many medical reformers have recognized this fact, and acted upon it, to the benefit of their patients.

The continued trituration, and extreme dilution of *homeopathic* medicines are intended to make them more soluble, and better adapted to be absorbed.

Still, for those medicines intended specially for the nervous system, mere *fluidity* is not enough; they must be *gaseous* or at least they must be capable of becoming so when taken into the body.

Eclectic medicines are capable of becoming *gaseous*, and in that form reach the brain and spinal marrow, where they combine with other gaseous elements there existing.

Every combination of this kind changes, more or less, the composition or structure of the nerve substance, and consequently changes its action. No medicine can act neuropathically that cannot, when taken, assume the gaseous form; but all the most active remedies readily and naturally assume that form.

In regard to remedies of this kind, it must also be borne in mind that, in order to act on the nervous centres, it is not necessary that they should be taken in the ordinary way, by the stomach. They may be *breathed or smelt*, and in either case are absorbed at once as gases. They may even be taken into the system by the pores of the skin, and be fully effective.

A familiar instance of this is seen in the case of *chloroform*. This needs only to be breathed; and it mounts at once in the state of gas, to the brain, and makes it torpid, so that all feeling is lost.

The ordinary effects of alcohol also further illustrates the same fact. It is not the fluid substance alcohol that mounts to the brain, but the stimulating gases, which are let loose by its decomposition in the stomach.

The gas called *sulphuretted Gas*, a compound of sulphur and hydrogen, is one of the most active chemical agents, and causes immediate and great changes in all the combinations it comes in contact with.

A dog can be killed by being made to breathe an atmosphere containing only *one-eight-hundreth part* of this gas. In fact, it need not be breathed at all, nor even smelt, for it can be absorbed *through the skin*, in any part of the body, and will cause death. And yet this same gas is the curative agent in many of the most celebrated mineral waters, and is constantly engendered in the body by the natural healthy action of its organs.

The wonderful power of such an agent results from its property of effecting sudden chemical changes, among the substance with which it mixes. Whether those changes shall be beneficial or injurious depends on the state of the parts it comes in contact with, and upon the new combination it gives rise to.

Sulphuretted hydrogen is largely given off from foul sewers and neglected water-closets, and is often the cause of serious disease.

In many cases of feeble health, the substance of the brain is in a soft, lax condition, just ready to break up, or change, if certain agents come in contact with it.

Suppose a man in this condition encounters the odor from a foul sewer; he may only take one whiff, the gas mounts to his brain, and he feels faint, or shivers, is taken sick and dies. The gaseous elements in his nervous substance, acted upon by this powerful chemical agent, change their combinations in a moment, and the brain is decomposed, or destroyed, as surely as if broken up by force.

The mere smell of prussic acid, even when largely diluted with air, causes headache and fainting, and in its pure state, even instant death. There are numerous other agents known equally powerful, all acting in a gaseous form and in the minutest quantities. Some act when taken into the stomach; some when breathed; some when smelt; and other only need touch the skin, from which they are instantly absorbed.

To every patient afflicted with Cancer or any Chronic Disease whom he will undertake and promises to cure, he will agree to give said party or patient the sum of

\$500.00,

Provided said party or patient will guarantee him \$500.00, payable when the cure is completed. Since his residence in Kentucky he has effected more cures of Chronic Diseases than all the physicians in the Blue Grass Regions combined—cases that have been pronounced incurable. This fact has been demonstrated on hundreds of cases of persons residing in this and adjoining counties. The medicines used by the Doctor are all compounded by himself. He purchases his own drugs from the best firms in Cincinnati and New York, and therefore procures the very freshest and best in the market.

Testimonials of home evidences of the Doctor's success in Lexington in the last six years, I could multiply them, *ad infinitum*, but I will let these suffice for the present.

TESTIMONIALS.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 20th, 1875.

Dr. C. C. Sharp.—Dear Sir—How is it possible for me to express how much I am indebted to you for what you have done for my wife, who was as it were, at death's door a short time ago, but is to-day well and hearty.

Doctor, I consider that you have worked a miracle; and had we not called you in when we did, to-day my wife would be in her grave. I speak honestly, and it is my firm and deliberate conviction.

Doctor, receive my thanks and best wishes for your success, and my honest and cheerful recommendation to the public, and most especially to all ladies sick. I can recommend you as a physician who can cure the sick, if they can be cured by living man at all.

Dear sir, envy, malice and hatred may be fully vented against you, but the truth of your ability in curing diseases will come out at last bright and free. In conclusion, allow me to promise to recollect you as a friend in truth.

Respectfully yours,

J. C. RUSSELL.

VERSAILLES, KY., May 12th, 1870.

Dr. C. C. Sharp.—Dear Sir—Allow me to express to you the gratitude I feel for the great benefit I have received from your treatment.

I have suffered for several years with Chronic Disease so prevalent among my sex, had been confined to my bed most of my time for ten weeks, and suffered more than I can express, during that time. Fortunately we heard of you, and called you immediately, and to my astonishment and that of my friends, in less

than a week after you commenced treatment, I could sit up all day, go up and down stairs and over the house at pleasure, and at the expiration of two weeks, came home, was able to attend to household duties, and in a short time went through with the fatigue of moving. I assisted with all the packing and unpacking, and house cleaning generally; in fact was scarcely off my feet (only at meal time) for three weeks.

Doctor, you have no idea of the happiness you have brought into our family. My husband and little daughters were so delighted to see me recover so rapidly after such a long and painful illness.

I shall ever remember you with the deepest feelings of gratitude, not only for your skillful treatment, but for the kind nursing and sympathy I received at your hands.

The great beauty of your treatment is, that there is not a particle of pain connected with it.

That many of my suffering sex may hear of your wonderful skill and find relief by your treatment, is my sincere wish.

Yours respectfully,

SALLIE C. ADAMS.

Dr. C. C. Sharp.—Sir—allow me to express to you the gratitude I feel, for the successful manner in which you have treated my wife. Of her condition when you commenced treating her I deem it unnecessary to speak, that you already know; but I will state, however, for the benefit of those whom it may concern, that for about one year previous to your treatment she was confined to her bed almost all the time. During that time she was attended by several of the best physicians of Lexington, from whose treatment I do not think she received any benefit whatever, but by the treatment of one of them her case was aggravated and made a great deal worse.

Before you commenced your treatment she was so weak, that in making her trip to Lexington, to see her physician, that I had to carry her in my arms from my portico to her vehicle, and from the vehicle to her room in the hotel. She commenced improving immediately after you commenced your treatment, and has improved ever since, and is now almost entirely well.

The great beauty of your treatment is, that you do not cause pain or suffering. By her former treatment her suffering was excruciating beyond description. I could say more in behalf of your treatment if necessary, what I have said is for the benefit of the afflicted, that they may know to whom to go for successful treatment. A word to the wise is sufficient.

D. M. MEGEE.

Versailles, Ky., Nov. 1st, 1871.

Dr. C. C. Sharp.—A deep feeling of gratitude impels what is expressed in these few lines, by one who owes much, yes, I may say my LIFE to your skillful treatment, guided by a Divine power. My Heavenly Father has been merciful, and you have been skillful in thus far restoring me to health. I have been in a few months transformed into a hopeful and almost healthy woman. I believe to-day would have found me in the grave, had it not been for you. Though at first it was with fear and dread that I became your patient, a natural consequence from what other physicians, by their severe treatment, had caused me to suffer,

yet I rejoiced and became more hopeful, as I gradually improved under your treatment. My disease was aggravated by the treatment of other physicians.

My heart goes out in sympathy with those of my own sex who are afflicted as I have been, (and I know there are very many,) and while sympathizing, would warn them of those who profess to cure, and deceive the patient by affirming constantly that they are better, when they really get no better, but on the contrary much worse. Neither do I know one case that has been cured by their treatment. If suffering women could realize the benefit they might derive from your treatment, how soon they would go to be relieved.

In closing this, let me again express my gratitude to you Doctor, for the great good I have received from your treatment. Health is a blessing that I find cannot be compensated by money.

My prayer is that you may be successful through life, and restore the afflicted to health.

Very respectfully,

BELLE MEGEE.

MARCH 27th, 1871.

Dr. C. C. Sharp.—Kind Friend—I desire to express to you my heartfelt gratitude and thankfulness for your kind attention to me during my illness.

No one knows what a severe trial my sickness has been to me. I struggled hard to bear it with patience and cheerfulness, that I might relieve the anxiety of those around me; and though I received the kindest attention from a dear father and mother, and a devoted husband, yet many were my moanings. I tried to rely on my Saviour, and though I found much comfort in prayer to Him, yet He, though no other, often found me in tears. Still He had compassion on me—gave his servants power to do much to alleviate my sufferings, yet none were permitted to do for me what you have done. You, with the aid of God, have greatly improved my health. Not only have you done this, but you have been so patient and kind to explain my disease to me and remove all fears from my mind in regard to it. Words are inadequate to express my sincere gratitude for all this. I can now enjoy the society of my friends, from whom I once thought I was soon to be separated. To your wife, too, I feel very grateful. In an hour of severe trial she was to me a ministering angel. She quieted my fears and poured into my heart such sweet words of cheer and consolation. Her bright face and cheerful voice, so well suited to the sick room, were always of so much comfort to me, and each visit that she paid me made me feel that I had been much benefited by her presence. I shall ever remember you both with kindness, and I can never meet either of you without feeling in my heart a warmth of gratitude toward you. I want my home to ever feel free to you, for remember I will always extend to you a hearty welcome,

Now that I have received so much benefit from you, I have a great desire that all my sex suffering as I have suffered, should be lent the helping hand. My sympathy for them is such, that were it in my power, I would place them all in your care, feeling confident they would soon be made well. You do not know how much I thank you in my heart for the interest you have taken in my sex. You too, have a sympathy for them, and have made the study of them the especial object of your education. Those who have been benefited by you will ever be ready to stand by you and to thank you for all you have done for them. It is my wish that your efforts may ever be crowned with success.

How could it be otherwise when you have such a noble companion to cheer you and go hand in hand through every trial. She is not only a comfort to you, but to those under your care. Her kindness and hospitality are such, that patients visiting your house are made to feel perfectly at ease, and not only do they receive this kindness in her own house, but she visits them at their own home, and does so much to cheer them that her visits are always looked forward to with great delight. That you both may be abundantly blessed while on earth, and richly rewarded in heaven, is the wish of your true friend,

SUE HEADLY.

IT ALMOST SURPASSES BELIEF.

NICHOLASVILLE, KY., June 5th, 1870.

Dr. C. C. Sharp—Dear Sir—I think it highly important that the public should be apprised of your skill in the treatment of diseases incident to females. My wife has been afflicted upwards of two years with displacement of the uterus. Her great suffering and distressing pains have made her helpless, and confined her to the bed, all this time, having had some of the most eminent physicians of Lexington and Nicholasville to treat her, without receiving any help. We fortunately heard of you as an Eclectic Physician, and your skill in the treatment of diseases of females, which induced us to employ you. Myself, wife and all our friends had lost all hope of her recovery; but, after you seeing the case, and your valuable advice, she consented to take your treatment. In less than ten days after your treatment she rode out in her carriage and visited her friends, and in less than three weeks, she attended to her household duties; and in less than four weeks she visited Lexington and done her shopping.

Doctor, you can make this statement to the public, for we are fully convinced that your treatment saved her life. There are many to attest to the above if wanted. With an unbounded gratitude, we shall ever subscribe ourselves,

Your grateful friends,

HENRIETTA McDOWELL,
WILLIAM McDOWELL.

LEXINGTON, KY., Aug. 26th, 1873.

Dr. C. C. Sharp—Dear Sir—Nettie, whom you attended successfully for curved spine, is going this week to Nazareth Academy. She is perfectly well now, but the confinement of school may produce headache and biliousness, and we like your liver medicine for her. Will you leave at Donally's to-day a bottle with directions for her, and the bill for same? Your truly,

JOHN M. CLAY.

AN IMPORTANT OPERATION.

A Surgical Operation of a dangerous and most interesting character was performed by Dr. C. C. Sharp, May 15th, 1873. It was the removal of an ovarian tumor, which weighed eighty-six pounds, the subject being Mrs. Wm. Numan, of Versailles, Ky. It is now over two years since the operation, and Mrs. Numan weighs twenty-five pounds more than she ever did in her life; she gave birth to a fine daughter, fourteen months after the operation.

Before Dr. Sharp was called in, several eminent physicians pronounced the case hopeless. The Doctor undertook the case under the difficult and discouraging circumstances. Her system was so far reduced that he was obliged to put

her under a course of tonic treatment for six weeks before he could venture on the operation, and even then ordinary physicians would have pronounced the experiment extremely perilous, but it was the only chance of her life, and results have fully justified Dr. Sharp's opinion and irrefragably sustained his eminent skill as a physician, and his prudent courage as a surgeon.

Dr. Sharp was assisted by Prof. A. J. Howe, of Cincinnati, in this operation.

NICHOLASVILLE, March 29th, 1872.

Dr. C. C. Sharp:—Dear Sir—I feel that no sense of pride or delicacy should deter me from expressing publicly my gratitude for restoring my wife to health, after suffering for twenty years, my wife is sixty years of age, rather delicate constitution, and of a nervous, sensitive temperament.

Twenty years ago she was taken with inflammation of the womb. Her great suffering and distressing pains have made her helpless, and confined her to the bed for months at a time; having had some of the most eminent Allopathic physicians of Lexington and Nicholasville, without receiving any help or hope of her life. But by the advice of Mrs. Mattingly, of Nicholasville, whom you had cured of a disease peculiar to ladies, of eight years standing, and the wonderful cures of many others in this neighborhood, we were induced to try your skill.

To our great surprise, after your diagnosis, you informed us of a large cancerous tumor of the womb. The discharge from the ulcer was so offensive that it was unpleasant for any one to stay in her room. In less than one week after you commenced treatment, the discharge became less and less offensive, and on the fourth week you very skillfully performed the surgical operation in extracting the tumor. The tumor is a huge one and weighs twelve ounces avoirdupois.

Dear Doctor, during all this time my wife suffered more than tongue or pen can tell; and only one who has been similarly afflicted can have the slightest idea of the agonies, for twenty years, which this terrible affliction occasioned. I supposed this state of things was inevitable, and resigned myself to meet the worst. Fortunately, (now ten months ago,) you well remember that I called upon you, and Doctor, I cannot express the relief your words afforded to my distressed mind, they opened a prospect to me which I little conceived was possible, but for you, ere another six months, I know my wife would have been in her grave. Now, thanks to you, she is well and happy, spared to be a comfort and blessing to me and to our children.

Accept our best respects, and believe us to be your devoted friends and advocates.

With due respect, we wish you success in your practice.

JOHN I. SIMMS.
MRS.—SIMMS.

One of the most difficult Surgical Operations known to the science of surgery, was successfully performed by Dr. C. C. Sharp, of Lexington, Ky., upon a young lady 21 years of age, from Richmond, Ky. Her disease was polypus in utero of an unusual size, and had degenerated into a malignant chronic disease. She had been under the treatment of "regular" physicians for months past, without either cure or relief. This tumor instead of being imbedded in the uterine tissue, or projecting from it, was attached to it by a stem or pedicle, and was such as is termed a pediculated tumor.

Mr. Strather, her father, now rejoices in the perfect cure of his daughter, which more than two years attest to be permanent. The lady being now married, finds no difficulty in attending to her household duties—*Lexington Daily Press*.

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Any one wishing any references in regard to the Doctor's ability in the treatment of diseases, he would refer them to Gov. James B. McCreary, John M. Clay, Prof. A. J. White, Rev. Father Cooke, Gov. Leslie, Mayor Frazer, Rev. L. B. Wolfolk, Regent Bowman, Dr. L. Herr, Wm. T. Withers, Rev. J. S. Shipman, Lexington.

I append below a list of well known persons in this and adjoining counties, which I have treated. They are a few of the many who can answer to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Names of patients referred to :—

Mrs. Mollie Mattingly, Jessamine Co.	Miss Alice Clark, Bourbon.
Miss Bettie Hoover, “ “	Miss Shropshire, “
Mrs. M. Mitchell, “ “	Mrs. Cedman, Cynthiaana,
Mrs. Mattie Gooch, “ “	Mrs. Olford, Midway.
Mrs. John Simms, “ “	Mrs. Pearl, Carlisle.
Miss Sue Headley, Lexington.	Mrs. Russell, Louisville.
Mrs. Maggie Headley, “	Mrs. Kessler, “
Miss M. Hamilton, “	Mr. John M. Clay, Fayette.
Mrs. Thos. Donnelly, “	Mrs. Lizzie White, Lexington.
Mrs. Belle McGee, Woodford.	Mrs. A. Wainscot, Richmond.
Mrs. Sallie Adams, “	Mrs. M. Brown, “
Mrs. Dr. Myers, Lawrenceburg,	Mrs. D. Clark, Sharpsburg,
Mrs. Thos. Merriman, Harrodsburg.	Mrs. Thos. H. Moore, Georgetown.
Mrs. Emily Letsy, “	Mrs. Conglton, Carlisle.
Mrs. John Merriman, “	Mrs. Moberly, Richmond.

The undersigned Professors of the Eclectic College, of Cincinnati, Ohio, certify that Dr. C. C. Sharp, is eminently qualified for his profession, and is competent to the performance of any duty that may devolve upon him as Physician or Surgeon :

PROF. JOHN M. SCUDDER,
 PROF. A. J. HOWE,
 PROF. T. E. JONES,
 PROF. J. FREEMOF,
 PROF. J. KING,
 PROF. O. E. NEWTON, Cincinnati, Ohio
 PROF. R. S. NEWTON, New York,

APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE.

The contest between medical isms is to be appealed to the people. For years it has been a cardinal doctrine with physicians "that the people should know nothing of medicine," and in consequence they have been kept in ignorance.

Our old-school friends now recognize the necessity of popular education, and propose to cultivate this field to their advantage. They have recently introduced a "Family Practice," which receives the commendation of all their journals, and is being diligently circulated. They are also establishing popular journals. One "Good Health," is published in Boston, and has reached its eighth number. A new illustrated magazine is announced in New York. "It will be devoted to popular and original medical information for the people," and (as claimed) fill a place held by no other publication. "Prof. J. Walter Scott, President of the New York Medical University" editor in chief."

We have urged that it was the duty of the physician to instruct his patrons and the community in which he lives, in regard to the laws of life, the care of the sick and intelligent use of remedies. It is not only his duty, but is undoubtedly to his interest as well as his patron's.

We have presented our views of medicine to the public, feeling sanguine that we have chosen the better part of medicine. All we want is a fair field, and in this new era, if all Eclectic practitioners will see that the people read our publications, the advance of Eclecticism in Louisville will be more rapid than ever before.

I know that some of the greatest benefactors of medicines have been denounced as quacks and imposters, and persecution might still be the reward of every benefactor of his race. But I have proclaimed a medical independency. And in this new era—mark my words, fellow citizens of Louisville, the mortality from our principal prevalent diseases will be reduced to one-fourth of what it has been.

In this new era medicines now unknown will be brought forward, and will supersede the medicines now in use.

In this new era physicians shall differ in sentiments, and yet unite as friends in the works of benevolence.

In this new era the entire constitution of man shall be understood—the secret springs of life laid bare.

In this new era the east shall look southward and westward for medical knowledge.

In this new era those great and holy truths which have been despised and trampled under foot by aristocratic combinations in government and science—those principals for which American Eclectic medical reformers have been battling fifty years, will assert their power, for this is the age of reform.

C. C. SHARP, M. D.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, Nov. 15th, 1869.

The undersigned hereby certify that they have been acquainted with Dr. C. C. Sharp for the last six years as a medical practitioner in the city of Columbus, Ohio. He has, during that period, performed many capital surgical operations with success, and has given general satisfaction in the practice of medicine. We cheerfully recommend him as a gentleman and a valuable acquisition to any community in which he may see fit to locate.

Very respectfully,

GEO. L. CONVERSE.

JOHN. M. PUGH.

My personal acquaintance with Dr. Sharp is very slight, but from the above recommendation of Hon. Mr. Converse and Judge Pugh, I have no doubt that he is a worthy gentleman and a skillful practitioner in his profession.

A. G. THURMAN.

We concur in the above.

TOM. C. THURMAN.

W. B. RANKIN.

JOHN L. GREEN.

E. T. DELANY.

S. E. KILE.

DR. WM. TREVITT.

THOMAS SPOW.

HON. C. L. VALLANDIGHAM.

HON. JOSEPH OLDS.

HON. C. VANTRUMP.

MARSHAL ANDERSON.

PREVENTION OF CONCEPTION.

There are many mothers who have their health permanently impaired, their happiness destroyed, and sink into a premature grave, from too frequent child-bearing. To all such, any means which would prevent conception would be an inestimable blessing. There are others who do not desire to have an increase in family, because it increases their labors and cares and confines them to the house; thus, as they think, preventing that enjoyment of life that is their privilege. Others, again, desire some means of prevention, that they may gratify their desires in an unlawful manner; to these, any such means will prove a curse rather than a blessing. I believe I will be conferring a lasting benefit on many mother, though other classes may use them wrongfully. It may seem that such matters should not be spoken of, but my experience tells me that nine cases out of every ten mothers have a great anxiety on this subject, and will be glad to be instructed on the above subject. If they will call on me I will advise and instruct them correctly.

