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A

FEW REMARKS ON
HÆMATOKINETY.

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What is hæmatokinety? It is a newly discovered principle in Medicine. It covers a practical field of vast extent and but partially explored. The North first announced its existence as a theory. The South was the first to prove it by direct experiment and actual demonstration. The discovery is wholly American. As yet it is very little known. Hæmatokinety consists not only in the discovery of those laws or principles which give life and motion to the blood, but in subjecting those laws to human control. It represents both the life giving principle and the blood moving power. It has proved its existence by raising the dead. Witness the dead alligator it called to life, as reported by me in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal of Jan. last, and proved by the testimony of three respectable eye witnesses of this city. Witness the child I brought to life, reported in the same paper—and witness its effects upon an alligator dead and cut to pieces, in restoring animation and sensation to the pieces, as certified by ten physicians of New Orleans, and published in Boston on the 7th of the present month of July. Yet hæmatokinety is not received without opposition. A powerful combination of the most learned and talented physicians of the South have lately attempted to put it down and to scoff it from the earth. They went out to war against it, certain of a sure and easy victory. Dr. Albert W. Ely, a most able writer, a scathing critic and profound logician, brought to bear against it the strong artillery of his most powerful logic. Dr. Bennet Dowler, the alligator king, known to the world for his experiments and valuable contributions to science, brought all his influence and the subjects of his Saurian dominions against it. Prof. Riddell of the Louisiana University, in the chemical laboratory, like Saul in the camp of Israel, a head and shoulders above other men, was to lead up chemistry and micrography against it, after the logician and the alligator king had made their grand charge. They chose their own ground and made the issue themselves, contending, that the alligators, (thought to have been restored to life by hæmatokinety) were not dead, but only playing possum, as it is called, and that the child brought to life was in a swoon, *and all would have come to life of their own accord if let alone.* On this ground I met the issue. I pro-

cured an alligator of large size, fierce and vigorous from the battle ground below this city, and then summoned a jury of divines, professors and doctors together. The trachea of the animal was tied in their presence, and soon the animal seemed to die, *and was to die* if hæmatokinety were true, but only *to play possum*, if that doctrine had no existence. I then gave the divines, professors and physicians full liberty to do what they pleased with the crocodile, and to use any and every means they could think of, to bring it to life, if they could. The renowned knight, Dr. Dowler, was especially addressed and la grande Dragonne playing possum, was particularly pointed out to him, and he was invited to bring it to life, and to take his own time for it. He tore, burnt, cut, pinched, pulled and pricked the skin, nerves and flesh of the animal, but to no purpose. He stood by it until he and all the rest of the physicians, professors and divines were fully convinced that it was dead sure enough. Now, as he had seen an alligator in exactly the same situation brought to life by hæmatokinety, he surrendered the ground he had assumed and confessed that on that issue he and all his followers were hors de combat. Although some copies of his paper, (setting forth in the title page that tying the trachea would not kill an alligator) had been printed and was going through the press, he stopped the press to have that heading struck off. So sure of victory were his supporters, that they proclaimed a victory in the last number of the New Orleans Medical and Surgical Journal) before a victory had been won. In the bulletin of victory hæmatokinety is represented as a ruin piteous to behold!—"a wreck!"—"an idle vision of the brain!" Soon after this announcement, Dr. Ely and his forces fell into captivity. Dr. Ely had a son who fell sick and died, a day or two after his grand demonstration against hæmatokinety appeared in print. It was a pretty little boy about six months old. There it lay without breath or pulse. Dowler and all the doctors, who saw it, pronounced it dead, and left the house. She of Troy, Mrs. Emma Willard, "*Filia Nata Jovis*" of the new world, who first made the discovery of the hæmatokinetic power, appeared unto Ely "*in a vision of the brain*," promising, if he would, like a true American, declare independence of the old tyrannical dogmas of non progressive Europe, in regard to vitality and the motive powers of the blood, and put in practical operation the beautiful, plain and simple go-ahead philosophy of progressive America, his child should be raised from the dead and restored to him alive and well! He choked, trembled, shook, as if agitated with some violent emotion, and then like Samuel Adams of the Revolution, who raised his arm and abjured all allegiance to the dogmas, which chain the mind to the footstool of bigotry and folly in Royal ermine, he immediately set to work to awaken in his dead son the hæmatokinetic power, or that power which gives life and motion to the blood. Wonderful to tell, and no less true than wonderful, his child came to life! But he lost faith and desisted from the work too soon. His child died again. Again "the vision of the brain" reappeared and said, "*Persevere!*" He persevered, and again the child came to life. He relaxed his efforts and again it died. He now not only re-awakened the hæmatokinetic power and restored life a third time, but he persevered in the use of all those means calculated to keep it in activity, until Death was baffled of his prey and left the

house. Dr. Ely's child is now alive and well. Although not an A. M. a M.D., or a L.L.D., young William Francis Ely has made a stronger argument in favor of the truth of the American discovery than the scathing and able argument which appeared against it in the last number of the New Orleans Medical and Surgical Journal over the signature of Albert W. Ely, M. D. "When Greek meets Greek then comes the tug of war"—Ely Junior against Ely Senior. What is singular, young Ely made his debut, holding in his tiny hands the flaming sword of Truth to cut America loose from the rotten-borough medical dogmatism of non progressive Europe, precisely 76 years after our worthy forefathers cut this country loose from the rotten-borough political dogmatism of that self-same region.

Prof. Riddell, commander of the reserved forces, has not yet come in from the battle field, being still in the woods. He had an immense amount of new and valuable materiel with him—the work of his own hands, or rather discoveries made by his wonderful microscope. These have all fallen into the hands of the hæmatokinetics, and are in process of being converted into unanswerable proofs of the new doctrine of life and the motive powers of the blood. They would be worth nothing to the able professor if he had them back again, as they cannot be explained on the old theory now so popular in the schools. If he could explain them, they would attract no attention from the school men, who look upon America as a Nazareth, out of which no good can come.

What is hæmatokinety? Let Dowler, let Ely, and particularly let Ely's child tell. What is hæmatokinety? It is a new discovery made in America, promising, if followed up, to effect great things—even "to make the old younger; men more vigorous; children healthier, and women prettier." What is hæmatokinety? It is that new doctrine, which lays hold of every truth and puts it in motion, bidding it do its best to carry Medicine forward and make it a progressive science. It has already unchained truths which medical dogmatism have kept in prison for centuries.

What is hæmatokinety? It is what the celebrated Marshal Hall of London is bending the knee to in his new theory of apoplexy, as published in the last number of the London Lancet of this present month of July. Hall's new theory goes to show that all the old dogmas in regard to the cause and seat of Apoplexy are fallacious. We outside barbarians have had Hall's discoveries, (now going through the London press,) through the New Orleans press fully two years ago. But instead of adopting Hall's practice of cutting into the trachea to let in air to cure Apoplexy, we cut no throats, as the inside non progressives of London are now doing, but disembarass the air passages of the phlegm, which excludes the ingress of air by the use of apophlegmatics. A simple, safe and expeditious method of cure. If Dr. Marshal Hall and his inside non progressives want to know how this is done, they will have to read an old number of the New Orleans Medical and Surgical Journal, where a lengthy and full account of the process will be found, and where Dr. Hall will find his theory with a better practice affixed to it than the throat-cutting one he has adopted.

