

An Essay  
On

The Homoeopathic  
Law of Cure.

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By  
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The  
Homoeopathic Law of Cure

Life, — its origin, its changes  
and its end, — has been since  
the creation of man, a theme  
on which philosophers have  
loved to dwell; — whether  
wandering over the star-lit  
plains of Chaldea, or gazing  
on the Egyptian pyramids  
yet newly built, or walking amid  
the shady groves of Academus; — all  
alike have found in life the topic  
of their most profound discourses.

The knowledge of the world,  
like that of an individual, is a work  
of slow and gradual accumulation

By observation we have acquired ideas of matter and ideas of spirit, and consider them as principles which are inconsistent with something else, as heat and cold, light and darkness, sickness and health. But between the laws which govern matter and the laws which govern spirit, human intellect has never yet discovered a perfect analogy. That there is an analogy and that these two systems of laws are absolutely harmonious, is a fact proved by the existence of every human being. In what this analogy consists, is not yet revealed to man, we know its existence only by its effects,

and we call it by the vague  
and indefinite term of vitality.

The human body is of itself a  
single organization, subject to  
one common law of continuity,  
dissolution and decay;— each  
part being identified with all  
the other parts. But this material  
body is only the representative of  
the vital power within; which  
in health maintains and controls  
all its parts in harmony.

Without this power the organism  
is incapable either of action, sen-  
-sation or preservation.

Both in the outer and the  
inner world, agents antagon-  
-istic to health are found.

The dewy evening or the  
sultry morning may bear on  
its wings invisible poison.

Food and drink may convey  
unsuspected drugs. The rays  
of the sun may exhaust the  
strength or inflame the brain.

Or are the enemies of health  
within less active or less efficient.

The finely organized body  
is continually undergoing change,  
and in all its parts a law is  
at work which would impel  
it to dissolution.

But the operations of nature  
are all governed by fixed laws,  
which we may observe and  
study. Whenever the dynamic

The science of medicine  
must be to a great extent  
discovered and established  
by actual experiment; but,  
as in all sciences, so in this,  
experiment and logical infer-  
ence must be intimately  
associated. Any system  
of medical practice which  
cannot bear the test of rea-  
son deserves not the name  
of science. It was the  
erratic modes of cure adopted  
by medical practitioners of the  
eighteenth century that led  
Hahnemann, the illustri-  
ous founder of Homoeopathy  
to institute a series of

experiments in order to ascertain the specific action of drugs, and thus to commence the construction of an entirely new Materia Medica. At the commencement of these investigations he discovered that the symptoms of disease were counteracted successfully by the remedies which manifest similar symptoms on the healthy person. But this, though the first law brought to light, was not destined to be afterward considered the most remarkable. The fact that

a small quantity is even more powerful than a large quantity, at first taxed the credulity and afterwards excited the astonishment of the medical world.

The principle of specifica-  
tion is also inseparably connected with the Homoeopathic law of cure.

These three principles form the foundation of a complete science; — the only rational and scientific theory of cure,

causes. Let us consider the practical application of these three principles separately.

I. Specification: individualization of the total group of symptoms and individualization of a medicine, which is capable of producing corresponding symptoms, in order to

Specification consists, first in observing every symptom, separately and combined with all the rest, ~~from~~ This principle is founded upon the simple truth that like results are produced by like causes, Results are manifest, causes are occult, ~~of real~~

By obtaining the totality of symptoms in a disease, we are by an infallible rule

deduced by observation of the facts  
of nature, — led to the adoption  
of the precise remedy needed.

As the artist who would paint  
correctly, must mark each  
individual feature in order to  
complete the image; so must  
the physician treat, — not the dis-  
=ease as such, but the symptoms  
which singly and combined form  
the true image of the disease.

To call a disease by a name  
avails nothing positive; it  
only assists in generalizing:

but in the treatment of real  
symptoms we want, not general  
=ization but specification. similar

To treat symptoms is to reach

specific objects and thus to  
obliterate all that is desirable  
to be removed; Secondly;  
after discovering the individual  
features, the totality of which  
constitutes the image in the  
one case, then is to be applied  
the remedy, the specific features  
of which make up the image  
in the corresponding case; -  
Symptom answering to symp-  
-tom, - the complete likeness  
directing with unerring accu-  
-racy to the cure. *inflamed*

Cond. II. Similia Similibus Curan-  
-tur. The medicine produ-  
-ces an artificial disease similar  
to the natural one, and as no two

similar diseases can occupy  
the system at the same time.  
the stronger or artificial pre-  
dominates and a cure is effected.  
An artificial disease is more  
powerful than a natural one  
simply because the parts of the  
system are in a diseased state  
and are consequently exceedingly  
sensitive to the subtle touch of  
the remedy. The eye in a healthy  
condition can endure a flood  
of light without the slightest  
shrinkings. in an inflamed  
condition even the twilight  
is intolerable. the more powerful.  
In the treatment of symptoms  
those similia must be observed

which are specific, - not  
general. - characteristic not vague  
and unimportant. The Key symp.  
- toms lead to the specific remedy.  
the remaining symptoms are such  
as may be found in an indefinite  
number of diseased conditions  
and may be developed in the  
use of morbidic agents generally.

III. Potentization of  
medicines by which they are  
made to have a more penetr-  
-ating influence upon the vital  
force, turning the current  
to healthful action.

Remedies are the more powerful,  
not in proportion as they are incre-  
-ased in quantity, but as they are

made more penetrating in their particles. The object then of doses of medicine which have commonly been called small, is not dilution in itself, but potentization. It is evident that great effects are produced by what to the uneducated mind would be regarded as diminutive agencies; as in the case of contagious diseases; the atmosphere being filled with the invisible, yet most subtle and powerful malaria.

So also in the whole system of vegetable germ life, the microscopic multitudes of seeds that teem in the earth; the various

Forms of vegetable growth contain within themselves the powers that clothe our globe in luxuriant growth and wealth of beauty. by the use of higher  
In hydrostatic pressure an inch of diameter may be made to counteract a surface indefinitely extended. A spark of electricity flashes its results around the globe. It is utterly impossible for the mind of man to conceive of the almost infinite minuteness of an atom. Philosophers have long since despaired of reaching the ultimate particles of matter. science  
One grain of a medicinal

Substance even at the third  
potentization would cover two  
square miles of area. It has  
been proved beyond successful contra-  
=diction that by the use of higher  
potentization ranging from the 200<sup>th</sup>  
to 7000<sup>th</sup> according to circumstances  
the additional element of penetra-  
=tion and power over disease is  
very greatly increased. Matter is  
indestructable, and however far the  
subdivision be extended, every drop of  
the alcohol used as a vehicle must  
be pervaded with the infinitesimal  
atoms of the drug.

Thus it is evident that  
Homoeopathy is a science  
consistent and harmonious in itself;

while its application, its  
results, and its success  
appeal to the judgment of  
an unprejudiced world.

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of the  
Homoeopathic Medical College  
of  
Pennsylvania  
On the first day of February  
one thousand eight hundred and  
sixty six  
By  
Abner B. Lippincott  
of  
New Jersey