

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ILLINOIS STATE HOMEOPATHIC

MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

AT THE

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING,

HOLDEN AT

Springfield, Illinois, January 12th, 1857.

WAUKEGAN, ILL.:
GAZETTE PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.
1857.

PROCEEDINGS
ILLINOIS STATE HOMIOPATHIC
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT,
WAUKEGAN, ILL.

ADDRESS OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY,
DUBUQUE, IOWA.

ADDRESS OF THE CORRESPONDING SEC.
AURORA, ILL.

WEEKLY
CARTER PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT
1891

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING.

MORNING SESSION.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., January 14th, 1857.

The hour—10 A. M.—prescribed by the By-Laws, having arrived the “ILLINOIS STATE HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION” was called to order by the President, D. S. SMITH, M. D. The following names were responded to upon a call of the roll, viz: DOCTORS *Lord, Bartlett, Anthony, McCann, Dunn, Troyer, Ober, Pratt, Adams, Slocum, Smith, Weed, Melrose, Shipman, Ludlam, Colton, Cheever, Hatch, Holt, Scofield*; and the Recording Secretary.

The following gentlemen, candidates for membership also were present, viz: DOCTORS *Reed, Shirley, Small, Belding, Shearer, Thorne, and Briggs*.*

The Rev. Mr. STEERS—in the *basement* room of whose church the Association convened—being present was desired, and kindly consented to offer an

INVOCATION.

The reading of the Journal of the last annual meeting was, on motion dispensed with, printed copies having some months since been pla-

* This gentleman concluded to waive his candidacy for one year, for reasons highly honorable to himself. The postponement has, however, been an *eternal* one. Dr. BRIGGS was suddenly killed in February of this year, while returning to his quiet fireside after a long professional ride, over the prairie surrounding *Atlanta*, his place of residence. He was killed by a “stroke of lightning,” the time between midnight and dawn, and the place, on the public highway, within a few short miles of home. His death appeared to have been instantaneous, and was not discovered until the forenoon of the day following the night on which the sad casualty occurred. Dr. BRIGGS leaves a wife and several children, as well as a numerous constituency, to lament his untimely dissolution. No more for him the wearing toil, and too often unthanked services of the country physician! He has gone before us “to that undiscovered country, from whose bourne no traveler returns;” and having laid aside his professional armor, “after life’s fitful fever, he sleeps well!”

E. A. G.

ced in the hands of the members of the Association. The President announced that reports of standing committees were now in order, whereupon the COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL EDUCATION AND ORGANIZATION, through the Chairman, Dr. E. A. GUILBERT, made the following report, (*See appendix B.*) After which the COMMITTEE ON MATERIA MEDICA, through Dr. A. R. BARTLETT, submitted the following very able and interesting report. (*See appendix C.*)

Dr. L. E. OBER from the COMMITTEE ON PHYSIOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY, presented an interesting paper upon the "Rationale of the circulation of the Blood," which was received and ordered on file, with the former reports; but the printing thereof was waived at the urgent request of the author of the report.*

On motion, the Association now adjourned until 2 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Punctually at the hour appointed, the Association re-assembled, President SMITH in the Chair.

The standing Committee on ENDEMIC and EPIDEMIC DISEASES OF ILLINOIS, through Dr. LEONARD PRATT, asked to be continued until next annual meeting. The request was unanimously granted, with the understanding that there be no failure in the report from the competent committee on that occasion. The standing committee on TOPICAL APPLICATIONS, through the Chairman, Dr. McCANN DUNN, asked to be continued until the ensuing annual meeting, at same time pledging themselves then to submit a paper. The request was unanimously acceded unto.

The BUREAU OF PROVINGS, were not prepared to report, and were excused therefrom, with the understanding that no excuses would be received in lieu of a report on the occasion of the next annual meeting.

The majority of the SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON the MEDICAL JOURNAL, through Dr. GUILBERT, presented the following

REPORT:

To the President and the Members of the Illinois State Homeopathic Medical Association.

At the first annual meeting of this Association the undersigned (with

* Dr. OBER'S modesty lead him to undervalue his really excellent paper, and contrary to the *real* wishes of all the members, the Association allowed the Doctor to persuade them into, acceding by vote, to his request, not to publish the same herein.

D. A. Colton, M. D.) were appointed a special committee to take steps toward the early establishment of a Medical Journal, which should be the organ of the Association, and of the western members of the profession.

About the time that action was proposed to be taken in the premises, some of our friends in this, and in the adjoining States, thought it advisable to call a North Western Convention, to meet at *Indianapolis, Ia.*, the principal object of which convention should be, to devise ways and means whereby a Medical Journal for the whole North West might be commenced; the chances of success of the proposed periodical being deemed much greater, under such auspices than under those of the medical associations of but one State. Pursuant to the published CALL, the Indianapolis Convention assembled, and the Journal question was very ably discussed.

It was then decided that such a periodical was much needed, and Prof. H. P. Gatchell M. D., of Cleveland, Ohio, was selected as the Editor-in-Chief of the same, when it should be started. Further than this no steps were taken, and the affair fell still-born.

Just previous to this Indianapolis meeting the undersigned drew up a draft for a circular, which they proposed to send to members of the profession; setting forth the views of your committee with reference to the subject, matter and manner of the enterprize; and inviting from each gentleman addressed an expression of his thoughts thereupon. The undersigned were not sustained in their proposed action by the remaining member of your committee, viz: by Dr. Colton—who for reasons not fully expressed to us, refused to sanction any action in the proposed direction. Deeming unanimity of sentiment, on part of the committee, to be quite essential, the undersigned thought it best to wait the result of the Indianapolis meeting. During this delay the Spring had so far advanced, and matters seemed to be in such disjointed condition generally, that the undersigned came to the unpleasant conclusion to take no further public steps in the direction of the duty the Association had devolved upon the committee, leaving the whole question to be again considered by your honorable body, at the present session.

The undersigned would beg further to report; that although they have taken no public steps in the premises, they have, however, not been idle in private; in proof of which assertion, and of the opinion they desire to express that the way seems now open for the early organization of a superior Medical Journal, which shall have a permanent and a substantial basis; they remark as follows:

One of the undersigned (Prof. E. A. Guilbert) desires through your committee to propose on part of his colleagues in the faculty of the "WESTERN HOMEOPATHIC COLLEGE" at Cleveland, Ohio; that a Western Medical Journal be soon established, and that it be published under the patronage of the "ILL. STATE HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION," and that of the Medical College aforesaid.

On their part, the Faculty of the Western College agree to guarantee

the circulation of fifty paid for copies of the Journal, for the first year; and they pledge themselves, individually and collectively, to spare no effort to increase its circulation; while they will promptly furnish matter for its columns. The Faculty further propose that the said Journal be issued simultaneously, in Chicago, Ill., and Cleveland, Ohio; and that the editor-in-chief be PROF. H. P. GATCHELL, M. D., of Cleveland; and that he be assisted by several associate editors, *two* of whom shall reside in Illinois, and *one* in each of the following named States, to-wit: Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan.

The undersigned desire further to report, that, in their opinion, a publisher of the Journal should be selected out of parties interested, in the city of Chicago, and that to him all letters relating to the *business* of the Journal be directed, while all letters having reference to the *matter* of the periodical should be addressed to the editor-in-chief, or to one of his associates; the latter, of course, thereafter communicating with the former. The undersigned also suggest that the proposed Journal be issued once in every two months; that it be called "THE WESTERN HOMEOPATHIC BI-MONTHLY," and that each number thereof contain *forty-eight pages*.

From investigation the undersigned are fully satisfied that a periodical of this size, taking an edition of 400 copies as the standard, can be printed for *at least one-third* less expense in Cleveland than this can be procured to be done in Chicago; the maximum of the outlay required to print such a number of copies every second month, for one year, not exceeding *three hundred dollars*. The expense of forwarding each edition to Chicago, to be distributed to subscribers by the publisher, will not exceed two dollars; while the amount to be expended for printing will be near two hundred dollars less in Cleveland.

The undersigned earnestly commend the whole matter to the Association, they urge upon it the necessity of immediate action upon the subject; believing, as they do, that the *time* for action has arrived; and that it should at once be seized and employed. Should the Association see fit to meet half way the Faculty of the "WESTERN HOMEOPATHIC COLLEGE," we are confident that within the present year an able and faithful exponent of Western Homeopathic medical practice will certainly have birth.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. S. SMITH, M. D.

EDWARD A. GUILBERT, M. D.

Majority of Committee on Medical Journal.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., Jan. 16, 1857.

The reading of the above report was followed by a lengthy and an earnest debate, in which Drs. Ober, Guilbert, Pratt, Belding, Shirley and Dunn participated. Subsequent to the debate the report of the Committee was received and unanimously adopted. Dr. McCANN DUNN now offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That a Committee, consisting of three members, be appointed by the Association, whose duty shall be to confer with the different members of the profession, with regard to the publication of a medical Journal at an early date; said committee to have full power to act as they may see fit in the direction proposed.

The resolution was seconded by Dr. Pratt, and was advocated by Dr. Dunn in a forcible speech. Remarks upon the question having also been made by several members, the Chair put the resolution to vote, whereupon it was heartily and unanimously carried.

The following gentlemen, in pursuance of the foregoing resolution, were nominated and selected to compose the Committee named therein, viz: Doctors E. A. Guilbert, D. S. Smith, and R. E. W. Adams.

Applications for membership being now in order, S. C. BELDING, M. D., was proposed by Dr. Pratt; JOSHUA THORNE, M. D., and J. H. SHEARER, M. D., were proposed by Dr. Melrose; Prof. A. E. SMALL, M. D., and M. S. REED, M. D., were proposed by Dr. Guilbert. The propositions having been made in writing, as required by the Constitution, the Association proceeded to ballot, whereupon the gentlemen proposed were duly elected to membership, and were declared so elected after paying their initiation fees and signing the By-Laws.

Dr. Bartlett, from the Committee on Materia Medica, presented a paper from the Chairman, Dr. Lord, that gentleman being obliged to absent himself. The paper was devoted to the consideration of the right of *Alcohol* to a place in the Materia Medica; and being most ably written, and withal filled (almost) to repletion with witty allusions, enunciated in the proverbially happy manner of the facetious author, it elicited very great amusement, and was warmly commended. The paper, at the earnest request of the author, was ordered to be restored to him by the hand of Dr. Bartlett, as he desired to correct and fully elaborate the same, it being understood that Dr. Lord return the document to the Recording Secretary for publication, it being the property of the Association*

The paper of Dr. Bartlett (of the Committee on Materia Medica) was now called up, and the President, placing Vice President Troyer in the chair, a singularly interesting and very profitable discussion arose, in which the President, the venerable Dr. BELDING, and Drs. PRATT, GUILBERT, SHIRLEY, and DUNN participated. Dr. Bartlett ably defended

*The very felicitous paper of Dr. Lord has never been received by the undersigned, who would have been happy to have included it among the papers of the present volume, as directed by the Association.

his lucidly stated positions, (about which, save in a few minor particulars, no controversy was had) and availed himself, with his usual tact, of the opportunity thus afforded of throwing into bold relief the various leading points of his generally admired essay.

Dr. Adams presented a communication from Dr. Henry Wigan, of Dayton, Ohio, with reference to a medical work the latter is about publishing. Dr. Adams highly commended Dr. Wigan's abilities, and stated that as to consider the matter was not properly within the scope of the intent of the Association, he would be happy to receive inquiries with regard to the book; and would forward to the author any subscriptions for the same.

Dr. Troyer (the President having resumed the chair) moved that the Recording Secretary be instructed to notify each member of the Association not now present, or here represented, to forward his annual dues to that officer immediately. The motion prevailed.

Dr. OBER offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the "ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION" hereby warmly extends to the members of the profession in the adjoining States, the invitation to unite with that body: we, its officers and members, according to them all the rights and privileges we ourselves enjoy by virtue of position, when they shall have complied with the constitutional requirements of the Association.

The resolution was seconded by Dr. Reed, and being put to vote was unanimously carried.

Dr. Dunn moved that the Committee on the Medical Journal have power to draw on the Treasurer for funds necessary to defray the expense of printing circulars, etc. The motion was seconded by Dr. Troyer, and on being put, unanimously prevailed.

The members present and represented now came forward and paid their annual dues; *two dollars* per member.

Dr. Anthony offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That when the Association adjourns, it shall adjourn to meet at PRINCETON, Bureau Co., Ill., on the regular day *i. e.*, the FIRST WEDNESDAY in DECEMBER, 1857.

The resolution being seconded by Dr. Troyer, considerable debate was had, and various motions, with reference to striking out Princeton and inserting the names of other places, were made, seconded and lost, whereupon the resolution was put to vote and was unanimously carried.

On motion of Dr. Guilbert, a committee of three members, (Drs.

Pratt, Bartlett and Dunn) was appointed to nominate officers for the Association for the ensuing year, said committee to report during the evening session.

On motion, adjourned until 7 P. M., to meet then in MASONIC HALL.

EVENING SESSION.—MASONIC HALL.

The hour to which adjournment was had, having come, the Association was called to order by the President, who assumed the chair.

The nominating Committee, through their chairman, Dr. Pratt, made the following

REPORT.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the duty of nominating officers for the Association for the ensuing year, beg leave respectfully to report as follows:

President—D. S. SMITH, M. D., Waukegan, Ill.

1st Vice President—R. E. W. ADAMS, M. D., Springfield.

2d Vice President—M. TROYER, M. D., Peoria.

3d Vice President—W. C. ANTHONY, M. D., Princeton.

Recording Secretary—E. A. GUILBERT, M. D., Dubuque, Iowa.

Corresponding Secretary—A. R. BARTLETT, M. D., Aurora, Ill.

Treasurer—M. SLOCUM, M. D., Chicago.

Board of Censors—J. MELROSE, M. D., Canton; L. PRATT, M. D., Rock Creek; P. L. HATCH, M. D., Dubuque, Iowa; J. H. SHEARER, M. D., Springfield; L. E. OBER, M. D., Moline.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LEONARD PRATT,
A. R. BARTLETT,
McCANN DUNN,

Committee.

On motion of Dr. Shirley, the report was received and the committee were discharged.

On motion of Dr. Reed, the nominations reported by the Committee were unanimously confirmed by the Association.

Dr. Adams offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That no person, not a graduate, shall be entitled to become a candidate for membership in this Association, unless he shall previously have attended *one* full course of lectures in a respectable medical college of our school, and shall have been, for at least *three* years, a creditable Homeopathic practitioner.

The resolution was seconded by Dr. Guilbert, and elicited a short,

but spirited debate, in which Drs. Adams, Reed, Melrose and Pratt participated; after which the resolution was put to vote and was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Melrose read a paper detailing the history and treatment of a case of *Hematoma*, in a female, *ætat* 30 years. The fungus was located on either side the *labia majora*, was of three years standing and had, during that time, been under allopathic treatment. The remedies used by Dr. Melrose were admirably chosen, as the result proved; and were, *Carb. An.* and *Thuja*, given internally and topically, after the exuberant fungus had been removed with the scalpel. The remedies were given alternately, by weeks. A cure was effected at the end of seven months.

Also, of a case of gangrenous ulcers of the superior aspect of the foot, (which had exposed the tendons) and of the "inner side of leg, extending upward to the knee." The remedies administered were *Ars.*, *Carb. Veg.* *Merc. Corr.*, *Petroleum* and *Silicia*. A cure was effected, the case being under treatment three months.

Eight P. M. having now come, and a large audience of the Ladies and Gentlemen of Springfield having assembled, Prof. A. E. SMALL, M. D., of Chicago, was introduced to the audience by Vice President Adams, in a very neat and *apropos* speech, and the former distinguished gentleman proceeded to deliver the following annual address. [See *Appendix A.*]

The audience having then been dismissed by the President, Dr. Guilbert offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Association hereby tender Prof. Small their thanks for his exceedingly interesting lecture, and that he be, and hereby is requested to furnish a copy of the same for publication with the remainder of the proceedings of this annual meeting.

The resolution was seconded by Dr. Adams, and was unanimously adopted.

The annual report of the Treasurer (Dr. Colton) was now read. The report shows the receipts to have amounted to sixty-two dollars, the same having been disbursed for printing, seal, record books, postages, etc., leaving the Treasury empty.

Report received and ordered to be placed on file, together with the warm-hearted and well-written letter accompanying it.

The President announced the following standing committees for the ensuing year.

Committee on Medical Education and Organization

Drs. Small, Shipman and Pratt.

Committee on Materia Medica.

Drs. Shearer, Belding and Colton.

Committee on Endemic and Epidemic Diseases of Illinois.

Drs. Pratt, Carr and Douglas.

Committee on Physiology and Pathology.

Drs. Melrose, Anthony and Lord.

Committee on Topical Applications.

Drs. McCann Dunn, Keyes and Prentice.

Bureau of Provings.

Drs. Bartlett, Adams, Reed, Jæger and Shirley.

Dr. Pratt offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of the Association shall continue for two days.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Guilbert, and on being put to vote was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Guilbert offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of the Association are due, and are hereby tendered to Drs. Adams, Shearer and Thorne, of Springfield, for the unwearied care with which they provided rooms, etc., for the convenience of the Association, and for their constant and kindly attentions to all and singular of the members.

The resolution was simultaneously seconded by several gentlemen, and on being put to vote was adopted by acclamation.

The President appointed Drs. Anthony, of Princeton, Guilbert, of Dubuque, and Jæger, of Elgin, a committee of arrangements for the ensuing annual meeting.

The Recording Secretary at this juncture presented the following interesting and genial letter from C. A. JÆGER, M. D., of Elgin, Ill. As will be seen, Dr. Jaeger communicates some noticeable items from the Homeopathic Journals of the "Father-Land" of the illustrious HAHNEMANN. It is gratifying thus to be enabled to clasp hands with our renowned brethren across the Atlantic, and our Association is under obligation to the rising, talented and amiable gentlemen who has thus brought about this pleasant consummation:

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE "I. S. H. M. ASSOCIATION:

GENTLEMEN:—Not being able to be present with you at our annual meeting, I allow myself to lay before you, in a brief paper, a few re-

marks translated from the German Homeopathic journals, in reference to our young, but highly promising Association.

Last year I sent a number of copies of the proceedings of the "I. S. H. M. Association" to the editors of the four Homeopathic Medical Journals in Germany, with a view to acquaint our brethren in the old world with the fact that Illinois, which only a few years ago was impregnated with Calomel, Jalap, Quinine, etc., has now a well organized Association of that system of Medicine, which only recognizes one principle and one law, viz: "SIMILIA SIMILIBUS CURANTUR."

Our brethren in Germany and especially those living in the "Fatherland" of Hahnemann (Saxony) are highly gratified at our success. Dr. Meyer, editor of the *Allgemeine Hom. Zeitung*, in Leipzig, and Dr. Hirschel, editor of the *Zeitschrift für Hom. Klinik*, in Dresden, have both devoted in their Journals considerable space in bringing our Association before the medical profession of Germany.

They speak in the highest terms of the young giant of the west of America; they are rejoiced at the enterprise of its members, and comment very largely upon the effort to establish a Western Homeopathic Medical Journal. They say: "Much energy and love for our system must prevail in America, otherwise twenty-six members of an Association would not pledge \$255 for the support of a journal." The "Code of Ethics," adopted by our Association, is also spoken of; the editor says: "In America such a Code of Ethics is needed, as the government does not provide for any protection against quacks and impostors. The address delivered by Dr. Guilbert is very complimentarily commented upon; in fact the whole proceedings are reviewed in a manner which will at once give the "I. S. H. M. Association" a place in the annals of medical history. We can perceive at once from the pages of these and the other Homeopathic Journals in Germany and Bohemia, that our brethren there hailed with joy the advent of our Association; and it is gratifying to its members, to know that our sister societies in the "Fatherland" are greeting us with a hearty and paternal welcome.

DR. JÆGER.

ELGIN, Jan. 10, 1857.

After which at a quarter before 10, P. M., the Association adjourned after a brief and touching farewell speech from the "old man eloquent," the venerable Dr. BELDING.

EDWARD A. GUILBERT,

Recording Secretary.

APPENDIX.



ANNUAL ADDRESS.

BY PROF. ALVAN E. SMALL, M. D.,

OF CHICAGO, ILL.

Gentlemen of the Illinois State Hom. Medical Association :

Before inviting your attention to subjects immediately connected with the interests of this body, permit me to express my gratitude at recognizing so distinguished a representation of the Homeopathic profession of the State of Illinois. It has been but a few months since your humble servant has had a residence among you, and yet during this brief period he has seen abundant reasons for rejoicing, on account of the present position and prospects of the Homeopathic school of medicine.

It is the avowed intention of this body to strive for advancement in medical science—to seek out and to cherish the best and surest means of healing the sick. That the purpose is a good one, hardly admits of a doubt. It is therefore incumbent upon each member to fix his mind upon this point, and to summon all the energy he possesses, for the consummation of the work. The world is made musical by the hum of human industry, which has been called into requisition to promote the progress of the arts, and shall it be said of medicine, that "*she falls behind the age,*" that her votaries slumber when they should be vigilant and at work? This Association has said no; the time has come for action, and it behooves every one to be up and doing; but as a necessary pre-requisite we must be well assured that "*our position*" is favorable for advancement, for this is of the utmost importance. I there-

fore crave your indulgence while I make a feeble attempt to define "*our position*" that is, "The position of the Homeopathic School of Medicine—a school that has arisen under the auspices of an overruling providence to fulfil an important mission in the world,—a school that dates its existence from the discovery of the immortal Hahneman,—that has flourished for more than half a century, amidst persecution,—that has spread throughout Christendom, enlisting votaries from every region and rank, from kings and emperors, princes and prelates, judges and barristers, and from the learned and renowned in science everywhere; and also from the more humble, but not the least respectable classes in every community,—and the influence of this school, we are happy to add, is still extending with the rising and setting of the sun.

Can it be possible that a school like this should have become so powerful, under the protection of Divine Providence, without having an important position to occupy for the benefit of mankind? It matters not by what appellation it is spoken of by its opponents. Let Homeopathy be styled a quackery, or a refined empiricism, and yet there is presented to our view a combination such as the world has never seen elsewhere in medicine, viz: a school numbering thousands of highly educated and distinguished physicians, agreeing in one essential principle that lies at the foundation of medical practice.

Notwithstanding the profession of medicine has existed for nearly thirty centuries, it has nevertheless been divided into innumerable sects and schools. Some have had merely an ephemeral existence and ere they numbered hundreds of adherents, ceased to exist. Others of seemingly brighter promise have arisen and endured for a longer period and are now unknown; and yet others of the most imposing influence followed, and after presenting the characteristics of mighty organizations for good, have passed their climax, have fallen into disrepute. Some of these schools have accomplished much by way of advancing the collateral sciences, but on account of mingling false theories with the true issues thereof, they have ceased to retain influence. Thus has one sect after another sprung up, to live but for a brief period ere it was to die, to make room for another of more novel pretensions. Even now, the entire allopathic profession throughout the world presents to our observation but a medley of schools, each named after the champion of some theory, or, perhaps, after the theory itself. In view of the fact, therefore, we may repeat "that the Homeopathic is by far the most extensive, having by far the greatest number of adherents to a uniform mode of practice, known to the civilized world.

The various schools of medicine however that preceded the Homeopathic were by no means accidental occurrences. They bear the impress of having been the result of a certain activity of mind, struggling after truth. The schools of Hippocrates and Galen, of Paracelsus and others, each opened new channels for thought that have led to many disclosures in science. Through their agency a work of preparation was evidently going on, which now, we may well look upon as having been prophetic of something more certain and satisfactory. The conflicting conclusions and belligerent attitudes of the schoolmen, which kept up a perpetual agitation and thought, were but premonitory symptoms of progress.

Men could no more think nor act alike at a remote period than at present, and unless some settled principle, founded in truth, upon which many could unite, had a real existence, the experiment of endeavoring to make men think and act alike would prove as fruitless as that of Charles V., when, to amuse his leisure hours, says the historian, he endeavored to bring his clumsy clocks and watches into a state to go exactly alike. It is therefore to be viewed as in accordance with the order of Providence, that different schools of medicine should by permission come into existence, to exert their influence upon each other.

Mind acting upon mind—antagonistic as well as in agreement, only tended to open up new sources for reflection and the numerous schools of medicine from Hippocrates to Hahnemann, all had an existence for the purpose of fulfilling some mission—perchance for the development of certain facts, for there was evidently a strife among them, to penetrate deep into the mysteries of life, in hopes of gaining admission into the innermost sanctuary of her courts,—to open up the well springs of health for suffering humanity.

Nor was all they accomplished a failure; though blindly led, their course was onward to the goal of analytical inquiry. They paved the way with the fragments of stone which they gathered from the wayside, for the development of the rock itself, from whence all these fragments had exfoliated—the corner stone of the temple of medicine.

Did not the experience of Hippocrates, now embodied in historic form, glitter as a beacon light by the wayside for those who came after him? Who has given to the world from pure observation a more lucid description of disease? Whose experience among the men of olden time furnished more to corroborate the assumed fact of there being in nature a law of cure that she might yet reveal to some votary of the healing art, to be the guiding principle in practice.

Who has ever read the works of Paracelsus without having been struck with the masterly activity of his mind, and his near approximation to that which is now clothed in the majesty and splendor of truth. Although from history we learn that Paracelsus was often swayed by vanity and pretension—by acts of imprudence and folly—we nevertheless find coupled therewith, the evolution of thought and the disclosure of co-relative truths, preparing the way for some more exalted attainment.

Similar considerations crowd upon the mind concerning Agricola, Croll, and Tyco de Brahe, and also concerning the more modern schoolmen, Boulduc, Von Storck, Stahl, Rapou and others, who immediately preceded, or were cotemporary with Hahnemann.

It would seem, therefore, that none of the different schools of medicine ever had an existence, except for the fulfilment of some useful mission, or for the consummation of some work under the direction of Providence, necessary for the perfecting of medical science.!

When Columbus first set foot upon American soil, nothing was to be seen but the native wilds of this vast continent disclosing no traces of civilization. All was a wilderness in full possession of the savage aborigines—*East, West, North and South*. The thick forests were unpenetrated by pathways or roads, and the deserts were without land marks, thus rendering exploration both difficult and dangerous. The aboriginal philosopher who first conceived of land marks, that might enable him to explore unknown regions without losing the certainty of retracing his steps, did well; he was a benefactor of his race. He who transformed the landmarks into a continuous pathway did better. He who widened the pathway into a road, for the accommodation of man and beast, did better still; and he who made the additional improvement of constructing, upon the simple road, an highway, for the chariot and horseman, opened up a brighter and more glorious day—that eclipsed all former enterprises in road making. But the end was not yet. There was an aspiration after something more grand, that would better facilitate intercourse between nations and families—an enterprise that would signalize an advanced stage of civilization—that would provide more ample means of relieving human wants, and of perfecting intercourse among men. To consummate so glorious a result, there was superinduced, upon all former enterprises in road making, that of the railroad, presenting a similarity and uniformity of structure throughout, to be traversed with great uniformity and with vehicles of uniform structure and movement. The contrast between the facilities

for traveling slowly and cautiously by the aid of mere landmarks and those afforded by railroads and steam power, evinces, in a strong light, what is attainable by passing onward through various stages of progress, without tarrying by the way to give heed to those who ever stand ready to oppose new movements, for fear of rendering that which is already attained less desirable.

We can easily imagine that the uncivilized aborigines did not want even a path to enable them to wend their way through trackless wilds. They wanted landmarks alone, and, without doubt, they felt like revolting at such a stupid innovation as a continuous pathway, through which a retracing of steps could be so easily effected; and those even who were made happy by the pathway, may have seen no necessity for the more noble enterprise of the road, while those who found this such an additional convenience may not have dreamed of the necessity of widening it into an highway or thoroughfare for the purpose of conferring more enlarged benefits upon man; and, moreover, those whose hopes were consummated in the achievement of this latter enterprise, might have been the foremost in decrying the scheming visionaries who first conceived of railroads and locomotives. But it will be seen, nevertheless, that those who transferred the landmarks into a pathway, and those who transferred the road into a thoroughfare, as well as those who superinduced the railroad upon the whole, were each usefully employed in consummating the various stages of progress, though each may have been blind, and perhaps hostile to future innovations.

Similar has been the progress of medicine. The ancient priesthood, with whom the healing art first came into vogue, were immersed in superstition, with nought but uncertain landmarks, to guide them in the way of medicine. Hippocrates, in process of time, gathered up sufficient, from the observations of the age in which he lived, to open an obscure pathway, which Galen, Paracelsus and others who followed after, widened into a road. Finally, through the cultivation of the positive sciences,—Anatomy, Botany, Chemistry, Surgery, &c., this road was merged into a thoroughfare which has been travelled by all sorts of doctors, riding upon favorite hobbies,—some have made a hobby of one theory and others of another, and though many of these hobbies have shown but little power or strength, yet their riders have vainly striven to support them by claiming for them an alliance or relationship with the sciences of observation. But to cast them all into the shade, and furnish greater facilities for the progress of the healing art, we have at last been blessed, through the distinguished Hahnemann and his dis-

covery of a "law of cure," by the superinduction upon the whole, of the genuine railroad in medicine, with its track based securely upon a scientific foundation, and we may add, by way of comment, that men who prefer to grope their way in the wilderness by mere landmarks, to wend their way slowly through obscure pathways, or through rudely constructed roads, or upon man-made hobbies or clumsy theories, had better take warning and *keep off the track*. *Let them heed the ringing of the bell and clear the way*, or they will surely get run down. There is no safety in approaching the track with hobbies, and we trust those who ride them will soon see it for their interest and for the welfare of humanity to leave them at a safe distance, while they hasten to secure a seat in that car and train, that will take them safely through by daylight.

We are aware that old fogies hate railroads and the men that invented them. We often hear their warnings and their cry that the value of horseflesh is destroyed, that beautiful fields are laid waste, or cut up, that the sparks from the locomotives set forests on fire and light up the heavens by night, &c. But Young America sees a thousand fold greater advantages than disadvantages resulting from them. He goes in for extending the track in all directions, and it is particularly gratifying on this occasion to witness so large a company coming up to the stock-market anxious to secure a share.

From what has been remarked it will be perceived that all preceding schools of medicine enjoyed a certain relative position to the present, which is known as the Homeopathic school—from the fact that it recognizes the science of Homeopathy as being justly entitled to equal consideration with the other positive sciences embraced in the curriculum of medicine. As all preceding pathways, roads and thoroughfares have a relative position to railroads, so all preceding epochs in medicine have a relation to the present. One interesting coincidence is worthy of remark. Railroads and Homeopathy came into vogue about the same time. The former has effected a mighty change in the outward aspect of society. The latter has accomplished much towards effecting a change which is strikingly visible in the aspect of the whole medical profession. The stone that became musical by the touch of Apollo's harp, is but emblematic of the power and influence of Homeopathy upon the prevailing profession wherever she has gained a foothold.

Scarcely an intelligent community can be found, where Homeopathy is not having a vigorous growth. The more rigidly her votaries cling to her, the more decided is the warning she utters for Allopathic hob-

bies to clear the track. She came into existence as a necessary result of what preceded. She discards nothing scientific. She rests upon the pillars of Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Surgery, Obstetrics and Pathology. She holds fast to every well laid stone in the temple of medicine, but her position is such that she discards the useless superstitions and theories which the ignorance and cupidity of man have engrafted upon medicine. She, moreover, in the place of these adopts as a guide in the administration of remedies, "*the law of cure,*" which Hahnemann discovered and found by numerous observations and experiments to be of universal application. This law is usually expressed in the formula—*Similia Similibus Curantur*—or in other words, that medicines known to produce certain effects upon persons in health will cure certain diseased conditions manifesting similar effects. It has been found by experiments and observations that this law generalizes the entire *Materia Medica*; that no medicine will cure unless it has the power, when given in sufficient quantities to persons in health, of producing a group of symptoms, similar to that which the disease, for which it is administered, produces. Nevertheless, it is not our purpose to withhold an iota of credit due to the various schools of medicine that have descended in rapid succession from Æsculapius. It is to many of them we are indebted for extensive researches in science. They have brought anatomy to great perfection; they have brought physiology into practical use; they have reduced the art of mechanical surgery to a science; they have accomplished a vast deal in the department of chemistry, and in its application to the useful arts; they have given us the true science of obstetrics. *But these schools have severally failed* in giving us a *scientific basis* for prescribing remedies. But this desideratum was sought for, the need of it was felt, and as necessity is the mother of invention, different theories were invented and a vain attempt was made to couple them with the positive sciences, in order to supply if possible what was evidently felt to be necessary; and it is worthy of remark that in some instances, men of far seeing minds caught obscure glimpses of the law of cure, which was destined to form the keystone of the arch. It was for the benefit of the healing art that so many master minds were prone to frame theories for the administration of remedies. It would be absurd to doubt the honesty of those who propounded them. It was the perpetual conflict of these theories that kept the mind upon the lookout for something more certain, and though there was a proneness in many to look in the wrong direction there was one in our humble opinion more fortunate than the rest, who boldly inquired of nature for a revelation of

her therapeutic law—who as boldly declared that man could frame no reliable theory upon the matter in question; and it was this distinguished man who viewed with delight the vast attainments that had been made in the positive sciences—who refused all dictation to nature while he reverently sought for a revelation of one of her laws that might complete the curriculum of medical science. With trembling and fear, he sought for facts, until he was permitted to behold the *desideratum* desired, a law of cure, of which he found an abundance of confirmation in the observations and experiments which he made. But this discovery did not lead him to discard any scientific attainment, for he proudly beheld in the positive sciences the correlative aids through which a universal application of the law was to be made. He saw that it was manifestly just and proper to regard all the positive sciences, the rightful inheritance of the school which he founded—the Homeopathic school of medicine.

The science of Homeopathy is thus rendered prominent, because it is believed to be indispensable in preserving the good of the medical profession for the benefit of the human race. To be able to cure the sick is the chief attainment of the physician, and this can only be accomplished by the aid of a profound knowledge of a law of cure, such a law as Hahnemann has propounded to the world. The practice of medicine in the prevailing profession has never been based upon such a law, but upon theories, more difficult to number than the heathen deities of the ancient Pantheon.

That the theories on which the practice of medicine has been based, as well as the whole fabric erected thereon, are to be supplanted by the genuine therapeutic law upon which the true temple of medicine must rest, is by many regarded as a probable event. Already the science of Homeopathy has shed upon them her potent rays in such a way as to disclose their deformities.

We claim this position for Homeopathy, then, believing it to be a demonstrable science, in the same category of anatomy, chemistry or astronomy. But against this claim a fierce opposition has been waged. Objections have been hurled against it as furiously as Jupiter's thunderbolts against the Romans. But Hercules could more easily defeat the army of the Amazons, than can these objections set aside the position which is claimed for Homeopathy.

The objections urged may appear right in the estimation of those who offer them, but a brief review of the principal ones may suffice to show the value of the whole. The most prominent ground taken by

our opponents is, that the practice of medicine is only an art that can never be based upon strict science and therefore that Homeopathy is no science, notwithstanding it claims to possess the true principle upon which a correct practice must be founded.

It is further urged that the art of healing has been handed down from Æsculapius and the Priesthood from whom it originated—that it was pruned by Hippocrates and rendered a conspicuous tree, which has been made to bear the choicest fruits by his successors until the present time: and that Hahnemann should favor the world by propounding a fixed law of remedial action entirely antagonistic, is impossible.

It is further maintained that the profession has existed for more than two thousand years previous to the birth of Hahnemann, a fact that renders it altogether improbable that he should have made a discovery calculated to fasten the conviction upon the world, that so little progress had been made in the healing art until his time.

It is urged still further, that a "law of cure," even if such an entity existed in nature, could not have remained so long in obscurity while mankind were so much in need of it.

In reply to these plausible objections, we would frankly admit that the practice of medicine is but an art—the art of administering remedies. And what can be to it a greater source of perfection than an unerring law of nature to guide in such administration? The art of practising medicine upon theories invented by the schoolmen and that based upon a principle in nature—fixed and immutable, are widely different. The latter cannot fail of producing good results, while the former may add violence to the pestilence that desolates the land. Hahnemann professed to discover a law of cure, which if accurately observed will ever prove a safe and certain guide in the choice of remedies. This law was no invention of that distinguished man, it was merely his discovery; and the fact that more than two thousand years had witnessed an existing profession without it, is no argument against. As well might we argue against that great discovery of Harvey—the circulation of the blood—which has produced a perfect revolution in the science of Physiology, because the profession had existed so long without the remotest idea of the fact, or as well might we object against the discovery of Jenner—the prophyladic power of vaccination—because the fact had so long slumbered, when the profession might have profited by a knowledge of it. It was not the most distinguished and aristocratic of the profession that first lent countenance to the sublime discovery of Harvey, neither was it the most

learned who first regarded Jenner's discovery with favor. The history of medicine assures us that it never has been usual for those who stood foremost in her ranks to bid God speed to new discoveries, and especially may this be said of those who have assumed the attitude of teachers and authors.

The arguments against Homeopathy, therefore, because it is new and fails to secure the favor of the most distinguished of the profession, may with as much propriety be urged against all other discoveries for in the outset all have suffered from a similar opposition.

More than two thousand years had rolled into eternity during the Israelitish epoch, when a silent meteor rose peacefully over the plains of Judea, announcing the coming of the Messiah. Was it the aristocracy or the men in authority, of that age, who pressed forward to welcome his coming? Was it the wise men of Jerusalem who recognized the validity of his mission? Was it the lawyers, the priests and the rabbis who flocked around his standard? These were the religious dignitaries of that age, and to them all eyes were directed, and when the evidences began to thicken that the Messiah had indeed come, when the multitudes thronged about him, wondering with hope and fear, the cry was, "have the rulers believed on him?" There was a proneness in that age, even as in the present, to follow after the existing authorities, rather than heed the intrinsic evidences of a new dispensation of truth.

We are often met with the grave inquiry, "if Homeopathy is true, why is it discarded by Dr. A., or Dr. B., Prof. C., or Prof. D.? Why should these men refuse to embrace or promulgate the doctrine, but instead thereof greet it with anathemas, sneers and odious epithets?" But a consideration like this weighs no more against Homeopathy, than the parallel course pursued by the doctors of the law, the priests and other authorities of the Roman Empire against the Christian religion.

It is a mistaken idea to suppose that those whom the world calls great and good, must necessarily show favor to whatever springs up of intrinsic value. The disciples of such an authority as Aristotle were not prone to greet Galileo with brotherly kindness, when he broached a new doctrine, based upon immutable laws, in contra distinction to the sentiments of their master.

It is common for the most distinguished men of the Allopathic profession to sustain the relation of authors, and, as a matter of course, authors expect to be looked upon as authorities, and it would be folly to expect such to embrace readily any doctrines adverse to those with

which they have become so prominently identified. We will illustrate by an example:

In this wide spread and growing country there are more than forty medical schools under the censorship of Allopathic physicians. Nearly three hundred Allopathic professors, all of whom may be regarded gentlemen of honor and talent, are connected with these schools, and at least one hundred and fifty of these men are authors. More than two hundred different text books are advertised and for sale by the booksellers, in which these gentlemen may be supposed to have an interest. All of these works were either written in delineation of Allopathic medicine, or with a bias in that direction. It may fairly be supposed (and the remark is not intended to be invidious) that many depend upon the reputation and sale of these works for their daily supply of bread. Now can it be supposed that such men will readily embrace Homeopathy. Will they even investigate the matter except with prejudiced minds, filled with foregone conclusions? and can minds in such a state embrace Homeopathy, even though it presents itself with well established claims for the highest consideration? Is it not rather to be expected that Homeopathy will be repudiated by such men, when it comes in conflict with their interests? Regarding the common frailties of human nature, we should as soon expect such authorities to straddle the rainbow and ride to the moon, as to embrace Homeopathy; on the contrary, we should expect them to clip the wings of their Pegasus and remain where they are.

It is also urged against Homeopathy, that it is no science, because it embraces within it but a single principle of cure; that it is of course inferior to Allopathy, because in this are embraced many principles of cure. At first view this objection may savor of some plausibility, yet it is without weight. In the first place, let it be understood that the principle of cure recognized by Homeopathy is believed to be a fixed law of nature, unchangeable, and co-existent with all the other laws of nature. When we speak of nature's laws,* we mean those inherent principles that determine the relation of cause and effect, and when we ask for a disclosure of them, we find written on nature's symbols that but one law exists for governing in a single purpose or end. There is but one law of gravitation and all terrestrial bodies are under its control. There is but one of repulsion and attraction, and moreover there is but one law that governs the origin of animal existence, and this reigns throughout the entire animal kingdom. The physiologist will tell

you that "*omni vivum ex ovo*," relates to beast, bird, fish and all, what no glass can reach, no eye can see."

Let it be asked, then, if all terrestrial bodies are drawn towards the centre of the earth in accordance with a single law? All the rivers, streams and streamlets seek a resting place in the mighty deep, by reason of a single law, and all animated beings derive their existence in accordance with a single law, why may not all medicines of every description be governed by a single law, in their curative action? We address this inquiry to the candid and reflecting.

"*Veritatis simplex oratio est.*"

That Allopathy possesses many laws of cure, is quite improbable, from the fact that the practice of medicine has ever been varying like the scenic representation of dissolving views. It has never been founded upon fixed laws, but upon devices of men; does it not, therefore, appear conclusive that one great natural truth is of more value than a thousand theories of human invention?

But the opponents of the Homeopathic school contend further, that *Similia Similibus Curantur* cannot be the law of cure, even if such an entity exists, because such a law is equivalent to that old saying of casting out devils through Beelzebub. But in this objection we perceive that our opponents totally misapprehend the question. *Idem eadem curantur* is adverse to the claims of Homeopathy. It is, in fact, Isopathy, which can never be regarded a principle of cure. The same virus or miasm that has produced a disease could only add fuel to the flame. It is not a remedy that produces the same effects as the disease that we would administer, but a remedy that is known to act upon the same localities as the disease, because it has been proved by trials upon persons in health, that it can travel in the same direction of the disease and although the symptoms, which the remedy produces when administered to a person in health, may be similar to those manifested by disease; the action may nevertheless be antagonistic. Ferrets may explore the same subterranean hiding places sought by rats and mice, but the former will exterminate or drive out the latter, and thus prevent their depredations. Yet it is known to the naturalist that both have similar movements and explore similar hiding places, but with a totally different purpose.

Since our opponents have chosen to illustrate our law by seeking an analogy from so grave a source as the Bible, and from the sayings of the wicked persecutors of the Saviour of the world, we will not hesi-

tate to attack them from the opposite position-point. Without any hesitation, therefore, though reverently, as touching so sacred a subject, we maintain most emphatically that *similia similibus* stands out prominently in the grand scheme of human redemption. Our Saviour vested himself in a human body, similar to ours. He took upon him a similar nature, was born in a similar manner and became subject to similar tribunals. He had similar afflictions and similar temptations as the beings whom he came to save, and, moreover, he walked and talked and was in all respects similar to man, and yet without sin. But, nevertheless, we behold in his mission that every act of his life was a successful warfare against those infernal powers that bound humanity in infernal servitude and chains. It was, moreover, by a perfect affiliation of his divine and human attributes, that he opened a way for man's successful escape from the dominion of evil. We submit this consideration as an offset to the argument of our opponents, and we would respectfully ask them, "if the principle of simile stands out so boldly in the mighty scheme of man's spiritual redemption, if it is not probable that his physical or bodily infirmities, which are but the outward symbols of his spiritual and moral degradation, are not to be met and overcome upon a similar principle. We fancy that the honorable opponents of Homeopathy will not believe themselves envied hereafter for uttering against it an objection which originated with the opponents of Christianity more than eighteen hundred years ago.

We are spared the necessity of going to the sacred oracles to prove that *similia similibus* is nature's law of curing every description of disease, for facts observed every day proclaim this to be the case, and we wish no better authority upon the subject than can be found among Allopathic writings, we will cite as follows:

Ipecacuanha will act as an emetic upon the stomach and produce the asthma by its secondary action upon the respiratory organs. Now, ipecac will be found a good remedy not only for sickness and nausea of the stomach, but for asthmatic difficulties, implicating the organs of respiration. (Jackson) Tart. Em. will cause a healthy man to vomit, and it is known to have a curative action upon persons afflicted with a disposition to vomit. Rheum will both produce and cure a diarrhœa. Senna will both produce and cure a colic. Mercury will both produce and cure affections of the liver and kidney. These examples are cited from Allopathic authorities, and we might swell the catalogue to an indefinite extent by searching among the records of medicinal action for an account of well defined instances of cure; for we should find on all, standing

out in bold relief, like apples of gold in pictures of silver—" *Similia Similibus Curantur.*"

We therefore regard this principle a law of nature and a law of cure; the only law that is necessary, because it is universal to remedies. In view of this we are willing to be styled *one idea men*, for the simple reason that it is preferable to act upon *one immutable principle*, that will give a certain relation to medicine and disease than to be whiffling about in the trial of uncertain methods, founded upon many different theories of arriving at the same result. To the law, then, we will appeal, at the risk of being styled men of but one idea, while our opponents may find themselves in the position of Ægean when he hurled his hundred rocks against Jupiter.

It is further urged against Homeopathy, that it excludes cathartics, emetics, revulsives, diaphoretics and expectorants, agents which the Allopathic physicians rely upon as being the most safe and effective means of ridding the system of disease. It is true that the general use of these agents is discarded by Homeopaths and the reason is, they do not find such agents necessary. The experienced Homeopathist wants no such agents with which to contend against disease, and the world has reason to fear the use of them more than the five infernal deities, and, moreover, the common instincts of humanity would lead us to shun them as we would the Fates and Furies of Hades. These agents are known to tax the vital powers, and if patients recover after having been subjected to their prostrating effects, they, as a general rule, may congratulate themselves upon having made a fortunate escape.

No one can observe the economy of the healthy system and fail to recognize the fact that nature forbids forcible evacuations of every kind. A state of nausea, or of sickness of the stomach, simply argues that the organ is striving to regain its normal condition, and that an emetic would only increase the irritation and still further depress the vital power. Thus, instead of administering one for the purpose of "*throwing off the bile,*" the physician should consult nature's wants, and administer for her recuperation, so that the contents of the stomach might be retained for the general good of the system. The constipated condition of the bowels simply indicates the absence of vitality in the intestinal tube, which a remedy properly addressed might remove, but a cathartic could only depress the vital power and ultimately increase the difficulty. The obvious fact that constipation returns with more violence after the use of cathartics, proves them to be of but little service in removing the difficulty.

We might institute similar remarks concerning diaphoretics, expectorants, &c., because these tax the vital powers beyond endurance, merely for the purpose of obtaining temporary good effects. How much better would it be to consult such remedies as will restore equilibrium to the vital forces, rather than such as produce violent perspirations and expectorations, the former of which exhausts the blood and reduces its capacity for supplying the necessities of the kingdom, while the latter saps from the fountain of respiration its essential vitality.

We may here allude to the probability that all these forcible measures to evacuate the system, when smitten with sickness, result from erroneous notions of disease. Those who look upon the derangement of the vital forces as identical with disease itself, will naturally seek for remedies capable of modifying or regulating them so as to obviate the derangement. But those who look upon disease as a demon, which, through the unfortunate curiosity of Pandora, was first let loose upon mankind, will be prone to believe that its lurking places must be somewhere in the *prima via*, and that forcible measures are necessary to expel the invading foe. Hence the proposition to open all the gate-ways, to convulse the stomach, drench the bowels, make an outlet for the crimson current, pass the victim through a purgatory of perspiration, fire up his kidneys and compel them into threefold labor, and then, forsooth, the demon of disease must depart, even if it takes with it the last vital spark that binds soul and body together. The phlebotomy and worm water of Dr. Sangrado gives but a reasonable portraiture of the practice founded upon this doctrine.

We hear it objected again, that Homeopathy is insufficient without counter irritant, issues, setons, sinapisms and blisters; but how much is this objection worth. Can a blister upon the scalp draw out an inflammation raging within the cranium! We might ask with equal propriety, if a fire must be enkindled upon the outside of a house in order to extinguish one that is burning within. Remedies, judiciously administered, supercede the necessity for these cruel agents. They are worse than useless, because they tax the vital energies and derange the whole system. The burning torches of the three furies of Prosperine, savor of less terror, and instead of this objection bringing Homeopathy into disrepute it will commend itself to all as being worthy of supplanting this worse than barberous practice.

The most common objection, urged with coarse and vulgar epithets, is that Homeopathy is a *quackery*, and should be written down as a rebellious foe to the healing art. Doct. WORTHINGTON HOOKER and others

have attempted to write it down. It is true that both Dr. Hooker and Dr. Simpson, of Edinburg, have proved as clear as day-light, what has never been disputed, "That Homeopathy is the antipode of Allopathy." But to write *quackery* upon Homeopathy on the mere assumption of these men—that whatever is not of their approval must bear this appellation—is much like the late assumption of the Good Bishop Horsley, who decided between what is orthodox and what is heterodox, in the following terms:

"My doxy is orthodoxy, which let any man dispute if he dare;
Any other man's doxy is heterodoxy, of which let him beware."

It is exceedingly difficult to find out the standard of orthodoxy in Allopathic medicine, for scarcely two physicians of that school agree upon what they may regard a timely application of sanitive measures. I might illustrate this remark by exhibiting the antagonism between Rush & Chapman, Hale & Jackson, Boulland & Louis, Morton & Stohl, and scores of others, all of whom have written works on practice. It is no wonder that Moliere should make one of his *dramatis personæ* say to another—"Call in a doctor, and if you do not like his prescription I'll soon find another to condemn it." Which, then, merits the written appellation of quackery: that which is based upon a law of nature, or that based upon the dictation of men, so varied in its character.

We have been met with what is believed by some to be a grave objection to Homeopathy—that her pharmacopia has no compounds. *All this is true*; first, because we cannot ascertain the action of a medicine unless we administer it by itself alone; secondly, because we can never determine the joint action of many, operating at the same time; and thirdly, we discard compounds because they are dangerous and uncertain agents. If we administer a single remedy that proves injurious we can administer an antidote; but the action of a compound, however injurious, places the practitioner in a dilemma because he is not certain which of the ingredients in the pernicious compound is working the mischief, and it is with no certainty that he can decide upon an antidote. Pernicious compounds are the vended nostrums of the day, and who would be unwilling to plead with trumpet tongue, that suffering humanity might be spared any further infliction from them.

The original compounding of different medicines unquestionable arose from ignorance, for if each had been tried singly upon persons in health, its specific virtues might have been ascertained, and no compounds could possibly have crept into our pharmacopia. Ignorance uniformly leads

to guessing, and no compound is ever made or administered upon any other principle. The Homeopathist therefore is led scientifically to the use of single remedies, because they are safe, certain and satisfactory. It will thus appear that to discard the principle of compounding different medicines together is no valid objection to Homeopathy.

The opponent of Homeopathy ridicule the idea of infinitesimal doses; they argue that medicines in such small quantities can do no good. We know that it is a common remark, that a medicine that wont injure wont cure, as if the good that a medicine can do must be measured by the injury that it can inflict. What absurdity! So it is necessary to make people sick in order to cure their diseases, or send them headlong into Tophet, in order to obtain the realms of bliss. Nonsense! If disease be derangement of the processes of health and life, it certainly seems reasonable that a cure can be effected by obviating the derangement, but it seems very unreasonable to suppose that the medicines must add serious derangement to that which already exist in order to effect a cure; a simple modification or change of condition being all that is required. When the animal system is deranged it is exceedingly impressible, and all the tissues are susceptible to the least impressions made upon them. It will be seen then, that when a medicine is given to one suffering from disease, that its effects will be upon highly inflamed or sensitive tissues, How natural and how reasonable it is under such circumstances to diminish the size of the doses, to suit the condition of the organism; and is it not manifest that a dose, otherwise inappreciable, may have a visible modifying effect, when this condition is present? If we inquire of nature, she answers, that the inappreciable miasmata will depress and derange the vital forces in susceptible persons, and why may not medicine, as inappreciable as the miasm, act upon the systems made impressible by disease. All nature is full of inappreciable influences, which, when wielded in accordance with certain laws, for the purpose of consummating certain effects, show the mightiest results. Electricity and magnetism are imponderable agencies, always present but never operative only in accordance with the condition and laws that govern their action. When such condition and laws are fulfilled, the rocks may be rent and time and space may be annihilated, by the influence of these imponderables. So it is with medicine; let it have its condition and law of action, and the size of the dose will hardly be a question. But, hold! we are met by another objection, that small doses are more dangerous than large ones, because they are more easily imbibed into the tissues, to work out

their destruction. But who ever saw an infinitesimal dose of mercury working its way into the system, so as to produce caries of the bones and ulceration and sloughing of the soft parts? Has not the massive dose accomplished even more than this? Who has not heard of the poisonous effects of opium or belladonna, when given in massive doses; and who is able to record any thing unfavorable of their infinitesimal action? I might pursue this subject further, but it is unnecessary—the objections vs. Homeopathy are too numerous to chronicle, and I must leave them to work out their own death. They come and go like migratory worms—Objections are made to suit every turn of life. Some have been furnished to suit each meridian: little doses will do no good, will suit one meridian; they are poisonous, will suit another; they fasten disease upon the patient, will do for another; and they only suffice for expectant treatment, will answer for another, and so on. On some occasions, however, for fear of offending certain friends, Homeopathy will be commended, if practiced by Allopathic prodigies of skill. But the most effectual method of replying to all their objections, is for Homeopathy to maintain her true position, without compromise, for she will yet slay the hydra of an hundred heads, as did Hercules the Dragon, when he carried away the golden apples in the gardens of the Hesperides. The time is evidently at hand when our position will cause the war of words to cease, for the Homeopathic school will yet accomplish her mission and plant the standard of truth far above her opponents; even as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, for the healing of the disease stricken members of the House of Israel.

B

INITIAL ANNUAL REPORT ON MEDICAL EDUCATION AND ORGANIZATION,

READ BEFORE THE

ILLINOIS STATE HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

HELD AT SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, JANUARY 14, 1857.

BY EDWARD A. GUILBERT, M. D., OF DUBUQUE, IOWA.

(Committee—E. A. GUILBERT, M. D.; D. A. COLTON, M. D.; R. B. CLARK, M. D.)

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Your committee, to whom was delegated the duty of submitting the Annual Report on Medical Education and Organization at this present annual convocation, have the pleasure to address you as follows:

The two important topics upon which we are required to report, and that, too, in brief space of time, are each of such enlarged significance and both are the prolific progenitors of so very many thoughts that the author hereof is much embarrassed in view of the mass of material that presented itself to his notice, and hence his only refuge from prolixity is to make but cursory mention of but one or two leading points in the first part of the present Report, which is devoted to the interesting and fruitful subject of MEDICAL EDUCATION. Your committee are happy to know that the question of still more thorough medical education is year by year gaining new importance, and receiving greater attention on part of the profession. Rapidly retiring from public notice is that hybrid race of medical men who were wont to proclaim with amusingly sublime self-complacency, that to practice the "healing art," under the light of the new medical dispensation, inaugurated by the MASTER—HAHNEMANN—creditably and most successfully, it was only requisite that the practitioner should have accurate knowledge of the *Materia Medica*, and of that *alone*. This class of men delighted to announce that the exact sciences Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology, etc., were totally unnecessary to be studied in order that success in practice might be attained unto; and they seemed to desire the lay public to believe with them, that medical skill was verily received in infancy, in common with other nutritious matters, from the bountiful lacteal fountains of the maternal organization, and thus that medical proficiency was simply a hereditary idiosyncrasy,

transmitted like disease from the parents, through the mother to the hopeful son! These individuals were ever prompt to ignore the necessity of medical colleges, the importance of medical associations, and they have ever been the most bitter opposers these twin sisters have been so unfortunate as to encounter in our ranks. Happily for the ultimate dominance of our benign Homeopathy, these lifeless excrescences upon our body-politic have now been lopped off, and freed from their "dead weight," the genius of our system stands more boldly forth, and having gathered to her vigorous embrace, thousands of highly educated and studious medical apostles, her clarion voice floats proudly over the land, cheering and winning others to follow her, as with eager footsteps she ascends Fame's steep acclivity, where an EXCELSIOR degree of professional learning shall entitle its fortunate possessor to a "just recompense of reward" from the hand of the Great Physician, "the Bishop and Shepherd of souls."

That greater interest than ever before pervades and animates the profession, with regard to a still higher standard of professional education, is abundantly witnessed in the increased support given our two very superior medical colleges, and in the enhanced and generous interest taken in their welfare by western Homeopaths, upon the broad prairies of whose flowery land the sternest battles of the cause have been, and are yet being nobly fought and won!

That the interest thus taken in these, *our own schools*, is really deserved, your committee are most happy to be aware. We speak from closest personal knowledge of the Faculty and course of instruction of the "WESTERN HOMEOPATHIC COLLEGE," when we say that the noble institution just named is second to no old school medical college in the country, in the value and completeness of its teachings; while the scientific and the practical character thereof are equalled by but *few*. The present year is veritably an era in its eventful history, and is so considered by all its friends, and by the enlarged class of highly intelligent young men who throng its halls this winter, who are enthusiastic in its praise, and who deeply appreciate and are competent to profit by the thorough and correct training they are receiving therein. The professional accessions recently had in the person of the accomplished ELLIS, and in that of the gallant BISSELL, have brought the older members of the Faculty—who are *all* "well-tryed, true and trusty" men—a pleasurable meed of support, and have given the college itself new reputation of the most creditable character. 07

Your committee are also glad to know, from reliable sources, that the able and efficient "PHILADELPHIA HOMEOPATHIC COLLEGE," is still adding to its already superior reputation; and that, this winter, it has the largest class of students it has ever before been permitted to welcome to its halls.

We hear rumors of changes in its Faculty, which are highly important ones, but which can hardly render more effective what before was so markedly efficient. By *one* professional resignation we western Homeopaths greatly profit. We allude to that of the well-known Prof. ALVIN E. SMALL, M. D., which was a sequence of his removal to

Chicago within the past few months. While we regret the *loss* the Philadelphia College must thus necessarily suffer we cannot but congratulate your honorable body because it shall hence greatly *gain* in that it may number this able gentleman among its own members.

We have still further proof than is found in the admitted capacity and the success of these two colleges that the cause of medical education is rapidly gaining ground, and this is found in the fact that the mind of the profession is directed toward the organization of still other Medical schools.

One of these it is proposed to commence in the city of New York, but as to what has really been done in the premises your committee are unable now to say. We believe, however, that owing to want of encouragement from the *N. Y. State Homeopathic Medical Association*, the movement has not yet received form and completeness. The other projected school has already been chartered,* and will be located in Chicago, a most appropriate place. Its being put into working order is only a question of time. The school will be started and it is proper that it should. The two gentlemen—having control of the matter, wisely deferring organization for a few short years, until the “Western College” shall be fairly upon its “sea legs,” and the number of students shall have so increased as that the hour for organization assuredly shall have come.

Your committee cannot forbear [commending the course of these gentlemen to those Homeopaths of the east, who are prematurely seeking to build up a rival of the “Philadelphia Homeopathic College.”

In concluding this portion of their report, your committee beg permission to remind the members of the profession, that all are recreant to the interests of Homeopathy, who encourage students to frequent old school medical colleges, where the course of instruction is inadequate, entirely, so far as concerns our own cherished system of practice, and where they meet with low-flung abuse of their opinions; and where the memory of him, beside whom the erring, “blind guides, leaders of the blind,” all and singular, are merest pigmies, is ever treated with the most unmanly and offensive ribaldry. Homeopaths should no longer subsidize these institutions; our own colleges are flourishing, ably-officered, and possessed of every requisite whereby medical knowledge may be thoroughly imparted to the earnest tyro. Is not then our duty plain? and should not our own noble institutions be more warmly and effectively supported than ever before? Such at least is the sincere and well-considered opinion of your committee.

In approaching now the consideration of the second part of our subject, your committee feel unqualified pleasure in being able to congratulate your association upon its present bright prospects of length of days, and of increased usefulness; and we desire here, once more, to record our high appreciation of its importance in the economy of the profession and of our loyalty to it. We also beg leave to reiterate our determina-

* By the Illinois Legislature, in 1853.

tion to do all that lies within *our* sphere of effort to further your interests which likewise are the interests of the most scientific system of the *ars medendi* now known to mankind.

Your committee are gratified in being enabled to report to your honorable body that the published proceedings of your initial annual meeting, which very generally have been distributed, have favorably been noticed and kindly been commended upon by the only Homeopathic medical periodical now published in the United States. We herein allude to the eminent NORTH AMERICAN HOMEOPATHIC QUARTERLY, through the columns of which able and indefatigable journal, your existence has been announced to kindred associations at home and abroad.

Within the year that has elapsed since the first meeting of your honorable body, your committee are not aware that any new medical organizations have sprung into active being, save only the "*Western Homeopathic Association*," which was organized at Indianapolis, Ia., on the 7th of May, 1856, by a convention of delegates from different North Western States, assembled for that purpose.

Ostensibly the objects of this body were the furtherance of Western College interests and the establishing of a well-edited Homeopathic Medical Journal for the whole north west portion of the profession. The manner in which this convention was called sufficed to create somewhat of discord, consequently but a few delegates were in attendance, the greater number of whom were from your own State, and albeit a very spirited meeting transpired; your committee are of the opinion that the effort will prove to have been an abortive one, and that the "*Western Homeopathic Association*" will quietly subside and "make no sign," so conflicting were the many interests that it was found necessary to conserve, and so extremely difficult was this conservation found to be. It is a matter of much regret to your committee that the call for the Indianapolis convention should not have been allowed to emanate *primarily* from the "ILL. STATE HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION," instead of from an apparently anonymous source, as, in the former event, your committee have every reason for the belief, that the meeting would largely have been attended and that good would have accrued to the cause therefrom. And then, too, the influential organization that would have been responsible for the call would materially have tended to secure pre-eminence for the new society; while thereby numerous annual accessions to its membership certainly would have been guaranteed.

One thing of value, however, was done at the Indianapolis meeting, viz: The Association, by an unanimous vote, suggested to the Faculty of the "*Western Homeopathic College*," at Cleveland, the names of three competent gentlemen as *Censors* thereof. In accordance with this suggestion that fine institution at once acknowledged A. O. BLAIR, M. D., of Ohio, G. W. CHITTENDEN, M. D.,* of Wis., and J. SILL, M. D. of Mich.,

* Owing to the prospective early retirement of Dr. Chittenden from practice, the vacancy thus occasioned in the Board of Censors, has been filled by the appointment of the estimable President of your honorable body. viz: by the appointment of D. S. SMITH, M. D.
E. A. G.

as Censors of the College, thus published their names, and also enacted that their concurrence should be essential to the graduation of students. In the opinion of your committee the college thus evinced a high regard for the wishes of the profession, as they were expressed through the "*Western Homeopathic Association*," the desire of which body seemed to be to give the whole profession, through several reliable agents, a negative voice in all accessions to our western medical army.

Your committee are happy to report that our sister association of the State—"THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION" is in a most healthful condition. This spirited organization has held *three* meetings during the present year, all of which were well attended, and were very interesting and instructive. The semi-annual meeting, holden in Elgin, Kane Co., on the 1st January, 1856, was a most brilliant affair, and was signalized by an address from our eminent Western orator, PROF. H. P. GATCHELL, M. D., of the Western College; and by a most elaborate dinner; reports of all which, largely filled the columns of the leading Chicago dailies of the time. We are gratified to know that the "Northern Illinois Association" receives, at each meeting new accessions to its numbers, and that it evidently has before it, in the shadowy future, a bright career, replete with usefulness.

Your committee are rejoiced to be informed, that steps will be taken, ere long, toward the organization of a *State Medical Society* in our sister state of Iowa; and we trust that our successors on this committee will be able, in *their* annual report, to announce definitely the veritable formation of such kindred Association.

Your committee are apprised, and are happy thus to report; that the "N. Y. STATE HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION" is in a most flourishing condition; but we regret that we are not in possession of the published proceedings of its annual meeting—holden some months since—as then we might herein have submitted extracts therefrom; showing forth the present state of the cause in yonder Empire Commonwealth of our Union.

Your committee—through the Recording Secretary of your honorable body—has *twice* caused copies of your published proceedings to be forwarded to the address of the widely-known secretary of the aforesaid Society, with the polite request that he would reciprocate, in order that a system of exchange might be established between the two bodies. No response was made to the request, however, the reason whereof being unknown to your committee. We hope that our successors in office will be more fortunate than we have been, in commending your honorable body to the notice of our New York official friends.

Your committee are gratified that they have it in their power to announce to your honorable body, that an active and most capable Homeopathic Medical Society exists in Canada West. We learn that there are between *thirty* and *forty* physicians of our school, apostles of the new medical dispensation, in that enterprising Province; and that, united together in the aforesaid society, they are doing great service in the advancement of the interests of our dear and hallowed cause. The

Canadian Association boasts of officers and members who are able and energetic, and a very creditable medical periodical is published under their auspices. Your committee are further informed, that some *twelve* students, from Canada West, are now in attendance upon the present sessions of the two United States Homeopathic Medical Colleges. This fact proves that the demand for more physicians of our school in that quarter of the Western Continent, is quite decided. Your committee are happy to be enabled—through the medium of the present report—to extend the “right hand of fellowship” to our Canadian brethren of the “household of the faith,” and to bid them hearty God-speed in their courageous, enlightened and successful endeavors to plant the standard of Homeopathy securely among the strongly conservative people who intervene between us and the hyperborean deserts that are far beyond.

Your committee desire to advert to the necessity that certainly now exists for the speedy origination of a scientific and well-conducted Western Homeopathic Medical Journal, as a means whereby may be conserved the various enlightened schemes of medical organization in the West; all of which we believe it to be the “bounden duty” of your honorable body, to foster tenderly, and to aid on to the goal of success. It seems that the hour is propitious, “the occasion fleeting,” and that the weight of responsibility is resting upon your association; hence your committee cannot forbear earnestly calling your attention to a matter that seems to us of such vital importance. If we be wise, we will not longer delay in this movement, but will enthusiastically obey the dictates of duty, resolving

“To take the instant
By the forward top, remembering that
On our quickest decrees th’ inaudible
And noiseless foot of time steals, ere we
Can effect them!”

Finally, your committee desire to announce to your honorable body that the next annual meeting of the “AMERICAN INSTITUTION OF HOMEOPATHY” will be holden in *Chicago* on the 3d of June *proximo*; and that the annual “address” will be delivered by Prof. J. S. DOUGLASS, M. D., of the WESTERN HOMEOPATHIC COLLEGE.” We are gratified thus to be informed, inasmuch as although somewhat *tardy*, the recognition of the fact that north western Homeopaths are a POWER in the profession, is none the less grateful, coming as it does from the most extended medical organization of our school on the continent. Your committee think they do not promise *too much* when they say that a right hearty “*sucker*” welcome shall be given this noble body on the occasion of its *first* visit to the great northwest country. We trust that our professional brethren of this and the adjoining States will rally in such numbers on the auspicious occasion, as shall suffice to make the coming meeting of the “*American Institute*,” the most brilliant one it has ever held.

All of which is respectively submitted.

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INITIAL ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MATERIA MEDICA, ON THE ATTENUATIONS OF HOM. REMEDIES, BY A. R. BARTLETT, M. D., AURORA, ILL.

(Committee—I. S. P. LORD, M. D.; M. SLOCUM, M. D.; A. R. BARTLETT, M. D.)

Posology constitutes the theme of my present inquiry—a theme often agitated but as yet unsettled. Out of the chaos of old physic we have struggled hard, and with many a death gasp haunting us. But we, as Homeopaths have struggled nobly; and now there is no denying our law for the selection of remedies. Must we of necessity stop here? Why may we not also find, or strive to find, a law of quantity? It is, to say the least, nobly worthy of an earnest effort. What shall be the size of the dose, is a question that must be practically answered by every conscientious physician in each clinic with which he has to deal. Men may sneer at this; and sneers are necessary to some men's comfort, but these never save the dying, and when we are done sneering, facts will again confront us. It is a fact that one man conquers a group of symptoms with the mother tincture of an appropriate drug; another man succeeds with the two hundredth potency of that drug which covers his group equally of morbid phenomena. And let us not be censorious if we fall upon or over some errors in our endeavor to find out why this is so, let us be charitably criticised if we do not see all truth in our efforts to discover a rule that may guide us in our future selection of doses.

The heroes of the old schools of medicine are not wholly unimpressible to the influence of infinitesimals. When the epidemic prevails, so as to stagger the confidence and thwart the skill of the antiquated infallibles, even they are ashamed any longer to charge this extraordinary disturbance of man's physical integrity to any of the perceptible, tangible or measurable elements of corruption with which the victim is surrounded. All this old sanctified nonsense is left to the quack, or hypothetical patent nostrum compounder.

None of the old clap-trap, of too much blood, or acrid secretions, or foul stomach, will now answer the demands of alarmed intellects. Straightway they are peering among the vapors and malarias, the gasses and imponderables, the polarities and odic forces, for the presence of that awful power which is defying their stupefying tinctures, their black doses and blue masses—their stoutest batteries of physic, and their enginery of leeches and blisters. In the honesty of desperation, their practice

concedes that infinitesimal forces may cause dangerous disorders. And we simply ask these gentlemen, if this be so, why may not as highly decimated curative agents, rightly selected, remove these products of morbid infinitesimal influence?

But I am permitted to address Homeopaths. We know that the virus which produces anthrax and perhaps influenza differs from the morbid cause of epidemic scarletina; and these again differ from those poisons that eventuate in the development of dysentery, or of cholera, of variola, or of morbill. We know this, not because these influences or substances are tangible to the eye, the touch, or to the most delicate chemical tests; but from the fact (to name but one) that either one of these epidemics usually opposes and is sometimes curative of the others. We know that a slight disturbance of the electric conditions of the atmosphere often precedes the extensive occurrence of catarrhs, anginas, and pneumonias. The air of an Allopathic typhus room is notoriously poisonous to the healthy human organism. All these *causa occasionalis* are very slight infinitesimal alterations or decompositions of certain otherwise healthy imponderables or gasses, which escape the keenest physical eye, and the skill of the most profound analyst. And from this point of cumulative study we often prove that there are natural and artificial infinitesimals, which may, when the conditions of subjective irritability obtain, be still further attenuated and yet retain imminently destructive power over the health of individuals. Why, then, may not attenuated medicine be efficacious of cure, if selected according to the law of similia, and with true reference to the susceptibilities of the sick organism? This bring us to an affirmation that small doses do cure their appropriate maladies—harmless doses of harmless drugs are curatively powerful—some of them are rendered powerful by the very process which makes them harmless. The reason why medicine cures is not because it is given by the quart, but because it possesses adaptation. The reason why medicine fails to cure is to be found in a faulty selection of the means employed, far oftener, than in the smallness of the dose.

I repeat that small doses and harmless medications do cure—harmless under any justifiable use of any drugs. Else what becomes of the tag-alder, nerveroot, capsicum, gelsemin, lupulin, wild cherry, and sumach, of the eclectics! or of the beech drops, black birch, flax seed, snakeroot, lettuce, parsnips, peaches, water cresses, slippery elm, and sorrel, of the botanists! or of the cranberries, blackberries, comfrey, sweet fern, fever bush, raspberry leaves, annis seed, piperine, cinnamon, catnip, gum arabic, sweet oil, horse radish, iceland moss, lemon juice, liquorice, milkweed, arrow root, mustard, sage, and hundreds of other substances in universal use and as universally approved and prescribed by the very men who are so boastful of their exploits in swallowing whole vials of harmless Homeopathic globules!

An author writing under the patronage of the eclectics, says of the gelsomin that it is capable of subduing in from six to twenty-four hours, "*without the least possible injury to the patient,*" the most formidable fevers in this country. Here is a reputedly *harmless medicine*; yet one

that is the best remedy for fever known to the American Chemical Institute, our very respectable anonymous author and B. Keith & Co., in particular. And not this alone, for these gentlemen recommend very small doses, say one-sixteenth to one-quarter of a grain, of this very harmless substance as being quite efficacious. With these facts before us, what is the consistency of these gentlemen good for, when they pretend to sneer at or disregard the attenuations of Homeopathy? Dr. Forbes Winslow approves of small doses of iodine, mercury, or digitalis, in effusion of serum in and around the brain. Dr. Williams seems to prefer hydrochlorate of morphia, over any other narcotic, in some forms of mania, and the reason which he alleges for this preference is, that its "stimulating properties are so slight as to be *scarcely perceptible*!" What is this but preferring the attenuated adaptation of the very force (narcotine) on which his chosen form of morphia is dependent for any merit it has against mental disorders! Professor Smith, of the revised "Botanic Physician," gives the following formulary: "One ounce of marsh rosemary; one pint of milk; dose, one table spoonful every two or three hours!" And this he calls "the best medicine he ever used in dysenteries!" Will his disciples pretend to believe there is half the inconsistency in the Homeopathist's attenuation of aloes, mercurius, ipecacuanha, or colocynth? Drs. Brigham and Benedict, formerly of the New York State Asylum, Dr. Hanbury Smith, of the Ohio Asylum, and Dr. Kirkbride, of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, found brandy punch to be successful in insanity—which means dilute or *attenuated brandy*! And, until now, these gentlemen have never lost caste among the antiquarian medicine men. They probably did not expect their confessions to go far from home. But we can furnish them with a plenty of good company. Even Prof. Thomas Watson, the present king of old physie, without whose magic of brilliant thought the old hag, "*contrarii contrarius curantur*," would be recognized only as a heap of stinking gangrene—even this Professor "at King's College, London," cured the strychnine opisthotonos by simple diluted brandy. Speaking of the treatment of intermittents, Prof. Watson says he is "in the habit of giving two grains of the sulphate of quina every four to six hours during the intermissions" of ague. And in this he has never "failed to stop an ague speedily." Half a page further on he writes—"I think it not improbable that my patients would have been cured quite as soon if I had given the remedy in half the strength." He also refers to Dr. Baker of Dublin, who has found small doses as effectual as large ones; and he adds, "this is likely to be the case with specific remedies." Why will not the disciples of these illustrious men follow the *confessions* of their masters, and give less heed to their popular impractical mass dose theories? Homeopathists are constantly proving that from one fifth to one hundredth of a grain of quinine at a dose, will cure every ague over which quinine possesses any curative powers. Let us, therefore, advance in our inquiry after some guide to the selection of *quantity*.

2. The true healing *power* of drugs lies in adaptation. The primary requisite is to select that remedy which will most perfectly cover the

symptoms. The quantity of a medicine will always be secondary to this. But, having made the best selection, the appropriate quantity or potency is attenuated in exact proportion to the completeness with which the symptoms of the drug fit the symptoms of the disease, and in proportion to the irritability of the organs to be acted upon. I insist on adapting the quantity to the irritability of the sick organism.

By such adaptation of the potency, that is, by running up the potency in proportion to the *irritability* of the disordered structures, and to the completeness of the pathogenesis of our medicinal instrumentality we secure the fact that we can safely increase the curative power of our remedy by repetition of doses; whereas we cannot derive any efficiency from large doses by rapidly repeating them. My notes remind me that the first stages of pneumonia or catarrhal fever, generally exhibit only a moderate irritability of the lungs, or of any other structures. There may be exceptions. While the second stage of croup or bronchitis have as generally confronted me with the most violent and alarming erethism, manifested in excessive restlessness, irritable activity of the nervous forces excitability of every tissue involved, and a rapid destruction that must be quickly met or never. And in accordance with the rule here hinted at, I have found satisfactory results in the use of the third potency of aconite half hourly to the pneumonia and fever, and the tenth or fifteenth potency of the same, every ten minutes, to the croup, or acute bronchitis. As to the exceptions above hinted at, if I have found the slow motions and susceptibilities of malarious influence, or the slack and unexcitable state of the excretory functions complicating with the pneumonia or fever, I have been obliged to resort to the first centesimal potency of my remedy; or, on the other hand, if I have found the pneumonia to exhibit very rapid respirations, causing a sharp piercing pain in the lungs or sides, inability to endure the slightest moral emotion, great sufferings, tendency to congestion, fainting fits, vertigo at every movement, fretful and restless, bloody sputa, or profuse frothy, stringy expectoration, I have given my aconite or stibiatum in thirtieth potencies and rapid repetitions. Of course, I expect that the reader will recognize in this last grouping of symptoms, my idea of a very irritable condition of the lungs. I hope to be able to furnish other examples before closing, of extreme erethism.

There are some substances, belonging to a reasonable materia medica, which have no curative, as they have no irritating power whatever, until they are attenuated. I may instance silex, anthrax, corallia, hepar s., lycopodium, arsenic and many of the metals, calcarea carb., and carbo vegetabilis. I have known healthy individuals who were in the habitual use of the two latter in large quantities and with apparent entire impunity. Evidently they had no irritability to these substances. The attenuation of these materials, therefore, is truly a *dynamizing* process; an increase of power or potency, always necessary in the treatment of those derangements of health to which they are adapted. And here again, adaptation will be found to consist in that potency which corres-

ponds to the irritability of the diseased and sympathizing structures upon which we wish to act.

A person can take a pint of sabina tea, when in health or having no conditions of secondary irritability; but not when threatened with abortion. Crude sepia may find hard work to impress the healthy; and yet the thirtieth potency of that drug may act with mighty effect upon a dangerous *menstruatio nimya*.

Borax may be used by mothers with but very little effect in a simple phlegmonous sore throat; but when that peculiar irritation exists which gives borax its power, then it must be used cautiously and in attenuated forms, and with careful reference to its pathogenesis.

Apples are quite healthy in most kinds of sickness; but in the sanguinous dysentery with great pain, tenesmus, and strong tendency to ulcerations, I have known a mild apple to be more inveterately poisonous than arsenic.

3. In endeavoring to ascertain a safe rule for the selection of high or low potencies, I suggest that much advantage may ensue to us, from a careful proving of our medicinal instrumentalities in their high attenuations, whenever we can find healthy subjects who are susceptible to distinct specific influence from the thirtieth or higher potencies. There are but few such persons, but such may be found.

I elaborate this idea as follows: I think I have experienced the demonstration that the low attenuations of arsenicum, for instance, will best cure those symptoms which group together similar to the symptoms produced by poisoning, from arsenic. And the two-hundredth potency of arsenic will most effectually control derangements similar to those which occur by aggravation from high potencies of the same substance, in sensitive subjects. My idea of a true *materia medica* would be partly this:—Obtain the pathogenesis of the highest influential potency upon the healthy sensitive; also, mark all unmistakable exacerbations in the irritable sick, and then faithfully compare the symptoms thus obtained with the symptoms belonging to the pathogenesis of mass doses. For a case involving *all* the symptoms common to all these trials, I should confidently employ very high potencies of the appropriate drug—say from the thirtieth to the two-hundredth; and when I found a grouping of symptoms corresponding only to the pathogenesis of the mass doses, I should prefer to commence with low potencies—say from the tincture to the sixth potency. And these two groupings of potencies I should vary according as I saw the irritancy to vary in the two sets of patients. Thus it will be seen that the law of potency is involved in a fair elaboration of our great law, "*similia similibus curantur*." And it is a consoling fact that when we strive for new light and thus gain a new practical thought, it ever brings us back along side of our great central idea. We have a few such provings as those I have hinted at, extracts from which will illustrate my meaning, and perhaps confirm my doctrine.

But I cannot quote, *seriatim*, from any of these. I will, for example, give a summary of proving of *cinnabaris*, as given by Metcalf, and I

hope the reader will examine the original at his leisure. These provings show the following singular facts:

The largest number of symptoms obtained from any one potency, was obtained from the thirtieth; thus showing the practicability of marking the pathogenesis of that potency; and of course presenting the curative sphere of that potency; and a careful study of that group of symptoms will give a fair type of the irritable condition of the physical organism. a fact I may mention in passing is, that while there were only four symptoms found in the trituration of ten to one, which were not found in the sixth trituration, there were twenty-four symptoms of the sixth that were not found in any other proving. Also, that there were only fifteen symptoms of the first potency which were not among the forty symptoms of the thirtieth.

Here, then, we have a fair proof that medicines are potentialized or dynamized by the process of attenuation of their particles. Nor am I very censurable [for my two general groups of potencies—making low potencies to be from the sixth downward, and the high to be from the thirtieth upward; for it has been seen that the morbid picture which is furnished by provings of the thirtieth, is quite distinct from that which strikes the mind in studying the symptoms of the sixth. And certainly, from such considerations, we may find a justification for using the high potencies in those cases and irritable systems which are impessible to such potencies.

And I again remark that it is desirable to have provings upon subjects who are susceptible to high potencies. I am confident it will show that the *similia* from high potencies upon the healthy will furnish a grouping of symptoms that may certainly exhibit the degree of irritability to which the high or low curative potencies must be applied.

4. Passing onward from these interesting facts, I may remark that there seems to be an exception to the above conclusions in the fact that a modifying influence upon diseased structures is found in the diet, habits, mentalities, &c., of each individual patient. Also, the same modifying causes bear upon the action of medicines. I admit that these are always to be taken into view by the physician. And it sometimes requires more than a lawyer's skill to draw out of a sick witness the confession of his hygienic wickedness.

It is so universal—even physicians are so addicted to sins of the appetite, and careless infringements of the rules they teach to others, that you cannot persuade your patient that you are serious when you ask what colors his teeth, or what beslimes his tongue, or what it is that that putrefies the breath. The majority of afflicted and suffering mankind deem it a sign of true penitence and a merit to make a clean breast of their transgressions against the church militant; they expect ease and spiritual health to follow a frank avowal of their religious wickedness, and therefore such confessions are frequent and exaggerated, even shocking and unasked. But these badly educated good people have no idea that the laws of their physical structure are as sacredly and as imperatively the laws of God, as are the words of the ancient decalogue;

that a man just as surely deserves and reaps perdition for violating the law, "Be temperate in all things," as he does for violating the law, "Thou shalt not steal." Indeed, I think it can be demonstrated to be as impious and as pernicious to others when a man trifles knowingly with the beauty and purity of the secreting and excreting organs of the human body—when a woman cramps and deforms the natural expansibility and processes of the "human shape divine"—when parents grow up their children in pampered violence of the simplicity of human wants—when nurses smother with narcotics those delicate modes of infant development which the Good Author of all designed should be directed and protected, but not drugged—as it is when any one of them trifles with the sacred name of Deity. The name of Deity is not more sacred than is the *image*, which He has impressed upon organic man—not more sacred than is the *will* of Deity manifested in the designs and offices of the human functions. If obedience to God is a cardinal virtue, mankind as yet are only half christianized—only half escaped from perdition. Hygiene is as sad a bore to the modern masses as the ancient sin offering was to the Gentiles. Hence, if you ask your patient if he chews tobacco, or if he takes snuff, or if he sucks opium, or is accustomed to keeping his mouth supplied with nutmeg, spice, cinnamon, cloves, cardamons, chalk, slate, or something else that may keep alive a morbid appetite, he thinks you are meddling with that which is none of your business; or if you forbid him the use of coffee, nutmegs, perfumes, &c., it is more than probable that he will secretly do as he pleases after you have left him. I am aware that even during the indulgence of some of these habits, the unhealthy organism may from various causes, known and unknown, be so irritable as to respond to the highest remedies, during the use of tobacco, for instance. But these are evidently rare cases and form no exception to my rule, inasmuch as they nevertheless demonstrate the very irritability on which I justify the selection of the high potencies.

As a general rule, however, tobacco, rum, aromatics, gluttony, filth and corrupt air, do contribute to such a state of things as to render it unsafe to rely on the high potencies. Such perversions antidote the purest and best effects of remedial agents;* they modify disease; they cause the vital energies to become anhylotic, atrophied, unsusceptible to delicate influences; and if such perversions cannot be removed they must be met by a force as low and tangible in its curative constitution, as these complications are low and tangible in their vitiating power. I believe, as a general thing, when we meet a low, coarse organism, living amidst low and vulgar habits and exposures, we must use low potencies; and then, from the starting point of low potencies, run them up towards the higher, according to the erethism that may be detected in such a sick patient. So, also, to persons badly nursed, poorly cared for, or

*A medical gentlemen recently informed me that in a case of excessive action of a high potency of mercurius solub., he promptly antidoted the said action by a few whiffs from a cigar. Now, can we not see that if he had wished to combat that group of symptoms with the mercurius sol., the tobacco smoke would have destroyed its effect?

where the nutritive processes are deficient, low potencies will most frequently be called for; though these may exhibit a degree of irritability and rapid development of morbid symptoms that will justify a resort to the higher preparations.

5. It will be seen, therefore, that I do not admit these to be exceptions to the rule or principle I have been advocating. For we do, in these cases, really exhibit our remedy by a potency that agrees to the irritability of the sick organism. Inasmuch as sickness under these coarse or perverting influences usually assumes a torpid, slow, unimpressive aspect, so, in my experience, the low potencies (say from the first to the third) come most into use under such circumstances. Then we certainly, in this, come back again to our starting point, the adaptation of our potency to the irritability of the organs that we wish to act upon. And that irritability can be safely estimated from the pathognomonic signs and from those external morbid influences and habits which make their unmistakeable marks upon the disease. If power lies in adaptation, then why does not the curative power of Homeopathic triturations lie in the adaptation of their quantity to the irritability of the diseased functions?

I believe we all confess to the importance of the most perfect solution of all the atoms of medicine, that is attainable. Now, what do we gain by this solution of medicines? Why do we dissolve medicines at all? The stomach analyzes or divides the particles, and probably dissolves them, as completely as we do by our chemistry and manipulations. But we act as if we could not thus obtain the effects we desire. If we could thus dispense with our triturations and succussions, if we could thus trust the stomach to do all this work of solution, the moderate dosing Allopath would so far be on an equality with our posology. But we are as proud of our method of escaping large doses, as we are of our law of cure. What do we gain by it? My answer would be that we gain more than my present duty or space permits me to argue. One thing we certainly gain is, a *development* of the powers of the drug. Say nothing now about any other power except that which is in internal affinity with the drug. Say only the least that must be admitted, if we believe that *any* good comes from solution and trituration—we accomplish the development of certain latent curative energies of the drug, certain adaptations, which are very important to our success. Then it follows that there is such a thing as potentializing a drug, in the processes that are necessary to adapt it to the success for which we have selected it. And it also follows that we do as perfectly potentialize the remedy when we raise it properly to the second or third attenuation for the cure of slow, tedious, long operating, unimpressive encroachments upon the life principle, or of alterations of the least important tissues of the body; as we do when we raise the drug to the thirtieth or two-hundredth, in successful combat with those diseases that threaten a rapid destruction of the delicate and most vitalized tissues.

We will therefore conclude by a brief summary of the points to which our present inquiry has led us:

First:—The question of potency is subordinate to the grand law of selection and cure—“*similia similibus curantur.*” The quantity may in part be foreshadowed by the same law which guides to the kind, and with a degree of safety and satisfaction not obtainable from any other principle yet discovered. If, for instance, somnolence, stupor, lethargy calls for belladonna, other symptoms corresponding, may we not as scientifically infer the high or low potency from the degree of physical or nervous excitability, or of torpor, characterizing the whole ensemble of morbid traits? Surely, if we faithfully familiarize our minds with all the possible bearings of a true and complete pathogenesis, we may then find the germ of a law of potencies.

Second:—Homeopaths know that some drugs are almost, and others quite inert in their crude form, which nevertheless do possess a hidden power that may be rendered benignly available under our law, and by our processes. From this point of view we are safe in saying that it is as philosophical as it is essential that the greatest possible curative action should be involved in the least possible violence to the human vitality.

Third:—Excitable persons are most liable to the excesses of drug action; and excited irritabilities contract diseases from more refined causes than do the unexcited. We expect, therefore, that the irritability of diseased conditions can be removed—can be curatively excited—by less drug excitement than would be necessary to irritate the healthy. Hence the propriety of proving drugs upon the healthy in the high potencies as well as in the low, and of comparing the results of the two.

Fourth:—Adaptation is power. A drug may possess a mighty mischief; it may mar, paralyze and kill; it may do worse; it may inflict a living death, as tens of thousands can testify; and this is the force which the heroics call power—their power it may be. Of this the Allopathists indirectly boast, when they cantingly whine because our remedies “do no harm.” We do not wish to do harm; and we cheerfully and truthfully concede to them all of that kind of glory, if such covet.

Our mission is to do good; and in pursuance hereof, we have found that every instrumentality does mischief just in proportion as it lacks adaptation to the receptivities and uses for which it was made or designed; we have found that every instrumentality performs its mission without harming just in proportion as it is adapted to a proper and justifiable use. Thereby we claim to say that the true power of medicine consists in its adaption by selection, by preparation, by harmony of operation, by quantity and by repetition, to the cure of the diseases to which it has been opposed.

Fifth:—As the symptoms of susceptibility to drug action in the healthy, furnish an infallible indication of the curative sphere of that drug in the sick; so will the irritability of the sick, or of the unhealthy tissues, or the degree of irritating force with which disease manifests itself, determine the degree in which the curative potency

will be found. Diseases which depend upon and find their danger in excessive excitement of the organic action—even exhausted vitalities which are truly traceable to a preceding unnatural excitation (*status sthenicus*) justify the use of the high potencies. Diseases and dangers which depend upon low vitalities or even exhausted vitalities which originated in lack of organic action, or in obstruction of the proper reciprocities of organic action, (*diathesis asthenicus*) are to be met by the low potencies. We can commit no serious wrong in our efforts to adapt the *degree* of high or low, to the degree of each symptomatic denomination.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D

CONSTITUTION.

PREAMBLE.

The undersigned, Homeopathic Practitioners of Medicine, residing in the State of Illinois, believing that "in union there is strength," that organization is essential to the promulgation and advancement of any object or science, do hereby form ourselves into an ASSOCIATION, agreeing to be governed by the following Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE 1st. This Association shall be known and designated by the name of "THE ILLINOIS STATE HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION."

ART. 2nd. The Association shall be composed of all such accredited Homeopathic Physicians as may have been members of the organizing convention, and of all such as may thereafter be duly elected and installed members thereof.

ART. 3rd. The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, three Vice Presidents, a Corresponding and a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer and a Board of Censors, consisting of five members, who shall be elected at the conclusion of the Annual meeting in each and every year.

ART. 4th. The qualifications for membership in this Association shall be as follows, viz: The candidate must have the degree of Doctor in Medicine, from some organized Medical School; or, failing in this, he must pass a satisfactory examination before the Board of Censors, and be recommended for membership by them. He must, at the same time be a man of good moral character; and must have been *proposed* for membership in writing by a member of the Association.

ART. 5th. There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Association, which shall be holden on the *first Wednesday of December*, in each and every year, at such place within the State as the Association may have designated at a previous meeting. It being understood that the Association, by an unanimous vote, whenever occasion seems to justify such action, may change the day of meeting for one session of the Association, but not more.

ART. 6. There shall be a *Bureau* for the *Proving* of remedies, consisting of five members, whose duty shall be to select two remedies for proof in each and every year—reporting in writing the result of their provings at each Annual Meeting—the remedies to be proven being selected by the Chairman of the Bureau, his duty being to announce the

names thereof to each member of the Bureau in writing, and to exercise a careful supervision over the details of the endeavor.

ART. 8th. There shall be five Standing Committees, each to be composed of three members, viz:

- 1st. A Committee on Medical Education and Organization
- 2nd. A Committee on Endemic and Epidemic Diseases of Illinois.
- 3rd. A Committee on Materia Medica.
- 4th. A Committee on Physiology and Pathology.
- 5th. A Committee on Topical Applications.

Whose duty it shall be to make annual written reports upon these specialities, at each annual meeting of the Association.

ART. 9th. This Constitution, in all or in part, may be altered, or amended, or annulled, at any regular Annual Meeting of the Association, provided, that such alteration, amendment, or motion for annulment, shall have been submitted in writing at a previous annual meeting, and notice thereof given to each member, but not then unless a majority of the members present shall vote in favor of such alteration, amendment, or motion for annulment.

E

B Y - L A W S .

SEC. 1st. It shall be the duty of each member of the Association to pay into the Treasury, previous to signing the Constitution and these By-Laws which action constitutes his installation into membership, the sum of *two dollars*, as an initiation fee; and the further sum of *two dollars* per year, payable on the first day of each and every session of the Association.

SEC. 2nd It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Association, and to preserve order in all its proceedings, having as the guide in the government thereof, the usual parliamentary rules which prevail in deliberative assemblies. It shall be his duty, further, to sign all orders authorized by the Association, and to deliver an address on the occasion of his retiring from office, or to procure a substitute for that purpose.

SEC. 3rd. It shall be the duty of the Vice Presidents to assist the President in the preservation of order. In case of the absence of the President, the first Vice President shall preside. When both these offi-

cers are absent, the second Vice President shall perform that duty. Should neither one of these be present, the duties of the Presidency shall devolve upon the third Vice president. In the event of the absence of these four officers, the Association shall have power to select a temporary President from among the members present.

SEC. 4th. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to conduct the correspondence of the Association—to give notice to members of the time and place of each Annual Meeting of this Body, and to perform such other duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the Association.

SEC. 5th. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep accurate minutes of all the meetings of the Association in a book procured for that purpose—to keep accurate accounts between the Association and its members—to draw and attest all orders authorized by the Association and signed by the President—in connection with the President to sign all certificates of membership, and to perform such other duties as may from time to time be required of him by the Association.

SEC. 6th. It shall be duty of the Treasurer to receive from the Secretary all moneys paid into the Association—to keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements—to pay all orders authorized by the Association, and to make a report in writing as to the financial affairs of the Association at each Annual meeting thereof.

SEC. 7th. The order of business shall be as follows:

- 1st. The Association to be called to order by the presiding officer.
- 2nd. Prayer.
- 3rd. Reports of Committees.
- 4th. Applications for Membership.
- 5th. Report of Censors.
- 6th. Election of Candidates to Membership.
- 7th. Miscellaneous Business, Resolutions and Discussions.
- 8th. Report of Treasurer.
- 9th. New and Unfinished Business.
- [10th. Reading and Approval of Minutes.
- 11th. Adjournment.

SEC. 8th. The Association shall have power to punish any infraction of the Code of Medical Ethics, by reprimand, suspension, or expulsion, as a two-thirds vote of all the members present at an Annual Meeting shall determine, provided, that the member against whom charges have been presented, shall first have had a fair and impartial trial at a regular meeting of the Association. All charges against members shall be presented in writing, a copy of which shall be given the accused, who shall be cited, in writing, by the Recording Secretary, to appear at a regular meeting to answer the same.

SEC. 9th. The place of meeting shall be such as the Association may select. The hour for meeting shall be 10 A. M., on the day appointed—arrangements for the meeting being made by a committee for that purpose by the President.

F

CODE OF ETHICS.*

ART. I.—DUTIES FOR THE SUPPORT OF PROFESSIONAL CHARACTER.

§ 1. Every individual, on entering the profession, as he becomes thereby entitled to all its privileges and immunities, incurs an obligation to exert his best abilities to maintain its dignity and honor, to exalt its standing, and to extend the bounds of its usefulness. He should, therefore, observe strictly such laws as are instituted for the government of its members; should avoid all contumelious and sarcastic remarks relative to the faculty as a body; and while, by unwearied diligence, he resorts to every honorable means of enriching the science, he should entertain a due respect for his seniors, who have, by their labors, brought it to the elevated condition in which he finds it.

§ 2. There is no profession, from the members of which greater purity of character, and a higher standard of moral excellence are required, than the medical; and to attain such eminence, is a duty every physician owes, alike to his profession and to his patients. It is due to the latter, as without it he cannot command their respect and confidence and to both, because no scientific attainments can compensate for the want of correct moral principles. It is also incumbent upon the faculty to be temperate in all things; for the practice of physic requires the unremitting exercise of a clear and vigorous understanding; and on emergencies, for which no professional man should be unprepared, a steady hand, an acute eye, an unclouded head, may be essential to the well-being, and even to the life of a fellow creature.

§ 3. It is derogatory to the dignity of the profession to resort to public advertisements, or private cards, or handbills, inviting the attention of individuals affected with particular diseases—publicly offering advice and medicine to the poor, gratis, or promising radical cures; or to publish cases and operations in the daily prints, or suffer such publications to be made; to invite laymen to be present at operations, to boast of cures and remedies, to adduce certificates of skill and success,

* It has been suggested by one or two members of the Association that the following CODE OF ETHICS should be condensed for publication. Upon examination, the Secretary finds this not possible without destroying the sense of the admirable document in question—for whose excellencies the gentle and scholarly PERCIVAL deserves the credit that, in some quarters, has been ascribed to the "Ethics Committee of the American Medical Association," and which they themselves expressly disclaimed at the time they reported the CODE to that august body. E. A. G.

or to perform any other similar acts. These are the ordinary practices of empirics, and are highly reprehensible in a regular physician.

§ 4. Equally derogatory to professional character is it for a physician to hold a patent for any surgical instrument or medicine, or to dispense a secret *nostrum*, whether it be the composition or exclusive property of himself or of others. For, if such nostrum be of any efficacy, any concealment regarding it is inconsistent with beneficence and professional liberality; and, if mystery alone give it value and importance, such craft implies either disgraceful ignorance or fraudulent avarice. It is also reprehensible for physicians to give certificates attesting the efficacy of patent or secret medicines, or in any way to promote the use of them.

ART. II.—PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF PHYSICIANS TO EACH OTHER.

§ 1. All practitioners of medicine, their wives and their children, while under the paternal care, are entitled to the gratuitous services of any one or more of the faculty residing near them, whose assistance may be desired. A physician afflicted with disease is usually an incompetent judge of his own case; and the natural anxiety and solicitude which he experiences at the sickness of a wife, a child, or any one, who, by the ties of consanguinity, is rendered peculiarly dear to him, tend to obscure his judgment, and produce timidity and irresolution in his practice. Under such circumstances medical men are peculiarly dependent upon each other, and kind offices and professional aid should always be cheerfully and gratuitously afforded. Visits ought not, however, to be obtruded officiously—as such unasked civility may give rise to embarrassment, or interfere with that choice on which confidence depends. But, if a distant member of the faculty, whose circumstances are affluent, request attendance, and an honorarium be offered, it should not be declined; for no pecuniary obligation ought to be imposed which the party receiving it would wish not to incur.

ART. III.—OF THE DUTIES OF PHYSICIANS AS RESPECTS VICARIOUS OFFICES.

§ 1. The affairs of life, the pursuit of health, and the various accidents and contingencies to which a medical man is peculiarly exposed, sometimes require him temporarily to withdraw from his duties to his patients, and to request some of his professional brethren to officiate for him. Compliance with this request is an act of courtesy, which should always be performed with the utmost consideration for the interest and character of the family physician, and when exercised for a short period all the pecuniary obligations for such service should be awarded to him. But if a member of the profession neglect his business in quest of pleasure and amusement, he cannot be considered as entitled to the advantages of the frequent and long continued exercise of this fraternal courtesy, without awarding to the physician who officiates the fees arising from the discharge of his professional duties. In obstetrical and important surgical cases, which give rise to unusual fatigue, anxiety and responsi-

bility, it is just that the fees accruing therefrom should be awarded to the physician who officiates.

ART. IV.—OF THE DUTIES OF PHYSICIANS IN REGARD TO CONSULTATIONS.

§ 1. A regular medical education furnishes the only presumptive evidence of professional abilities and acquirements, and ought to be the only acknowledged right of an individual to the exercise and honors of his profession. Nevertheless, as in consultations the good of the patient is the sole object in view, and this is often dependent on personal confidence, no intelligent regular practitioner, who has a license to practice from some medical board of known and acknowledged respectability, recognized by this association, and who is in good moral and professional standing in the place in which he resides, should be fastidiously excluded from fellowship, or his aid refused in consultation, when it is requested by the patient. But no one can be considered a regular practitioner, or a fit associate in consultation, who habitually places himself in an antagonistic attitude toward this and kindred associations, and who, having means and opportunity, will not avail himself of the manifold advantages offered by established medical schools.

§ 2. In consultations no rivalry or jealousy should be indulged; candor, probity, and all due respect should be exercised towards the physician having charge of the case.

§ 3. In consultations the attending physician should be the first to propose the necessary questions to the sick; after which the consulting physician should have the opportunity to make such further inquiries of the patient as may be necessary to satisfy him of the true character of the case. Both physicians should then retire to a private place for deliberation; and the one first in attendance should communicate the directions agreed upon to the patient or his friends, as well as any opinions which it may be thought proper to express. But no statement or discussion of it should take place before the patient or his friends, except in the presence of all the faculty attending, and with their common consent; and no *opinions* or *prognostications* should be delivered, which are not the result of previous deliberation and concurrence.

§ 4. In consultations, the physician in attendance should deliver his opinion first; and when there are several consulting they should deliver their opinions in the order in which they have been called in. No decision, however, should restrain the attending physician from making such variations in the mode of treatment as any subsequent unexpected change in the character of the case may demand. But such variation, and the reasons for it ought to be carefully detailed at the next meeting in consultation. The same privilege belongs also to the consulting physician if he is sent for in an emergency, when the regular attendant is out of the way, and similar explanations must be made by him at the next consultation.

§ 5. The utmost punctuality should be observed in the visits of physicians when they are to hold consultation together, and this is generally practicable, for society has been considerate enough to allow the

plea of a professional engagement to take precedence of all others, and to be an ample reason for the relinquishment of any present occupation. But, as professional engagements may sometimes interfere and delay one of the parties, the physician who first arrives should wait for his associate a reasonable period, after which the consultation should be considered as postponed to a new appointment. If it be the attending physician who is present, he will of course see the patient and prescribe; but if it be the consulting one, he should retire, except in cases of emergency, or when he has been called from a considerable distance, in which latter case he may examine the patient, and give his opinion in *writing* and *under seal*, to be delivered to his associate.

§ 6. In consultations, theoretical discussions should be avoided, as occasioning perplexity and loss of time; for there may be much diversity of opinion concerning speculative points, with perfect agreement in that mode of practice which is founded, not on hypothesis, but on experience and observation.

§ 7. All discussions in consultation should be held as secret and confidential. Neither by words nor manner should any of the parties to a consultation assert or insinuate that any part of the treatment pursued did not receive his assent. The responsibility must be equally divided between the medical attendants—they must equally share the credit of success as well as the blame of failure.

§ 8. Should an irreconcilable diversity of opinion occur when several physicians are called upon to consult together, the opinion of the majority should be considered as decisive; but if the numbers be equal on both sides, then the decision should rest with the attending physician. It may, moreover, sometimes happen that two physicians cannot agree in their views of the nature of a case and the treatment to be pursued. This is a circumstance much to be deplored, and should always be avoided, if possible, by mutual concessions, as far as they can be justified by a conscientious regard for the dictates of judgment. But in the event of its occurrence, a third physician should, if practicable, be called to act as umpire; and, if circumstances prevent the adoption of this course, it must be left to the patient to select the physician in whom he is most willing to confide. But, as every physician relies upon the rectitude of his judgment, he should, when left in a minority, politely and consistently retire from any further deliberation in the consultation, or participation in the management of the case.

§ 9. As circumstances sometimes occur to render a *special consultation* desirable, when the continued attendance of two physicians might be objectionable to the patient, the member of the faculty whose assistance is required in such cases, should sedulously guard against all future unsolicited attendance. As such consultations require an extraordinary portion both of time and attention, at least a double honorarium may be reasonably expected.

§ 10. A physician who is called upon to consult, should observe the most honorable and scrupulous regard for the character and standing of the practitioner in attendance; the practice of the latter, if necessary,

should be justified as far as it can be, consistently with a conscientious regard for truth, and no hint or insinuation should be thrown out which could impair the confidence reposed in him or affect his reputation. The consulting physician should also carefully refrain from any of those extraordinary attentions or assiduities which are too often practised by the dishonest for the base purpose of gaining applause, or ingratiating themselves into the favor of families and individuals.

ART. V.—DUTIES OF PHYSICIANS IN CASES OF INTERFERENCE.

§ 1. Medicine is a liberal profession and those admitted into its ranks should found their expectations of practice upon the extent of their qualifications, not on intrigue or artifice.

§ 2. A physician, in his intercourse with a patient under the care of another practitioner, should observe the strictest caution and reserve. No meddling inquiries should be made—no disingenuous hints given relative to the nature and treatment of his disorder; nor any course of conduct pursued that may directly or indirectly tend to diminish the trust reposed in the physician employed.

§ 3. The same circumspection and reserve should be observed when, from motives of business or friendship, a physician is prompted to visit an individual who is under the direction of another practitioner. Indeed, such visits should be avoided, except under peculiar circumstances; and when they are made, no particular inquiries should be instituted relative to the nature of the disease, or the remedies employed, but the topics of conversation should be as foreign to the case as circumstances will admit.

§ 4. A physician ought not to take charge of, or prescribe for a patient who has recently been under the care of another member of the faculty in the same illness, except in cases of sudden emergency, or in consultation with the physician previously in attendance, or when the latter has relinquished the case, or been regularly notified that his services are no longer desired. Under such circumstances no unjust and illiberal insinuations should be thrown out in relation to the conduct or practice previously pursued, which should be justified as far as candor and regard for truth and probity will permit; for it often happens that patients become dissatisfied when they do not experience immediate relief, and as many diseases are naturally protracted; the want of success, in the first stage of treatment, affords no evidence of a lack of professional knowledge and skill.

§ 5. When a physician is called to an urgent case, because the family attendant is not at hand, he ought, unless his assistance in consultation be desired, to resign the care of the patient to the latter immediately on his arrival.

§ 6. It often happens, in cases of sudden illness, or of recent accidents and injuries, owing to the alarm and anxiety of friends, that a number of physicians are simultaneously sent for. Under these circumstances, courtesy should assign the patient to the first who arrives, who should select from those present any additional assistance that he may deem nec-

essary. In all such cases, however, the practitioner who officiates should request the family physician, if there be one, to be called, and, unless his further attendance be requested, should resign the case to the latter on his arrival.

§ 7. When a physician is called to the patient of another practitioner, in consequence of the sickness or absence of the latter, he ought, on the return or recovery of the regular attendant, and with the consent of the patient, to surrender the case.

§ 8. A physician, when visiting a sick person in the country, may be desired to see a neighboring patient who is under the regular direction of another physician, in consequence of some sudden change or aggravation of symptoms. The conduct to be pursued on such an occasion is to give advice adapted to present circumstances; to interfere no further than is absolutely necessary with the general plan of treatment; to assume no further directions, unless it be expressly desired; and, in this last case, to request an immediate consultation with the practitioner previously employed.

§ 9. A wealthy physician should not give advice *gratis* to the affluent; because his doing so is an injury to his professional brethren. The office of a physician can never be supported as an exclusively beneficent one; and it is defrauding, in some degree, the common funds for its support, when fees are dispensed with which might justly be claimed.

§ 10. When a physician who has been engaged to attend a case of midwifery is absent, and another is sent for, if delivery is accomplished during the attendance of the latter, he is entitled to the fee, but should resign the patient to the practitioner first engaged.

ART. VI.—OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PHYSICIANS.

§ 1. Diversity of opinion, and opposition of interests may, in the medical as in other professions, sometimes occasion controversy and even contention. Whenever such cases unfortunately occur, and can not be immediately terminated, they should be referred to the arbitration of a sufficient number of physicians, or a *court-medical*.

§ 2. As peculiar reserve must be maintained by physicians towards the public, in regard to professional matters, and as there exist numerous points in medical ethics and etiquette through which the feelings of medical men may be painfully assailed in their intercourse with each other, and which cannot be understood or appreciated by general society, neither the subject matter of such differences nor the adjudication of the arbitrators should be made public, as publicity in a case of this nature may be personally injurious to the individuals concerned, and can hardly fail to bring discredit upon the faculty.

ART. VII.—OF PECUNIARY ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Some general rules should be adopted by the faculty in every town or district, relative to *pecuniary acknowledgments* from their patients; and it should be deemed a point of honor to adhere to these rules with as much uniformity as varying circumstances will admit.

G

NAMES OF MEMBERS.

EDWARD A. GUILBERT,	-	-	-	-	-	Dubuque, Iowa.
D. S. SMITH,	-	-	-	-	-	Waukegan, Ill.
D. A. COLTON,	-	-	-	-	-	Chicago, "
R. LUDLAM,	-	-	-	-	-	" "
M. SLOCUM,	-	-	-	-	-	" "
GEO. E. SHIPMAN,	-	-	-	-	-	" "
L. A. DOUGLASS,	-	-	-	-	-	" "
H. K. W. BOARDMAN	-	-	-	-	-	" "
LEONARD PRATT,	-	-	-	-	-	Rock Creek, Carroll Co., "
THEODORE J. WEED,	-	-	-	-	-	Bloomington, "
JAMES MELROSE,	-	-	-	-	-	Canton, "
AARON P. HOLT,	-	-	-	-	-	Lyndon, "
H. C. FOOTE,	-	-	-	-	-	Galesburg, "
L. E. OBER,	-	-	-	-	-	Moline, "
CHAS. DAVIS,	-	-	-	-	-	Henry "
A. R. BARTLETT,	-	-	-	-	-	Aurora, "
MCCANN DUNN,	-	-	-	-	-	Bloomington, "
J. M. EVANS,	-	-	-	-	-	Farmington, "
R. B. CLARK,	-	-	-	-	-	Rockford, "
O. A. GOODHUE,	-	-	-	-	-	" "
W. C. ANTHONY,	-	-	-	-	-	Princeton, "
D. A. CHEEVER,	-	-	-	-	-	Pekin, "
N. F. PRENTICE,	-	-	-	-	-	Freeport, "
S. B. WILLIAMS,	-	-	-	-	-	" "
R. E. W. ADAMS,	-	-	-	-	-	Springfield, "
JOSEPH SCOTFIELD,	-	-	-	-	-	Viola, Mercer Co., "
C. A. JAEGER,	-	-	-	-	-	Elgin, "
MOSES TROYER,	-	-	-	-	-	Peoria, "
M. S. CARR,	-	-	-	-	-	" "
D. C. KEYES,	-	-	-	-	-	" "
I. S. P. LORD,	-	-	-	-	-	Batavia, "
J. B. JONES,	-	-	-	-	-	Belvidere, "
E. H. CLAPP,	-	-	-	-	-	Rome, "
R. COOLEY,	-	-	-	-	-	Marengo, "
P. L. HATCH,	-	-	-	-	-	Dubuque, Iowa.
M. M. L. REED,	-	-	-	-	-	Jacksonville, Ill.
G. Y. SHIRLEY,	-	-	-	-	-	" "
J. H. SHEARER,	-	-	-	-	-	Springfield, "
JOSHUA THORNE,	-	-	-	-	-	" "
L. C. BELDING,	-	-	-	-	-	Polo, "
ALVAN E. SMALL,	-	-	-	-	-	Chicago, "