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A SKETCH
OF
HOMŒOPATHY,
OR
THE SYSTEM OF MEDICAL TREATMENT,
WITH SPECIFIC REMEDIES IN ALL CASES.

BY

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ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH.

THIRD EDITION REVISED.

"Diseases may be cured permanently, quickly and gently, by minute doses of substances, capable of producing in a healthy person symptoms similar to those of the disease."—HAHNEMANN.

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NOTICE.

WITH a view to propagate the science of Homœopathy, some friends suggested the publication of a short and very cheap work, illustrative of its principles.

To accomplish that object, these few pages have been compiled, which profess merely to give an idea of the science, and to point out to the enquirer for further instruction, the larger works on the subject. The Author, aware of many defects that might be detected in his writing, begs to inform the candid reader that it comes from a foreigner, who is but imperfectly acquainted with the English language and idiom.

S. C. DAVIDS, M.D.

Manchester, November, 1842.

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SKETCH OF HOMŒOPATHY, &c.

I.—HOMŒOPATHY is a system of medicine founded on an extensive induction of facts, and on experiments made with patient and anxious enquiry. The data have been obtained, first, from recorded effects of known poisons; second, from those of medicinal substances taken in sufficient doses by healthy persons, willing, for the advancement of medical science, to submit to the consequent sufferings; and lastly, from the ascertained curative effects of those substances, administered during disease. Its name is derived from the Greek adjective homœopathes, and implies a similarity of symptoms or affections.* It is so named, because it professes to cure diseases by such medicines as will (if given in sufficiently large doses) produce in a healthy person an artificial disease *similar* to the natural malady, according to a law, which is thus expressed by its venerable discoverer, Dr. Samuel Hahnemann,—SIMILIA SIMILIBUS CURANTUR," or, *Like cures Like*.

II.—This eminent physician and philosopher, a native of Germany, early in life exhibited the marks of a genius.

*The word occurs twice in the Greek Testament, Acts xiv. 15, James v. 17, where it is rendered "of like passions," "subject to like passions."

He had a great love for the natural sciences, which he pursued with much diligence and patient observation; but in his medical career he soon became disgusted with the contradictory assertions and theories taught by the professors of medicine. As experience showed him that the healing art was mainly conjectural, and full of uncertainties, he could no longer conscientiously practise it, though he had already gained reputation in his profession. Definite and fixed principles appeared to him absolutely essential, where questions of life and death were involved. He now applied himself to chemistry, botany, and other favourite natural sciences. In the prosecution of these, it so happened that he was translating into German the celebrated work on *Materia Medica*, (or medicines,) of Dr. Cullen, the Scotch physician; and when he came to the article on Peruvian bark, he was anxious to know on what principle it cured a certain kind of fever, for which it was deemed a specific. Not satisfied with the various and contradictory explanations there given, he resolved to make some experiments with the drug, for the purpose of ascertaining its true properties and medicinal virtues. While in robust health, he put himself under the influence of this medicine, and was shortly afterwards attacked with symptoms such as characterize the fever for which it is a remedy. This circumstance suggested to him the basis of an important science. But not content with this single experiment, he pursued the same train of enquiry in two modes. First, he tried on the healthy the effects of other substances *held as specifics*; and, next, he compared the results of experiments on *poisonous substances*, as recorded by other physicians, with his own, and found them to coincide.

Laborious experiments, during many years, at length thoroughly convinced him that the reason why Peruvian bark and other medicines cure certain affections, is, *because* they have the inherent power of exciting in the healthy frame similar affections. And thus he established a grand law of nature, the workings of which had by

others been recognised only in isolated facts. Upon this the whole superstructure of Homœopathy is founded; any thing affecting this will affect the whole system.

III.—In order to illustrate the above, a few examples from the following sources may be here adduced.

1. *The Homœopathic method of treating diseases is, more or less, followed by men generally, being learned by experience.* We may appeal to the familiar cure for a slight burn, by exposing it to the fire, or by applying to it something stimulating, as hot spirit, or oil of turpentine. So, when a person is heated and thirsty from severe bodily exercise, he relieves himself by warm or heating drink. Again, frozen limbs and chilblains are washed with ice water or rubbed with snow. If any of these cases be imprudently treated on the opposite principle, though momentary relief will be experienced, yet afterwards not only will it become tedious and difficult of cure, but the very worst consequences may be incurred, as when a frozen limb is brought to the fire.

2. *Physicians in all ages have practised upon the Homœopathic law; though only accidentally and unknowingly, till Dr. Hahnemann distinctly enunciated it and gave it its due prominence.* For example, when the *sweating* sickness was violently raging in this country, no medical treatment lessened the mortality, till accident discovered the benefit of sudorifics, (or medicines that would cause a healthy person to *sweat*.) Much the same was it with the cholera, till white hellebore was used; a drug which (it has since been learned) is capable of *producing* the cholera. Assafœtida is the standing remedy for the affection called hysteria. Now, once upon a time, a learned professor, in performing certain experiments with it, found that it produced the symptoms of that affection, and not knowing the doctrine of Homœopathy, he strongly warned the faculty against using it in that complaint.

Here also may be added those medicines which are held as *specifics* in every day practice. One of these has already been mentioned, which first awakened enquiry into the subject—viz. Peruvian bark, which is prescribed for ague, is capable of producing ague. In the same way Mercury is used for liver complaints, for a certain kind of sore throats, &c. : now, very similar affections are produced by it when given to healthy persons. Indeed, when patients are suffering from the effects of this medicine, medical men are sometimes at a loss to know whether the symptoms arise from the mercury or from the disease for which it was given. The same might be said of Sulphur, which is a well-known specific for the itch, and yet has been ascertained to give rise to an eruption very much like it. Vaccination is the very best preventive against small-pox; and who can help being struck by the similarity of symptom which it produces?

Further we add, that Homœopathists have checked nausea and vomiting by Ipecacuanha, which is a means generally employed for inducing them. Griping, uneasiness, and agitation have been cured by Jalap; which produces those symptoms. Colic and sleeplessness are occasioned in children by Senna; it has also cured children suffering from these maladies. Strong tea produces anxiety and palpitation of the heart in persons who are not in the habit of drinking it; but when those symptoms are present, taking it in small quantities sometimes gives relief. Opium is used to constipate the bowels when relaxed; but, when Homœopathically administered, relieves constipation.

These, and many more, are not merely the experience of the advocates of Homœopathy, but of other physicians who knew nothing definitely of this principle. Their names are given in Hahnemann's *Organon*. Some of them however have actually recognized the principle, though without pursuing it further. Many other examples, similar to the above, may be read in greater detail in the larger treatises on Homœopathy.

3. *Nature cures diseases on the same law.* Thus the Small-pox, a complaint which presents a great many symptoms, has cured a number of affections, similar to its own, which it has found in the persons attacked by it; viz., sore eyes, blindness, deafness, oppressed breathing, dysentery, &c. When the small-pox and cow-pox both together attack a person, the one counteracts the other, in whole or in part, because of the great resemblance between them. Vaccination, which causes a swelling of the arm, is known to have cured a swollen arm which was half paralysed. It is recorded that, in an epidemic of the measles and hooping cough, many children who had the former escaped the latter: now these affections, in their commencement, very much resemble each other, both as to the fever, and as to the character of the cough. The eruption of the measles also has, at least in one case, cured an eruption of the skin of some years' duration.

IV.—In order to practise on the principle above set forth, it was needed to have registered in our books, in correspondence to *each* malady presented for cure, *another* malady which might be called the image of the former. To this end, it was sought to ascertain the pathogenetic, or *disease-creating* powers, of various active substances in nature, taken from the animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms. Each of these was separately tried on healthy persons of both sexes and different ages. In observing the effects of the medicine taken, many precautions were used to avoid those symptoms which were due to some other cause, and to note down exactly the *pure* symptoms of the medicine itself, and those only. This most laborious and painful task has been executed by Hahnemann and some of his disciples with great accuracy; the experiments being made on themselves, their relatives, friends, and others. About 200 different substances have been tried on healthy persons, and their symptoms compiled in a book called, "*Materia Medica Pura*," the treasury of Homœopathic knowledge. This is, in fact, an index-

book for practitioners, to furnish them with the precise counter-representation of diseases that they may have to treat. Here also, of course, (as in every system of medicine,) the experience of our predecessors is made available to their successors, by recording the results of their practice and the observed effect of each medicine on the sick. Indeed there have been, and still are many physicians, who, to satisfy themselves of the truth of Hahnemann's results, have repeated his experiments: while others follow up similar researches for the sake of advancing the science yet further.

V.—The right and successful application of such remedial agents in disease will require extreme accuracy, memory, and discrimination—much study and constant watching over the patient. It is a great mistake to imagine that Homœopathy, any more than the current medical system, can be practised successfully without long professional devotion to it. The limits of this work will not allow us to state the views of Homœopaths concerning diseases and their classification, as well as that of the medicines, which, if true, are invaluable additions to the stock of medical knowledge, and means of great blessing to suffering humanity. These unfold to medical men the mystery of chronic diseases, which are the sources of innumerable sufferings hitherto deemed irremediable; and point out to them medicines which many years' experience has proved to be remedies in those cases.

The Homœopathic physician has two important and arduous duties to discharge in the treatment of disease.

1. He must endeavour to obtain, by accurate examination, the necessary information relative to the disease to be cured. To accomplish this end, he should be acquainted with almost every thing that concerns the patient, more particularly in chronic diseases,—the history of his natural constitution and previous health,

—his age, temperament, habits, occupation, and every symptom that he complains of, both moral and bodily. It is not enough to know only the striking and prominent symptoms without also knowing those which might be less noticed; their peculiarities—the exact part affected by each—the circumstances that aggravate or alleviate these symptoms, and the time of the day when they are felt more or less. It will be also desirable to learn by testimony, or otherwise, the causes of the disease. All these are to be carefully written down. Then the physician, by his previous knowledge of physiology and pathology, will be enabled to form a true judgment of the disease by the symptoms collectively. In order to do this, he must set apart such symptoms as are vague and common to many maladies, and fix his attention principally to those which are essential and characteristic.

2. For the selection of an appropriate Homœopathic remedy, the physician must possess a vast and accurate knowledge of the medicines, memory alone not being always sufficient: constant reference to the book is needed. Different remedies may be advantageously used at different times of the day; and the same remedy often will not be appropriate in two similar diseases, though there should be barely the least shade of difference between them. There are medicines which are particularly suitable for affections of certain organs, and some differ from others as to the rapidity and as to duration of their effects. When intending to use medicines in succession, the Homœopathist has to consider whether they would assist or thwart one another's action.

Every physician is well aware of the importance of watching the effect of his medicines upon his patients; but to the Homœopathist this is more essentially necessary, since he cannot give his medicines in combination; he is therefore obliged carefully to look out for the suitable opportunities of administering them in succession.

From all that has been said, it is evident that a mere superficial knowledge will not make one a competent practitioner, as our opponents imagine. In addition to what is peculiar to Homœopathy, we ought also to be acquainted with the various branches of general medical science, as anatomy, physiology, pathology, chemistry, botany, &c.

Each system has its depths and shallows. As in the ordinary system, so also in Homœopathy, it has been deemed necessary, for domestic purposes, to fit up small medicine chests, accompanied with short works on ordinary complaints, which may be advantageously used in slight affections, or in the absence of a regular practitioner. But the acute or complicated diseases will always need proper aid, and no conclusion can be fairly drawn from *amateur* practice, which, in injudicious hands, has sometimes done injury to the science.

VI.—Another feature of Homœopathy to be noticed is, that one medicine only is given at a time. In fact, the effects of each have been ascertained separately; nor do we as yet know the pure results of *combined* medicines on the healthy frame. Suppose a disease to be so complicated as to require more than one remedy: in such a case, different medicines are used, but successively, allowing each to do its own part. Two or more medicines are not used together, lest they should interfere with one another's action. Indeed, probably if they were tried in combination on a healthy person, they might produce different symptoms from the sum total of each when given separately.

This simple and rational mode of proceeding in Homœopathy is a contrast to that of the ordinary practice, in which many medicines enter into a prescription. No one knows what effect they produce upon one another, either counteracting or unduly strengthening one another's action. Medicines thus given in large quantities act not only upon the diseased organ (which is alone

susceptible to the Homœopathic doses) but upon others also which were not intended to be affected ; and thus bad is made worse.

VII.—The next interesting enquiry about the system is, the *form* of its medicines, and their *doses*.

The form is either that of a liquid tincture, powders, or else globules, that is, very small spherical pellets, made principally of sugar of milk, and saturated with the tincture.

As to the doses, they are exceedingly small,—experience having shown the necessity of reducing them to an extreme minuteness. Indeed, when Hahnemann first began to act upon the newly discovered principle, he used doses of ordinary quantity ; but finding them very highly to aggravate the complaint, without a corresponding advantage, he made them smaller and smaller, till, after innumerable experiments, he found himself forced to reduce them to a minuteness, such, that, for want of a better name, they have been called infinitesimal.

Perhaps nothing has been so great a hindrance to the favourable reception of Homœopathy, both with the public and medical men generally, as the extraordinary smallness of the doses which are used by Homœopaths ; yet it is only experience which has forced them to this result, and not any pre-conceived theory.

In elucidation of this subject a few observations may be made here.

Every medicinal substance has its peculiar properties, and is capable of producing certain effects. It is notorious to all chemists, that the division of matter can be carried to a prodigious extent, without impairing the participation of each particle in the possession of all the properties of the original body. There is therefore

every presumption that the Homœopathic doses, though so small, would still retain the qualities which the experience of Homœopaths declares that they do retain.

It is true that our senses are unable to perceive in them any of the characteristics appreciable in the original state; but the senses are far from being so acute or susceptible as to judge of things so minute. If they had been trusted simply and solely, we should never have known the wonders discovered to us by the assistance of the telescope and microscope. *It is confessed by all medical men, and attested by the sad experience of patients, that pestilences and malarias of various kinds may be fatally imbibed, while the sufferer himself receives no warning from the smell or taste.* It would be a great mistake to suppose that plague and fever can be caught only in the neighbourhood of some unpleasant smell or other sensible uncleanness. On the contrary, English residents in Rome are well aware, that it is in the driest, cleanest, and most open districts that the dreaded malaria is oftenest caught; nor could the existence of any material particles in the atmosphere be ascertained by any known natural or chemical test, except by the fact of its generating disease in the human constitution. These are truths which should make all thoughtful men pause before they reject the doctrine of Homœopathy on the mere ground of the minuteness of its doses.

It may help yet further to remove incredulity concerning the smallness of the doses, to learn, that the necessity of so reducing them is in no small degree accounted for by an important discovery which Hahnemann made in the course of his experiments. In order to subdivide medicines with great accuracy, very considerable *trituration*, (or grinding down by rubbing,) and also much shaking of the liquids, are absolutely required. Now Hahnemann found out that this very trituration, or *succussion* itself, increases amazingly the powers of medicine. Nay, some substance, as flint, charcoal, &c.

which were perfectly inert before, became afterwards very powerful medicinal agents. Thus also we find, that by friction we excite electricity and heat; that odoriferous substances, after rubbing and pounding, give out a stronger smell. We must not therefore suppose that the powers of Homœopathic medicines are lessened in the same ratio as their magnitude; for the long process of trituration and succussion which they undergo, greatly develope their powers, so that they become capable of sensibly affecting the human body, when used under the peculiarly favourable circumstances which Homœopathy when rightly used, always ensures viz. a *collusion* between the medicine and the disease.

Let particular attention be paid to the words, *peculiarly favourable circumstances*; for in them principally seems to be contained an explanation of the paradox, which paradox, (whether it can be explained or not,) the experience of Homœopathists attests as a fact.

Medicines applied on the Homœopathic principle, act differently from those given on the principles of ordinary practice. In the latter, the medicines are prescribed with the view of directly opposing the disease, whence comes the necessity of large doses. But in the Homœopathic treatment, the medicine must act, *in the first instance*, on the side of the disease, and, of course, on the diseased organ. It will readily be conceived that the minutest particle is, in such case, sufficient to affect the organism; so that the intense susceptibility of the organs to anything which tends to increase the existing excitement makes up for intrinsic febleness in the medicine. We know how painful to a person with an inflamed eye, is even a moderate light; that a patient with headache is distressed by the least noise; and a burnt finger feels the effects of heat much sooner than a sound one.

We hardly expect, however, that such explanations will suffice to allay the objections of all minds. Men

are naturally very incredulous as to the efficacy of our treatment, because they have all their life time been accustomed to see enormous doses used with comparatively but little result; hence they have intense difficulty in conceiving that doses so extraordinarily minute can do anything at all.

But we must not neglect to add, that the doctrine of Homœopathy, *as such*, is not essentially involved in the question of the magnitude of doses. The fact is, that Homœopaths themselves are not yet quite agreed on the subject; though they all agree that, in most cases, *some* good effect may be expected from the smallest doses, provided that a really suitable Homœopathic remedy be used. That they are not agreed concerning the *magnitude of the doses* is not surprising; for it is probable that, by the habit of taking medicine on the ordinary plan, some persons become peculiarly unsusceptible to Homœopathic doses; just as the constitution may become proof against a poison by habitually taking substances which are antidotes to it. It is also possible, that different individuals, and, yet more different nations, vary in sensitiveness. For all these reasons, it seems necessary, at least at present, for the Homœopathist to adapt the strength of his doses to the constitution of each patient.

VIII.—As regards the Homœopathic diet and regimen, it is required to have the patient under favourable circumstances, for the operation of medicines so small, and to avoid all causes, which might be any how a hindrance to their action.

Merely with a view to evade these obstacles, during treatment, it is recommended to abstain from every stimulating and medicinal substance, and from whatever else experience has shewn to interfere with the action of the medicines; but all plain, nutritive, and non-irritating diet may be partaken of. It is also desirable for the

patient to avoid all kinds of excitement, and any other known sources of mischief in each case.

That many cures have been wrought in Homœopathy, is not denied by physicians; but they often attribute them to the *severe regimen* of the Homœopathists; which, however, is really far from being severe, compared with that which the common practitioners impose. We regard it as beyond a doubt, that in many instances, patients under the severe regimen too commonly enforced, not only have derived no benefit, but, on the contrary have suffered from it. Their digestive organs have been weakened, and the nervous susceptibility morbidly increased,—nay, such regimen has been a decided hindrance to the cure of the disease. But let us suppose that there is truth in the alleged cause for the Homœopathic cures. Be it granted that we have, in some remarkable cases, cured patients *by mere regimen*. Well, if this be true, why did not the ordinary physicians adopt the same method? Why inflict upon patients the miseries of powerful medicines,—to say nothing of bleedings, setons, and other painful remedies,—if, after all, the cases admitted of being cured by mere diet and other simple methods? At the same time, it is well known amongst Homœopathists themselves, that, besides chronic and skin diseases, other more violent ones have been cured by their methods, such as inflammations of internal organs, epilepsy, and cholera. It will hardly be pretended that diet and regimen avail to subdue such powerful and dreadful maladies; or, if they do avail, then surely this treatment should be employed; and Homœopathists deserve, at least, to be counted fortunate in having stumbled upon so valuable a discovery.

IX.—Homœopathic cures are also attributed to an influence on the imagination. It is remarkable, however, that many who are now its zealous advocates, were once its strong opponents, and not unesteemed in the medical profession. Incredulous of the system, they went through a course of trial, in no small degree with

a view to expose its futility; yet the result was to convince them of its truth and value. How could imagination have acted favourably in such cases?

Again, this system has perhaps had no better patients than children, upon whom astonishing effects have been experienced. We can account for this, by the susceptibility of their frame to medicine, as they have never been drugged by large doses: we *cannot* account for it, as produced by their imagination. On the brute animals, also, which have been successfully treated, there could of course be no influence of the imagination.*

X.—So numerous and obvious are the advantages of Homœopathy, *if true*, that we need hardly dwell upon them: a few only of them shall be pointed out here, which might not so readily occur to the reader's mind.

The first and the most cheering one is to the practitioners, who hereby gain one simple and certain law to guide them in the treatment of disease. Another like it cannot be found, at least as far as we know in any other system of medicine. The following anecdote may, in this connexion, be instructive. Some years ago, the writer witnessed the hospital practice of one of the most eminent physicians of the day, who after making a minute and accurate examination of a case, so that both he and other medical men about him were fully satisfied as to the nature of the disease, candidly confessed that he did not know what method of treatment to adopt, or what remedy to use in such a case. In fact, practitioners on the ordinary system meet continually with this very difficulty. Diseases are well understood, but their remedies are most uncertain, and referable to no general law.

* See *VETERINARY HOMŒOPATHY* published by Leath, London. A friend of the Author's in this town, (Manchester,) treats all his cattle, upwards of 30 in number Homœopathically, and that with a success which astonishes every one who witnesses it.

The next advantage is a most comforting one to the patient, who has only to take a very small, weak, and insipid dose. If the medicine be suitable to his case, it will cure the disease gently, quickly, and permanently; leaving no bad effects after it. If it be unsuitable, it will prove perfectly harmless, because of the extreme minuteness of the dose, which is never *expected* to act but on an organ predisposed for its specific action, or in other words, "Homœopathically."

In ordinary practice, on the contrary, enormous doses are used, and those even of poisonous substances, which, if administered to another person, or to the same at another time, would be sufficient to destroy life. We do not deny that medicines thus used often greatly palliate the symptoms of disease for a time; yet it is questioned by Homœopathists whether they ever effect a *radical cure*, unless there be some Homœopathic ingredient in them. In some cases, indeed, the diseases produced by the medicines are actually worse than the original disease. Of course, other remedies are then administered on the same principles, and so the treatment goes on. A person so dosed, from month to month, and year to year, must become a depository of medicines, and consequently of maladies generated by medicine, which are manifested from time to time.

Such is constantly the origin of tedious and long-standing diseases, that inflict on the unfortunate patients a life of suffering and misery. As a further testimony to this, *we* may remark, that medical men are often at a loss to know whether certain affections have been generated from natural causes or from the large doses used as remedies on some previous occasion. There are again other means used, which are so violent and debilitating, that patients sink under their effects, even after recovering from serious diseases. It is a sad fact, that many patients who get over violent attacks of fever or inflammatory affections, die afterwards in consequence

of the great exhaustion induced by large bleedings, constant purgative, and other weakening treatment.

Indeed, it deserves a prominent place among the advantages of the Homœopathic method, that, it enables us to reject bleeding, thus keeping in the body the vital fluid, of which we seldom can have too much, and the loss of which not only cannot be made up, but becomes a source of numerous painful and injurious consequences. Homœopathy also in several diseases dispenses with some painful and disfiguring surgical operations, to which physicians have been induced to resort, from the failure of all purely medical means, according to *their* principles of treatment.

XI.—It may be asked, why is not Homœopathy received by the medical faculty at large, if it be a true science? The principal reason is, because faculties are established mainly to preserve and defend what is already received and approved, after long experience. Such bodies are not *intended* to adopt truth in an early stage, as fast as it is discovered; and, in fact, they never have done so. Hence we find, that many truths (now fully established) in physiology and other sciences, were rejected and fiercely opposed by them for many years. No other reception than this could be expected for the doctrines of Homœopathy, which itself is not more than fifty years old—its founder having died about three years ago, in his ninetieth year. He lived, however, to see wonderful progress made by his doctrine, and to have the privilege of giving advice and instruction to multitudes. Although the faculty at large has not as yet adopted it, yet we find that in at least fifteen academies and universities, lectures on Homœopathy are allowed to be delivered. The subject is noticed now, even in British Universities and Schools of Medicine, though the system has been introduced into this country only recently. There are twenty-seven medical professors in different universities who practice Homœo-

pathy. There are also twenty-one Homœopathic Court physicians, and among the personages that have such physicians are the ex-Empress Maria Louisa, widow of Napoleon, the King of Prussia, the King of the Belgians, the Pope, the Duke of Cambridge, &c. It is calculated that there are now in different parts of the world, but chiefly in Europe and America, two thousand five hundred regularly qualified practitioners who practice it, exclusive of those who practice it partially, or of those in a transition state. There are one hundred in Vienna, ninety in Paris, fifty in New York, and at least one thousand in the United States, from twenty to thirty in London, seven in Edinburgh, one of whom is professor of pathology in the University, and one or more in nearly every considerable town in England, Ireland, and Scotland. The number of families who favour this medical reform is so great, that the want of well-instructed Homœopathic practitioners is sensibly felt almost everywhere. There are about forty Homœopathic associations in Europe, composed of physicians and non-professional men of eminence; and it is a striking fact that amongst its adherents are some of the most sound-headed, deep-thinking men of this or any other age. In London, there are three chemists who prepare the Homœopathic medicines, of whom two confine themselves entirely to this business. There is also one pure Homœopathic chemist in Manchester, one in Liverpool, and a branch establishment in Edinburgh. Several Homœopathic hospitals are established on the continent; there is one in London, founded by the English Homœopathic Association;* and dispensaries innumerable in different parts of the world; of the latter there are already seven in London; one in Liverpool, which has been pronounced "a fact, in the municipal history;" one in Manchester, which numbers

* This association has lately published one of the best popular works on the subject which has ever appeared—viz., "Homœopathy, its Principle, Theory, and Practice; by M. B. Sampson." This excellent work is published by Highly, London, and can be obtained through any bookseller.

more out-patients than any of the other dispensaries in that town; one each in Brighton, Birmingham, Newcastle, Glastonbury, Leeds, Cheltenham, Melton Mowbray, Chester, Birkenhead, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dublin.

Twenty-three periodicals, as organs of this system, have been established in different parts of the world. The number of volumes written on the subject, up to the present time, has been estimated to amount to eight hundred, in the German, French, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Danish, Swedish, and English languages.

Surely, if this system had no true foundation, or was a mere imaginative theory, without reality, it could neither have made such progress, nor would conscientious, respectable, and eminent men, after much experience, continue to practise it. Yet, not only is this the case, but their confidence in it appears decidedly to increase with their experience.

XII.—Finally, the reader is respectfully requested to consider calmly the topics here pressed on his notice, before passing a judgment on the subject. Should his mind be led to further enquiry, the following works may be perused with advantage—viz., Sampson's Homœopathy in its Principle, Theory, and Practice (already noticed,) 4s. 6d.; Black's Principle and Practice of Homœopathy, 9s.; Epps' Homœopathy and its Principles Explained, 3s.; Simpson's Practical View of Homœopathy.

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