

has been spent on these "Notes," and it is hoped they will be of great use to physicians.

There is another very important point which calls for most careful consideration, and this is the purity of our drug preparations. Often do we hear it said that drugs do not act as well as they used to do. Carelessness seems to be creeping into our pharmacies. Let those interested in the manufacture of homoeopathic medicines take warning. Pure medicines and a pure materia medica are absolutely and vitally essential to the success of the physician. To these subjects we shall continue to devote our attention.

#### THE CURSE OF OPIATES: A LAY OPINION.

"The sad case of the beautiful actress, Sara Jewett, a victim to the deadly and insidious 'Chloral habit,' points a moral which he who runs may read. The true story seems to be that some years ago, in London, Miss Jewett, broken down from overwork and loss of sleep, consulted a prominent English physician, who prescribed a compound of orange-flower water and Chloral.

"The prescription brought immediate relief, and the first step taken, the rest was easy, until Miss Jewett, like so many other talented men and women, alas! became a slave to the dangerous and deadly drug. It is to such people that the (Chloral and Morphia habits are most dangerous. Overwrought nerves are quieted, overtaxed brains are soothed, and not infrequently in total ignorance of what they are doing, *relying blindly on the physician* who has given them such swift relief, they turn to it again and always, until existence becomes a burden without it, and the well-nigh incurable habit is firmly fixed.

"There is nothing which I can give you to relieve you absolutely except Chloral,' once said an eminent physician to a patient in the agonies of neuralgia, brought on by nervous prostration, 'and my advice to you is, suffer anything rather than take it; it is the most insidious devil in the world.'

"The physician is too often to blame for the formation of the habit, since a warning like that just repeated would save many. \* \* \* It were better for man or woman that 'a millstone were hanged about their necks and they were cast into the sea' than that they should fall under the power of this curse of the nineteenth century."—*The Philadelphia Daily News, Oct. 8th.*  
 ("Relying blindly on the physician," says the *News*. Alas!

what is the result? Patients become victims to this "curse of the nineteenth century." Many a doctor will hereafter answer to his God for a father or a mother whom he has so carelessly enslaved, and whose helpless children cry aloud for vengeance. And yet Deans of *homoeopathic* medical schools recommend the use of opiates!

#### THE LAW OF THE SIMILARS THE ONLY LAW OF CURE IN THE TREATMENT OF THE SICK.

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As the homoeopathic healing art is based upon the law of the similars, there can never be in existence exceptional cases which require in their treatment a deviation from this law of nature. If the law is the only law for the cure of the sick, there cannot be other laws also applicable for the treatment of the sick.

The very admission that exceptional cases not only permit but absolutely require the adoption of other ways of treating the sick opens wide the door for the practice of eclecticism, *vide The North American Journal of Homoeopathy*, August, 1887, especially page 492. Adjutant treatment indeed! Is not such a thing an absolute refutation of the claim to universal application of the law of the similars in the treatment of the sick? According to that authority (said journal is the organ of the New York Homoeopathic College), Homoeopathy does not possess means (under the law of the similars) to cure the violent colics caused by gallstones or kidney calculus. The means advocated in the aforesaid article are Morphia administered hypodermically for the relief of what, the disease? no, the mechanical pressure. The statement there made by the organ of a homoeopathic college is erroneous from first to last. Homoeopathy does cure gallstones and kidney calculus under the homoeopathic law if the similar remedy is properly administered. Morphia hypodermically injected may relieve (partially) the pain, but the relief is a deception, the sick is not cured, and before long becomes convinced of it by renewed attacks of increased severity and frequency. The old veterans who gave Homoeopathy a status *curee* and continued to cure all such cases, and is it now to be declared "a lost art" to cure without adjutant treatment!

Some opinions have lately been advanced that Homoeopathy is not the only way to treat the sick, while it is acknowledged that the law of the similars is the only law of cure. The

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opinion is expressed that it is rare that a remedy homeopathic to the symptoms fails to relieve even in an incurable case, and if it so happens, whether from the ignorance of the physician or the peculiarity of the case, one's duty is perfectly clear and must be followed—the duty is to give Opium or Morphia. According to this opinion, the more ignorant the physician the oftener it will be his duty to give Opium, and the less ignorant the physician the less often it will be his duty to give it, and if not ignorant the duty to give it will never arise. Hahnemann, the founder of our healing art, proved Opium, and it would benefit the advocates of Opium to read the exhaustive preface in the first volume of Hahnemann's *Reine Arzneimittel Lehre*. The most frequently indicated remedies under the unerring laws of the similars to relieve the agonies of the incurably sick are Arsenic, Rhus tox., Lachesis, and Tarantula. These may, in some peculiar cases, not be indicated, but the conscientious healer not ignorant of our materia medica will find in even peculiar cases the proper remedy. If the law of the similars has correctly guided him in other cases there can be no plausible exception to the applicability of it.

Another opinion is expressed that the cause of the disease must be forcibly removed and then the patient be homeopathically treated, thereby preventing a recurrence of the malady. These causes include substances visible under the microscope. If, so the opinion runs, the patient suffering from a contagious or zymotic disease is in a very feeble condition and notable to resist it, we must suppress for a time the violence of the zymosis. Quinine for intermittent fever, suppresses for a time the violence of the zymosis, and then the cure of the patient is made homeopathically. That sounds plausible but it does not work. The intermittent fever suppressed for a time by powerful doses of Quinine must return again as soon as homeopathic treatment begins, if it does not the Quinine and malarial cachexia will set in to the final detriment of the silt. Again, the opinion is given that every healer should step out and down who will not cure in twenty-four or forty-eight hours a fresh case of gonorrhoea by injecting a watery solution of the five thousandth of a grain of Corrosive Mercury! There are no specifics for specific diseases that any homeopath knows of, and it will not do to profess to be a homeopath and advocate such treatment; this is a local application for an erroneously supposed local disease. Local applications in nonsurgical cases are never salutary. Ulcers may be dried up by local treatment, but the patient does not recover.

If the law of the similars is the only law of cure, and if the homeopathic school accepts the teachings of Hahnemann as recorded in his *Organon of the Healing Art*, opinions in contravention of his advice for applying the law of the similars for the cure of the sick will not mislead any true healer. Modern medical men profess to have found by the aid of the microscope the *prima causa morbi*, and we are asked to remove the cause of the disease. What has been found by the microscope is the product of the disease. By removing these products we do not cure the disease, and what Hahnemann says on that point in paragraph six and foot-notes of the *Organon* is as true to-day as it was then—just as true as anything he ever said. In the seventh paragraph of the *Organon* he dwells on the *causa occasionis*, and every sensible physician of any school will always first remove the evidently occasioning and sustaining cause of the sickness. Many of the causes are mentioned in the foot-note to that paragraph.

The frequently recurring expression of different opinions how best to practice Homeopathy can easily be settled by referring to the teachings of Hahnemann. Opinions not in harmony with his teachings or opinions not sustained by ordinary logic are harmless amusements to those who express them. One amused himself by attempting to show that it was in accordance with the teachings of Hahnemann that morbid products of highly potentized would cure the disease itself. What of it? A splinter, and now he is as silent as a clam. Before long a large majority of healers will come to the conclusion that there is and can be only one law of cure in the treatment of the sick—the law of the similars—and only one teacher who taught how to apply that law. That teacher, the founder of the homeopathic healing art, Hahnemann, will not be excelled by any modern prophet who tramples on the *Organon* and holds as an emblem of his adherence to Homeopathy in one hand the microscope, in the other the Quinine bottle, and in his buttonhole a hypodermic syringe. The recognition seekers will be recognized.

#### CLINICAL NOTES ON CHARACTERISTICS.

The purpose of these "Notes" is to give in a condensed form the positive characteristics of each remedy as far as known. Each drug has its common, its peculiar, and its characteristic symptoms. It is these latter we are considering. The articles on each drug will be as brief and as condensed as possible,