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THE
NEW ENGLAND
BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL
JOURNAL.

BOSTON MEDICAL
JUL 12 1885
"Seize upon Truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground."

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

VOLUME V.

WORCESTER:
PUBLISHED BY CALVIN NEWTON, M. D.
Corner of Front and Carlton Streets.
1851.

CATALOGUED
JUN 12 1895
E. H. B.

P R E F A C E .

We have now completed six years of labor as a medical editor. The first of these years, our publication was styled THE NEW ENGLAND MEDICAL ELECTIC AND GUIDE TO HEALTH. The remaining five years, it has borne the name of THE NEW ENGLAND BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURSICAL JOURNAL.

The object to which the publication has been devoted from year to year, has been unchanged. Our undivided aim has been to assist, to the extent of our ability, in establishing a system of medical practice involving, simply, an innocent and sanative medication. In our mind, it is a misnomer to speak of *poisons* as *medicines*. According to Dr. Noah Webster, a poison is "a substance which, when taken into the stomach, mixed with the blood, or applied to the skin or flesh, proves fatal or deleterious." Or, again, he defines it, "Any thing infectious, malignant, or noxious to health." But, by medicine, is universally understood a substance which has the property of curing, or, at least, mitigating disease in animals, particularly in the human species. Now, by what magic power any thing which, when applied according to the quotation from Webster, "proves fatal or deleterious," can be made conducive to health, we were never able to understand. The same article, we know, which is poisonous to some animals is healthful to others. Thus, man can eat some things which are deadly to the horse, and *vice versa*. Again, certain articles, as cheese, beefstake, &c., though poisonous to particular individuals, yet to most people constitute a healthful diet. And more than this we cheerfully concede. We admit, that the same article which is injurious to a person in one condition of the physical system, may be innocent and even salutary in another.

When, however, all these admissions are made, what is the extent of the uncertainty necessarily involved in the administration of medicine? Why, simply this, that the idiosyncrasies of individuals cannot always be understood, until the effects of particular agents are witnessed. It is, after all, true, in regard to mankind generally, that the agents usually employed as medicines have each its peculiar and nearly uniform effect. There are agents, as mercury, arsenic, antimony, and the like, which are known to act, invariably and necessarily, in direct contrariety to the powers of life and health. There are other agents, the influences of which harmonize entirely with physiological laws, and do no injury to the system, while the effects wrought are specifically and positively beneficial. Of these latter, the greater the cogency, the greater, by so much, is the benefit resulting. Not so with the former. With them, the greater the power, the greater the injury done. The vital forces, even unaided, may rally enough effectually to resist the united influence of the disease and the poison; but the poison itself can never favor the efforts of nature.

Still impressed with these views, we propose to continue our exertions to advance the cause of scientific medicine. Our next volume, we trust, will, in some respects, be superior to any preceding it.

EDITOR.

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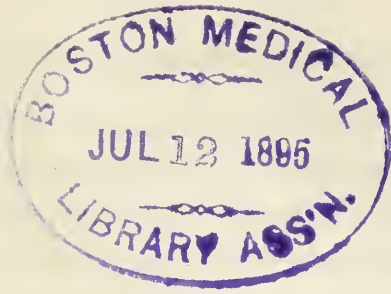
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VOL. V.

WORCESTER, MASS, JANUARY 1, 1851.

NO. 1.

Communications.

—:—

HISTORY OF MEDICAL REFORM IN NEW ENGLAND.

BY GALEI.

In order to secure friends to any object or enterprise, having for its aim the public good or a proposal to make a change in any established order or profession of men, it is necessary to present the subject to the people in a proper light, stating definitely and clearly the mode of operation intended to bring about the desired result, and the condition of the movement at the time at which patronage, countenance, and support are asked.

This principle being admitted, (and the presumption is, that so plain a proposition will not be denied,) we at once introduce our

subject, which is the Rise and Progress of the *Worcester Medical Institution*, and, incidentally, the Reform Movement in Massachusetts and New England. This work seems to be called for at this time, for the very good reason, that friends are wanted in the present crisis of affairs;—also, to secure union, harmony, and determination, which are elements necessary to move on the important work begun, to its full completion.

To accomplish so desirable an end, Reform, in its history, its movements and present condition, should be presented, in all its lights and shadows. The means that have been employed in its progress; the obstacles that have been thrown in its way; in short, the whole character of the thing should be brought to view. This is a work requiring a thorough investigation, and a correct knowledge of events.

The author of these remarks, therefore, asks the indulgence and kind feelings of his readers, knowing full well his want of ability to do justice to so grave a subject, and having no doubt, that others will make the same discovery. But no matter. The work must be done; the general welfare demands it; and those who are better able than himself may be deterred by modesty. The duty, therefore, must be discharged by another. The only apology offered is, that where duty leads we should follow, and obey its high commands.

In writing history or biography, one should have certain positive qualifications, the principal of which is a *fearless moral character*, enabling him to do justice to men and things; to act without reference to fear, favor, or reward; to labor for no particular party merely for pay; not to build up this sect or that; nor make one man great and another small; but, in the full light of knowledge and reason, to make record of truth in all things.

In addition to all this, literary attainments are requisite to give polish and beauty to the productions of an author, whether historical or otherwise. In this particular, the writer of this sketch frankly "acknowledges the corn." He has not had the advantages of a classical or liberal education, and, therefore, no attempt will be made at elegance of style, or to appear learned. But, in one thing, there shall be no mistake, at least no intentional error,—and

that is, in regard to the facts presented, strict justice, respecting men and events, will be regarded. To be guided only by the light of truth and sound judgment, for the sake of science and the promotion of the correct mode of medical practice, is the author's wish in this effort.

It is not deemed of importance to our object, to go back to the early days of reform. Suffice it to say that previous to Dr. Samuel Thomson's introducing his manner of treating disease, the public mind had, to a great extent, lost confidence in the old Allopathic theory, and the people were ready, in many instances, to declare in favor of any mode of practice which might present the least evidence of being an improvement on the prevailing system.

Though Dr. Thomson failed to present a perfect system, yet his mode of treatment, the use of simple remedies, and the idea of *no poison* gained popular favor. The Reform principle, spreading from state to state, found advocates throughout the Union and other parts of the civilized world; and, at this period, many millions of the inhabitants of earth are realizing its benefits.

The difficulties which arose between Dr. Thomson and his disciples and contemporaries are well known to all familiar with his history, and need no particular notice from us. It is due, however to Professors Curtis and Beach, and Doctors Mattson, Colby, Smith and others, to say, that their efforts in advocating the Reform principle in the early days of the cause entitle them to great respect. Though much had been done in New England by individual effort, yet, at this time, a thick cloud hung over the medical horizon. The cause was languishing, the power of the press was stayed, and the onward march of Reform was, in a degree, paralyzed.

In the year 1845, simultaneous movements were made in different places for the purpose of elevating the standard of medical science, in the Botanic ranks. In the State of Maine, and the cities of Boston and Worcester, the friends had the matter under consideration, all agreeing that the then existing state of things was deeply to be lamented. With notions, remedies, and a theory but crude, though superior to any other existing, a large field of operation was before them; and they only wanted facilities for improvement and concert of action, to "go up and possess the land."

Still, gloom surrounded them, and a fear existed in the minds of many, as to the fate of Reform. It was uncertain what measures would or could be adopted. Every thing portended evil. The public Journals had all failed to advocate the cause in the East. There was the want of the "one thing needful"—pecuniary aid,—which was withheld by the friends, or at least by many; and there was "a fearful looking for" of the continued reign of ignorance, calomel, and the lancet, as the terrible fate of humanity. An old adage, and one almost amounting to an axiom, says, that "it is the darkest time just before day." This is true in the history of Reform; at least, it was so at the period of which we write.

Reform however, was not to be wholly stayed in its progress. A new advocate, at this juncture, made his appearance. Prof. C. Newton commenced the publication of the *Eclectic*, the first number of which was issued on the first of January, 1846. The joy with which this paper was received indicated something of the feeling among the friends of science and truth at that time. In the 16th No. of the 1st Vol. the Editor remarked, "We have before alluded to the very gratifying success with which our paper has met, since its origin. We have employed *almost* no agency; but, as the friends of our system of medical practice have learned of the existence of the *Eclectic*, they have forwarded their names and the price of the present year's subscription."

Previous to the appearance of his paper, PROF. NEWTON had been engaged in giving medical instruction to young men,—a pursuit for which he was eminently qualified, he having had a classical and professional education, and being, at that time, a graduate of the Berkshire Medical Institution, and a member of the *Massachusetts (Allopathic) Medical Society*.

The *Uxbridge Botanic Society*, about this time, employed Dr. C. W. B. Kidder of Providence, R. I., to give a Course of Lectures on medical science,—showing clearly, that, in the minds of some at least, "ignorance was not bliss," nor was it "folly to be wise."

It is due to the profession, at that period of our history to say, that their want of erudition was owing to the want of facilities to obtain it,—a contingency, thank God, which does not now exist, in this part of the world. Strange as it may seem, Massachusetts,

the boasted State of schools, colleges, literature, and learning, was behind her sister States of Ohio, Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee, and New York, in regard to Medical Institutions. In several, if not all those States, Medical Schools and Associations existed. The efforts, put forth by the friends, extending light and knowledge among the people, had induced the legislatures to throw over and around them the Ægis of the law, guaranteeing to them the privileges and immunities enjoyed by others. Fortunately the old Bay State was not doomed to long continued darkness and disregard of her own interests. The progress of the cause excited the warmly devoted friends of science to engage in its struggle to overcome error, folly, superstition, and an arrogant profession.

On the 27th of January, immediately after the appearance of the Eclectic, a Convention was called to be held at Uxbridge, to consider the interests of Reform; on which occasion the following resolution was passed. “*Resolved*, That a Medical School be forthwith established in Worcester, to be called the *Worcester Medical School*, and to be placed under the supervision and general direction of a Committee or Board of Trustees, consisting of fifteen in number, five of whom shall constitute a quorum for doing business.” Accordingly the Trustees were appointed by the body, who constituted DRs. CALVIN NEWTON and C. W. B. KIDDER Professors of the Institution thus created.

The first Term of Lectures closed,—having given good satisfaction to the Class—but leaving the Institution largely in debt. This debt, however, was discharged by the generous donations of *Prof. Newton* and Dr. John A. Andrews. The obtaining of the means of demonstration, the responsibility of rents, the care of the fixtures, the Lectures, and the Editing of the publication, all devolved principally on *Prof. Newton*; and, as a reward for these “labors of love,” he had generally to *pay the bills*; though now he has the good will and esteem of the Botanic friends in New England, and he will, in future, receive a harvest in return for his efforts.

Nothing transpired of importance in the affairs of the School, until the Anniversary meeting, when the Trustees changed its name to that of the *Worcester Botanic-Medical College*. This was done to satisfy those who feared it was not, or might not remain, ortho-

dox in its principles. The epithet Botanico-Medical was adopted, as being more expressive as to its objects and character.

It is proper to notice, that, at this meeting, the Trustees extended a friendly hand to New York and portions of the West, by adding to their Board several gentlemen from that section, hoping thereby to secure the co-operation of Reformers in that region. In this matter, disappointment to a great extent was the reward; and, while we make no reflections derogatory to the high sense of honor and intelligence to which the brethren in that section are deservedly entitled, it is but justice to say, that, for the courtesies extended to them, New England had a right to expect a hearty response, and had some claim for aid and sympathy.

The address to the Class by Prof. *I. M. Comings*, on the Anniversary occasion, shows that prosperity marked the progress of events at that period. He says, "This day's convocation begins a new era in the history of the Botanic Practice. This Anniversary, though the first, we believe but the beginning of auspicious days. Through what a long night of gloom and persecution, what a period of ridicule and contempt, have the few advocates of Medical Reform in New England been obliged to pass! But a brighter day is now dawning upon us. This very occasion gives us the forecast of prosperity and triumphant success."

In the interim of the terms of 1846 and 7, successful measures were taken by Prof. *Newton* to raise more funds, in order to make the means of Demonstration more complete,—thus adding further inducements to students to attend the instructions given at Worcester. In this, the friends were not disappointed. The second term passed with good satisfaction to the Class and all interested. In January of this year, the Eclectic took the name of the Journal.

During the summer of 1847, a Society, having its origin in the city of Lowell and denominated the *Bay State Medical Reform Association*, was organized. This is still in existence, under the name of the *Massachusetts Physio-Medical Society*, and is considered by all a valuable Association. Thus far, it has answered well the objects of its creation,—having done much to harmonize the conflicting interests throughout the Commonwealth. It now numbers more than sixty members, and is in a flourishing condition.

On the presumption that the Legislature will readily grant a charter to the Society, an application will be made the present winter ; and another link, it is hoped, will be added to the chain of causes, adapted to elevate the Reform Profession in the State and country.

In passing, we ought by no manner of means to neglect to notice, that, about this time, the friends in the Granite State, under the lead of Orran P. Warren, an able and indefatigable physician, organized and obtained a charter for the New Hampshire Botanic Medical Society. Those only who assisted to fight the battle and contended for the field, know what sacrifices of time and money it required to gain the victory. But, thanks to the mighty principle of truth, which, "though crushed to earth will rise again," it, in this instance, overcame the error and established the right. The Spartan band, who so nobly defended the cause against the self-styled Regular orders, are entitled the thanks of a generous people, and they will be rewarded by posterity with a fresh and undying remembrance. Thus, inch by inch, the Reform in medicine, gained in popular favor.

Much was done, and well done, by the early men who labored to spread the truth, which they did at every peril. They had to brave every difficulty which could be thrown in their way. Slanders, malicious prosecutions, the pride and circumstance of honored professions and orders in society, had to be endured, and was endured, up to the period of which we write.

But the year 1848 should be regarded as one of peculiar interest in the annals of Reform in New England. The movements of pretended friends threatened direful consequences to the Worcester College ; which however, were averted, by the unflinching courage of the Faculty and the strong adhesion of friends to the Institution.

Up to this time, the fate of the School was uncertain ;—eternal death threatened its existence. Little things were made great ones, by little minds. Jealousies sprung up here and there. This one and that expected and asked a Professorship, frequently, without the least qualification. There was wrangling about names, and a thousand things, to destroy good feeling and exhaust the patience of those who had to navigate the ship and pay the expense of the voyage. Burdens had to be borne by the few instead of the many ;

and it should be said here, for justice demands it, that *Prof. Newton* had to be Captain and Purser; and he is entitled to more than a passing notice for his continued exertion and indispensable efforts in sustaining the cause in this trying hour.

It is an old adage, that "troubles do not come single." After overcoming all the difficulties in the way of the School's progress, when all seemed settled and quite established, and there was a confident looking for "a good time coming," the Faculty of the Cincinnati School issued a Circular, informing the world, that they, the body of the Professors with the Chancellor at their head, would appear, *en masse*, and give a Course of Medical Lectures in the city of Boston, simultaneously with the Course at Worcester. This naturally excited the inquiries, What is that for? Why are the Cincinnati gentlemen coming east? They knew of the infant Institution in Massachusetts;—they were acquainted with its history. They could not be ignorant of the fact, that it had struggled on, overcoming obstacle after obstacle, climbing over rugged cliffs, and passing boggy vales,—battling, for dear life, against the Royal Teachers of old Harvard, popular prejudice, and legislative frowns.

The reasons assigned for this interference were, to give the people or profession pure Medical Instruction, to promulgate the no-poison principle, to advance the Botanic system. In this, then, they did not differ from the Faculty of the Worcester College. Every one familiar with the facts is aware, that the doctrines, taught by *Prof. Newton* and his associates, were satisfactory to the Reformers of New England, with the exception, that they were thought to be a little too strongly Thomsonian to meet the general wants. *No poison* was and is the motto,—nature being the guide, and reason the rule. What more could be expected from *Prof. Curtis*?

For the sake of a proper understanding of this matter, and for the sake of consistency, let us inquire what *Prof. Curtis*'s system, or theory and practice, is or was? Was he, at that time, a *Thomsonian*, a *Beachite*, a *Botanic*, an *Allopathist*, or did he belong to any School of Medicine? We will take his own statements in answer to the questions. In general, they are satisfactory to us, and express our views. But do they explain or give a good reason for his eastern operations? We will make an extract or two from his

published declarations, and leave the world to judge. In the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal we find an article from Prof. Curtis, in which he says, "In the first place, you will not please to call us by any sectarian name. It might associate us with, or require us to defend principles which we repudiate, and suppose us to approve some part of the conduct of men with which conduct we can have no fellowship. We teach some doctrines that Thomson taught, and use *some remedies* that he used. So we teach some doctrines that Rush taught, and that Watson, Hall, Chapman, Dunglison, Paine, Bigelow, and Holmes teach, and use some articles they use; but we do not teach *all* the doctrines or practices of any of these gentlemen, and, therefore, *do not wish to be called after the names of any.*" Again, in the *Botanico-Medical Recorder* of February 26, 1848, we find this language from Prof. Curtis. "By what authority do they call the *Botanico-Medical College* the Thomsonian School? They well know, that we acknowledge no name as the index of true medical science."

We then again inquire, What was the object of his eastern mission? May we not conclude, under the circumstances, that, in his efforts to enlighten New England, he had more potent considerations than those assigned. We do not wish to pluck one laurel from his brow, or one gem from his well earned crown of glory. Most freely do we award to him the honor of having faithfully served, in the council and on the field, in the early contests of the cause. Many a victory he has won, doing honor both to his ability and benevolence. But—we must say it—the only motive we can find for his invasion of the rights of others, as we regard his movements in Boston to be, was an unhely and overweening desire of self-aggrandizement. He durst not leave his favor and fortune with his friends,—it seeming, that he would rather "reign in hell than serve in heaven." This may be thought harsh, but we can come to no other conclusion from the facts before us; and, until the contrary is shown, the learned Professor, with all his honors on him, stands convicted, in our opinion, with a want of honesty in this act.

It is proper here to notice, that another application was made for a charter for the School, which the assembled wisdom of the

State refused to grant, condescending to give the petitioners leave to withdraw their petition. This action of the Legislature increased the disappointments and discouragements of the friends of the School, and operated against Reform. Still, a renewed effort was made to arouse the people to an appreciation of the rights of the *Physo-Medical School*. Measures were immediately taken to ask the Constituted Authorities again for a legal existence, and a name.

The *Bay State Association* came to the rescue, and gave its support to the *College* and *Botanic Medical Journal*. The union of the interests of the Bay State Association with those of the College was the beginning of more auspicious days, producing an undivided effort to accomplish the work begun. Before this, a feeling of distrust or jealousy existed to some extent, the objects of the Association not being understood. Union gave strength, as it always will. There was added, to the ranks, a host of good men and true,—also talent and energy.

The College Term came and passed, very much to the satisfaction of all. The Class was small but intelligent; and, no doubt, their skill in practice and professional bearing has done credit to the Institution. *Prof. Curtis* finished his labors in Boston, abandoned the field, pocketed the loss sustained, and doubtless learned a lesson which he will never forget.

The year 1849 was characterised by a brighter history than the years that had gone before it. Progress was evident. More vigorous efforts were put forth. An agent was employed by the College Board. Petitions were extensively circulated for a charter. The circulation of the Journal was extended. The general pulse beat more in unison. The popular sentiment was, in a great degree, changed in favor of Reform. "All went merry as a marriage bell." Finally, to cap the climax of the triumphs of the year, after three several applications, contending against the Royal Teachers of old Harvard with their stately robes, and with popular frowns, the Legislature, always true to correct errors of principles, when understood, on the tenth day of March, gave legal existence to the WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION! The bill passed both Houses and was signed by the Governor on the same day!!

This general prosperity excited new hopes and expectations. A change or two in the Faculty was found necessary, but this was all that interrupted perfect harmony. The Institution gave good evidence of ultimate success, and cheered the hearts of all its friends.

We have thus brought our history up to 1850; and it has its dark spots, as well as its glorious results. The progress of the College, being now the most important, will therefore receive the most attention. We are informed by *Dr. Stephen Cutler*, the first agent of the Board, who was in the field a few months, what is the state of general feeling on the subject of the College. He says, "I have received pledges for between six and seven thousand dollars." This shows a willingness, at least on the part of friends, to sustain the enterprise.

Nothing transpired of special interest, until the close of the Lectures for this year, at which time, a difficulty was found to exist between Professors Newton and Comings, disturbing the peace of all concerned, and giving, to those unacquainted with the circumstances, fearful forebodings. The trouble existing between them was of both a private and a public character, the particulars of which it is not deemed proper here to relate. Suffice it to say, that, after a patient investigation, (the Board holding an extra meeting to hear the report of a Committee who were charged with the matter,) the Trustees were compelled to declare the chair of Theory and Practice vacant.

In this connexion, it is proper to say, that the insinuations and open charges involving *Prof. Newton's* private character were *entirely* and *unequivocally* refuted. Any censure, therefore, from whatever quarter it may come, involving his want of faithfulness or honesty in the trust imposed upon or assumed by him, is without reason and is not entitled to the least consideration. For the want of aid he was *obliged*, to some extent, personally and individually to manage the affairs of the Institution. The imperfect organization of the Board, and the contingencies constantly arising, which, from the very nature of the case, forbade their being provided for before their occurrence, made it necessary, that he should have discretionary power.

The Trustees, at their meeting in June, commenced the work of permanently founding the College, in good earnest. They appointed several standing Committees, assigning to each its appropriate duties, all agreeing to faithfulness in their several departments. Hoping thus to silence the complaints of individuals and ensure the co-operation of all, the Board authorized *Prof. E. Morgan Parritt* to raise funds for the purpose of erecting a suitable edifice; also to make the tour of New England, as agent of the Institution, and, if possible, to harmonize the conflicting interests in the different localities. His success is well known. To say he succeeded beyond the most sanguine expectations of the Board would be but a poor compliment for what he accomplished. His labors will be remembered and his name associated with the undying fame of the Worcester Medical Institution.

Governed, it is true, to some extent, by considerations of interest, but more for the sake of harmony and humanity, the Board offered the vacant chair of Theory and Practice to Prof. Curtis of Ohio. This generous act of the Trustees was very coolly noticed and the honor declined by the man, whom we must now in justice consider an enemy to the progress of Reform in New England. As the correctness of this conclusion may be doubted by some, allow me for a moment, to call attention to a fact, which, in connection with other facts adduced in this sketch, will satisfy a close observer.

The *Connecticut Botanico-Medical Society* called a special meeting to be held in Hartford on the 12th of September, 1850; the object of which was to adopt measures to secure a Course of Lectures in that State during the year then coming. The call also informed the people, that Prof. Alva Curtis, Chancellor of the Physo-Medical College of Ohio would be present and address the meeting. That the inference above was a fair one we may take, as authority, that call or circular, which was issued with all the dignity and pomp, that law, privilege, and names could give it, informing the public, that, the executive Board deemed this effort necessary for the reason, that the instruction at Worcester was not or would not be of the right stamp. A single extract is sufficient for my purpose. "We are directed to say, by the Executive Board,

that, as *the only relic of low and objectionable Thomsonism has fled* from the Worcester Institution, it is confidently expected, that measures and means will be taken in order to a Course of Medical Lectures to be given in this State the ensuing winter. It is earnestly requested that *every* member will be present, for the purpose of having a full expression of opinion." Now we hold to the doctrine of the largest liberty. The rights of persons and the means of education should be enjoyed by all. Hence, if the Connecticut Society wished a Course of Lectures, and could secure Prof. Curtis' aid, it was their undoubted privilege to secure it.

But what was the necessity for this movement? Was it the desire, or was it expected, to have a course of *low and objectionable Thomsonism taught*? Was Prof. Curtis the man relied upon to sustain a measure opposing the development of science? It is possible, that Dr. I. J. Sperry, a man ambitious himself to be an Author, as is his son to be a Professor, might encourage any measure to check the onward movement of the car, by adhering to an undefined and undefinable something, called a theory. The revered and lamented Thomson himself would not, if living, thank any man for holding on to error, although himself the author. A want of light obscured his vision, and a want of education made him crude in his notions. Dr. Samuel Thomson was an honest man, and a benefactor. He rests from his labors, and his "works do follow him."

Now, for a moment, look on this picture, and then on that. Professor Curtis, it is understood, was at Hartford, giving "aid and comfort," by his presence and what of popularity he had left. In doing what? Why, in assisting to get up, in Connecticut, a Course of Lectures on "*low and objectionable Thomsonism*;" having but a short time previous, coolly and with seeming contempt, refused to accept a Professorship in a respectable Institution, where true medical science, the laws of nature, and high unobjectionable Thomsonism are taught in their purity,—the very doctrines, that Prof. Curtis was expected to teach, if he had accepted the Chair offered him at Worcester, and the identical doctrines which he has been understood to teach in the Physo-Medical College of Ohio. We, however, are not informed as to the result of this movement;

but the presumption, from the perfect silence on the subject, is, that the "mountains labored and brought forth a mouse."

Prof. Parritt, as before noticed, faithfully discharged his duty, and sufficient means were raised to justify the Trustees in erecting a college building, which work was immediately commenced under the direction of the Building Committee. What is still better, the edifice is enclosed, and will be in readiness for the next Lecture Term.

In this effort of the Trustees, the people of Worcester ought not to be passed, without notice. The liberality of its citizens, in aiding on this important work, shows a public spirit and generosity worthy of imitation. JOHN F. POND Esq. donated both land and money, in order to secure an Institution alike creditable to the Physo-medical fraternity and to his city; and he will doubtless hereafter, if he does not now, enjoy the consolation of feeling, that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

The year 1850, therefore, (whether it is in the first or in the last half of the nineteenth century,) will be marked in coming time, as the period of the permanent establishment of the Worcester Medical Institution;—of the glorious triumph of science, integrity, and benevolence, over error, imbecility, wicked ambition, and the pride and circumstance of power and place.

Nearly half a century has elapsed since Medical Reform first showed itself, like a native diamond, giving but little brilliancy. In the midst of old rubbish, musty books, and professional dogmas, an occasional glimpse only, could be seen. Slowly but surely it has progressed—one theory after another following in rapid succession.

To notice the ephemeral existence of the theories adopted and rejected by the profession would require more time and space than can possibly be allowed in this sketch, and would only be disgusting to the popular reader. It is enough for our present purpose to record the results.

The heroic treatment, in the use of *calomel*, *antimony*, and the *lancet* is looked on, by the more intelligent portion of the Faculty and people, as dangerous, and not to be employed, at least in the Allopathic manner. Here and there a College has been established

for teaching and promulgating improved methods of healing disease; and, finally, one, even in the vicinity of the often called "modern Athens," the city of Boston, but a little distance from the world-renowned old Harvard, bloated as she is with vain glory, arrogance, and aristocracy, the pet of the State and the pride of the "upper ten." Yes, even under these circumstances, the genius of Medical Reform, like a young giant fresh, vigorous, maturing into manhood and perfection, rises boldly in the consciousness of right, asks and receives legislative favor. Opening the purses of the people, she is erecting a temple for her abode, and for the radiation of light, a centre of science and a home of reason, extending a healthful and benign influence over the whole country.

Having now brought our history to a close and accomplished our object, it only remains for us to point out some of the duties of Reformers in prospect of the future.

First of all, then, let them improve the advantages which they possess, lend their aid, employ their talents, and encourage union of efforts, in order to complete the work begun. The present age is bright with hope. Development is the word,—progress the object. We see the light of truth doing its work. Science is uprooting error, old and before popular orders of society and professions of men are passing into forgetfulness, in the onward march. Facts, instead of theories, are demanded. Demonstration, instead of speculation, is required. The stamp and impress of improvement are seen in the light of science, in theology, law, medicine, government, and language. The race are mounting up to a higher and holier condition. Man is regarded as a brother, and the alleviation of suffering humanity as an object worthy of a world's consideration. For the sake, then, of all that is sacred, let reformers in medicine continue the good work before them, "labor on, and labor ever." Let the mental, moral, intellectual, and physical condition of "God's image" man, and the development of science, be the aim, object, and end of all of God's creatures.

A CASE OF THE TÆNIA SOLIUM, OR TAPE WORM.

Prof. Newton ;—

Should you deem the following case worthy of a place in your columns, it is at your disposal.

On the 22d of January last, I was called to see a Mrs. Porter of this town. The lady had been confined, about three weeks previous to her sending for me ; and, the labor having been long and severe, I found her system suffering under consequent prostration. But this was not the difficulty for which she called *me*. It was one that could be traced far back of even three successive periods of gestation.

The symptoms were as follows. She had often felt a sensation in her stomach, like the movements of a living animal ; and, at times, it would seem to rise up into the œsophagus, and, pressing upon the trachea, would produce severe strangulation. She had felt these movements much oftener, during her last pregnancy, than at any former time ; and, since her confinement, the severity of them seemed to have increased, in proportion as her strength decreased, until she feared strangulation every time she lay down. In fact, I learned from her nurse, that she would have spasms and convulsions not unlike the worm fits of Children. Her eyes would become dilated and fixed in their sockets, her face turgid and swollen, her limbs cold and rigid ; and, unless she was raised into an erect posture, it would seem, that she would certainly suffocate. She had a severe cough, but no expectoration. Her appetite was inordinate ; and, after she had taken her meals, the creature would seem to settle down into her stomach. Then her throat felt better and her cough was less, the creature giving her but little inconvenience.

From what I could learn, in the history of the case, I felt confident, that there was a living substance in the stomach, and that it was a tape worm. Still, I knew many of the symptoms might result from the universal nervous weakness which existed in the system. I, accordingly, put her on a tonic course. I had two ends in view in this treatment. 1st, If these symptoms resulted from

weakness, this course must remove them. 2nd, The patient would bear our powerful vermifuges much better, after toning the system a little, than she could in its prostrated condition, if it should be found necessary to prescribe that class of medicines. I gave a tonic, composed of the following articles, *populus tremuloides*, *hydrastis canadensis*, *chelona glabra*, *helonias dioicea*, and *balsamodendron myrrha*. I gave her this compound 3 times in a day, before eating, in 15 to 20 gr. doses, steeped in half a tea-cupful of boiling water. I gave her a syrup made of the *gaultheria procumbens*, and *virburnum oxycoccus*, in French brandy. I gave her this twice a day, in doses of one fourth of a wine-glassful. At night I gave her a nervine, composed of equal parts of the *lupulus*, *scutellaria*, and *cypripedium*.

I kept her on this course about one week, and then she was much stronger, and felt better in many respects. She said new life had been imparted to her whole system; yet the old symptoms of coughing and choking still remained, and she felt the motion of the animal more sensibly, immediately after taking the tonic. This was bitter, and the gentleman did not like to exist in such an element. He, consequently, would rise above it, into the cardiac portion of the stomach, and the œsophagus. This fact made me more confident, that I was correct in my former diagnosis, that there was a living animal in her stomach. I suggested to her the idea of taking an emetic, to see if she could throw it off by the mouth. But she could not bear the thought of this operation, from the fact that she took an emetic some 7 or 8 years before; and, in the act of vomiting, came very near strangulation. The Dr. who prescribed at the time, became alarmed, and thought his patient must die. He succeeded, however, in turning the creature down into the stomach, and this broke the fit. He then told her never to take another emetic. I was governed by her feelings, and did not urge the course.

It appeared to me, that the only alternative left was to try the virtue of our anthelmintics. I gave, in the first place, a vermifuge, composed of *oleum ricini*, *chenopodium*, and *oleum terebinthinæ*, in doses of half an ounce, on an empty stomach, twice a day. She followed this course 3 or 4 days, yet it brought away nothing in

the shape of a worm. I then gave her a strong decoction of the spigelia marilandica, and senna. But this did not succeed; for the worm would rise up into the throat, immediately upon taking the compound, and would seem thereby to escape its effects. I then gave a strong decoction of the spigelia alone; and, the space of 3 or 4 hours after, followed it with the senna.

I cautioned her very strongly, not to nurse her babe, while she was under the influence of the spigelia; but she was not sufficiently careful, and the little fellow nursed the influence from her, and was thrown into terrible spasms, so that approaching death appeared to be inevitable. The mother, however, had discretion enough to give it a dose of castor oil and a gentle emetic, which immediately relieved the little innocent.

To return to the mother, I followed the dose, last mentioned above, on the next day, with half an ounce of the oleum terebinthinæ, and two hours after I gave a dose of castor oil. This last vermifuge affected the patient very sensibly. She felt it like electricity operating upon the whole alimentary canal. The animal did not rise into the throat, after her taking the turpentine, but seemed, for a while, to make rapid and powerful convulsions in the stomach, as though it was writhing in great agony. Soon, however, it became still, and she felt no more of its motions. She was sensible the medicine had done the work; and, surely, it had; for, when the oil operated, it brought away a very large tape worm, all disconnected,—literally cut in pieces.

It was from 15 to 20 feet in length, and the largest I ever saw.

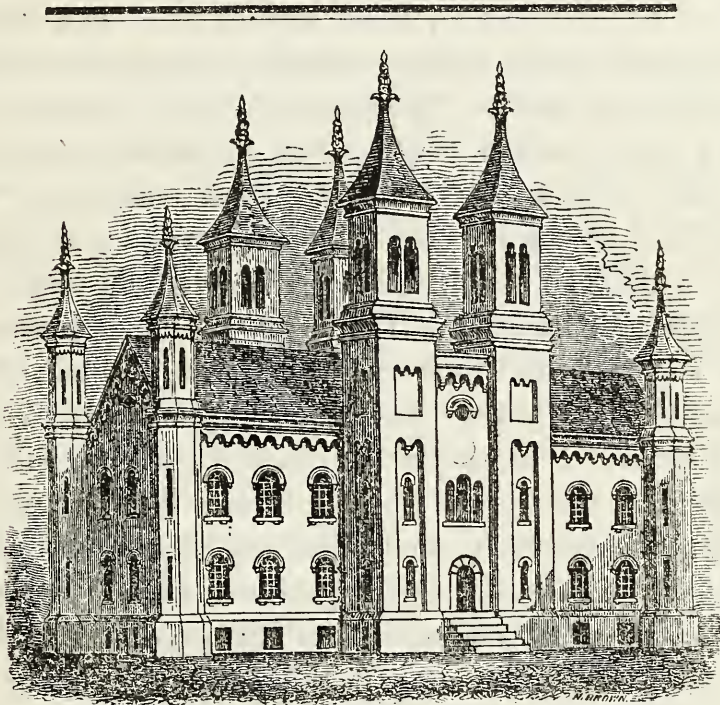
It was not so long as one I saw, which came away from a patient in the hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, while I was a student there, some five years ago. That was 32 feet in length, but this one was very wide, and thick, and of a darker color. It all came away; for, among the various joints, the head could be readily distinguished.

The lady felt somewhat reduced, as must have been expected, from the severe operation of the medicine. But I never saw a female express stronger feelings of gratitude and happiness after passing through *nature's severest trial*, than did this lady, after she had become freed from that noxious reptile, which had made her stomach and bowels its home for many long years.

She readily regained her strength under a proper tonic course, and is now perfectly free from disease,—enjoying the buoyancy, the elasticity, and heaven-enduring hopes, which good health creates. She, also, proves an unwavering friend to that system of medicine, which does *not* create still greater sufferings than *those* which it is intended to lighten and remove,—which seeks to gather, from nature's great store-house, those cordials, which will bring back health and perfect symmetry to the diseased and disorganized system.

W. B. PORTER, M. D.

Paper Mill Village, N. H., Nov. 25, 1850.



[Worcester Medical Institution.]

Editorial.

—:—

OUR PRINCIPLES.

From the very commencement of our labors as a medical editor to the present time, we have had but one object prominently in view. Our first issue was June 1st, 1846; and, during that year, our paper bore the name of "THE NEW ENGLAND MEDICAL ECLECTIC and *Guide to Health.*" This name was chosen, not to express a mode of practice, but to indicate, that what was said was

medical matter selected and gathered together, from whatever quarter we could find material suited to our notions.

The name however, was soon found objectionable ; inasmuch as, about this time, the immediate disciples of Dr. Beach assumed the epithet Eclectic, and many were *stubbornly determined* to confound us with that class of physicians, so long as we unfurled such a banner. It was all in vain, that we clearly defined our position. Our language was misconstrued, and our object misjudged. There were, at that time, Botanic papers, in different parts of the country, published under such names as "The Western Medical Truth-Teller," "The Medical Enquirer," and the like ; and these, in the popular judgment, were entirely *orthodox*, though they did not bear, on their front, the seal of Thomsonism. But "ECLECTIC," as the name of a paper, though employed as mentioned above and not as descriptive of a class of physicians, was considered "a crime to be punished by the judges." Grovelling and unreflecting minds could see nothing in the term, but "hypocrisy and iniquity." Indeed, they seemed to read in it, almost the very fulfilment of that vision of Daniel, as to which he says, "I saw, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful, and terrible, and strong exceedingly ; and it had great iron teeth. It devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it : and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it ; and it had ten horns."

In the dissemination of this impression, we are sorry to say, that Dr. A. Curtis, then editor of the *Botanico-Medical Recorder*, bore no unimportant part ; for, though in a few instances only did he venture directly to condemn our position, yet he never acknowledged us as a co-laborer, nor, as far as we know, ever said one word in our favor. As to his motives in doing so, a sufficient exposition is had in his subsequent course,—particularly in his attempt to establish an opposition School in Boston in the spring of 1848, and more especially in his late refusal to co-operate with us, and his renewed efforts to place himself at the head of a New England Medical Institution.

We will, however, leave this subject, simply remarking, as we pass, that, in the development of this last scheme, it has been exceedingly unfortunate for him, that his sycophantic and parasitic

right hand man has been seriously impeded in the work of forwarding his ambitious designs, having been taken into custody by the strong arm of the law, on the charge of having made unlawful plunder of human life.

But to accommodate the prejudices of many, and to guard some against the mistakes into which they might innocently fall, in January, 1847, we changed the name of the paper to that which it now bears, and began again with Vol. 1, No. 1.

With this change of name, however, there was no change of object. We have, from the first, unwaveringly advocated an innocent and sanative medication ; that is, the adoption of such medicinal agents only as act in harmony with physiological laws. At the same time, we have not been willing to limit ourselves to the few remedies employed by Samuel Thomson, nor to restrict our investigations of disease almost exclusively to the matter of its symptoms, as is done by Wooster Beach, M. D. Our aim has been to elevate the profession, and enlarge the arena of true medical science. There have seemed to us too much ignorance and empiricism with the Allopathic and every other portion of the profession ; and we have thought, that, so far from setting a lower, we should set a much higher standard of attainment, as the proper qualification for the physician. In a word, having marked out for ourselves a course, we early called it the *Physo-Medical Practice* ; and, by common consent, this epithet is now being applied to all those whose system of medication is understood to be essentially the same.

To this epithet, we would here remark, a few thick-skulled ignoramuses of the Eclectic faith have taken exceptions ; and have endeavored to represent to the public, that the term, traced to its Greek origin, signifies *Windy-medical*. It would have been well for these *Liliputian* minds, if they had remembered the sentiment of the Poet,

“ A little learning is a dangerous thing ;”

and, had they known enough to conceal their own ignorance, they would have left us to find out, by other means, than being directly told by themselves, that they know the letters of the Greek Alphabet, and they would not have proclaimed so unblushingly their own

shame. We lay no special claim to the character of a scholar; though, while pursuing, in College and for more than ten years afterwards, a literary and scientific course, we had brains enough to learn a smattering of Greek, as well as Latin, French, and Hebrew; and we somehow supposed we found out, that the Greek word which, transferred to the English language, is *physis*, signifies nature, and *physicos*, natural. Be that, as it may, we do not wonder, that some persons are more *windy* than *natural*, though, for ourselves, we are not so much interested in mere *bags of wind*.

And here we will take the liberty to observe, that we are well pleased with a few suggestions of Dr. P. John of Millville, Pennsylvania, as given in the October number of the Medical Reformer, published by S. R. Jones, M. D., at Memphis, Tennessee. Speaking concerning the names *Thomsonian* and *Botanic*, as used by Editors in advertising the Reform Practice, he says,

“These may seem as matters of very small import to them, but to me they are of consequence; for, until we renounce them forever, until we convince the world that we are *not* Thomsonians—are neither the followers nor worshippers of *any* man, but that, with the “most profound learning and most embracing benevolence,” we are the undaunted cultivators of the art and science of sanative medication, we shall have that coupled with us which will curse and bear us down to the end of time. Thomson presented the world with the *outlines* of an innocent practice of medicine, it is true; but, so far from cultivating and refining—polishing and dressing it, he despised the aid of science, and finally left it with the stain of ignorance and vulgarity. No, we are not Thomsonians, because these opprobrious epithets which will forever stigmatize the name, are in no wise applied to us. Nor are we, *verum dicere*, Botanics. Our remedial agents are *not* limited and confined to the vegetable kingdom, while on the other hand there *are* articles in this kingdom which we reject entirely from our materia medica.”

In view of these considerations, the doctor advises, that we let the name *Botanic* share the same fate as *Thomsonian*, and that we henceforth give to our system the significant name **PHYSOPATHY**. To this recommendation we most heartily say **AMEN**. While others are expressively called Allopathists, Homœopathists, Hydropathists,

&c., we may, with the strictest propriety, call ourselves Physopaths, as we undertake to teach, or at least are professedly seeking to understand, *the true nature* of diseases. There are adequate reasons, however, for our allowing the name of the Journal to remain, for the present, as it is.

So much by way of qualification and general description. We now come to a more direct presentation of our true position. And here, in the first place, we may remark, that we have not a particle of sympathy for the superficial and incongruous notions of many who lay boastful claim to being the only true reformers in medicine but who really never investigate medical subjects in the light of science nor even of common sense.

For illustration, a writer in the October number of the Southern Medical Reformer, published at Macon, Georgia, undertakes to give a description of the leading doctrines embraced by several different sects in medicine. Eclecticism he puts at rest, by a single fatal blow. "If *Eclecticism* be a system, I have not been able to satisfy myself of the fact." Other professed systems are deemed worthy of a little more attention.

"Allopathy," says he, "proceeds on the assumption, that disease is an abnormal or unnatural condition of the animal system, induced by some cause acting upon the various organs, and deranging their functions;—that disease is something in the system that must be removed. Hence, for fever, it uses the lancet, 'lobus pill,' and emetic, until not unfrequently the disease and life are expelled together."

Now, really, if this description characterises Allopathy, or gives even one of its distinguishing features, we have not acumen enough to discover it. We have no doubt, that the author supposed he had got off something very fine, and we are equally confident, that his intelligent readers will convict him, at the bar of reason, of a perfect *bull*. Aside from the inference, which is about as legitimately deduced from the premises, as the value of a jack-knife would be from the known worth of a china tea-pot, there is nothing in the definition inapplicable to the true science of medicine.

Disease is said to be "an abnormal or unnatural condition of the animal system." Well, the author, Dr. Beach, and perhaps Dr.

Curtis and a few others are all, we suppose, who ever had imaginations erratic enough to think otherwise. Dr. Noah Webster defines it "Any state of a living body, in which the natural functions of the organs are interrupted or disturbed." All other lexicographers give us substantially the same definition.

Words, it is true, are but arbitrary signs of ideas; and, in writing any scientific work, it is one's privilege to use terms, as he pleases, provided he first defines *his use* of them. If he chooses, he may use the word *moon* to signify the luminary that rules the day, and the word *sun* to signify the luminary that rules the night. He informs us of *his* sense of the terms, and we understand him; but it would be folly and madness for him to pretend, that he had adopted the commonly received sense of the terms, and that, from time immemorial, the popular usage has accorded with his. If any crack-brained writer on medicine chooses to use the word *disease*, in the sense of *health* or of any thing else, he is at liberty to do so; but let him not find fault, because others prefer to employ the term just according to the sense in which every body has always understood it.

But let us hear the writer on another system of medicine. "Homœopathy is more philosophical. It assumes that disease is a natural condition of the system, in which the vital powers are struggling against some antagonistic influence; that but one condition of disease can exist in the system at the same time;—that, if another disease can be created, the former will disappear." Here, let it be observed, we have a definition of "disease" which the author approves. It "is a natural condition of the system;" and we are told, "that but one condition of" a natural condition of the system "can exist in the system at the same time";—"that, if another" natural condition of the system "can be created, the former will disappear." An illustration is added. "For instance, fever is a natural state of the system. If an artificial disease [artificial natural condition of the system], however small in quantity, can be created, the former disappears and the latter is substituted in its place, which is readily removed by the ordinary vital forces. The artificial disease [artificial natural condition of the system] created must be precisely like the natural one it is to succeed, and

must be induced by such medicines or agents, as would, in the healthy system, produce the original disease [original natural condition of the system]. On this plan, it would be important that the amount of artificial disease [artificial natural condition of the system] be as *small as possible*—an infinitesimal quantity. Hence the celebrated prescriptions and modes of preparations with which we occasionally meet.” This nonsensical jargon needs no further comment, and we pass on.

“Hydrophy,” says the writer, “is still nearer the truth, for it admits one of the most important elements connected with the whole subject, viz: the *vis medicatrix naturæ*. It assumes, that there is in the animal economy a recuperative power, which heals wounds, removes disease, [removes a natural condition of the system] and restores the disordered system to its healthy condition;—that this principle can better be brought into exercise by reducing the ordinary energies of the system to a certain degree. A powerful sedative—cold water—is applied, until the condition necessary for the action of the *vis medicatrix* is induced, when the disease [the natural condition of the system] is removed!” It strikes us, that an intelligent Hydrophyist will not much thank the writer for this caricatured description of his system of medicine. We never before knew, that a fundamental principle of the water-treatment required a reduction of “the ordinary energies of the system,” in order to give the *vis medicatrix naturæ* a chance to operate.

But, by the way, though we give our entire approbation to the water treatment, judiciously and scientifically applied, and acknowledge it as a constituent part, but not the whole, of a perfect system of medicine; yet we must be allowed to say, that there are empirics and boastful pretenders with exclusive Hydrophyists, as well as with other classes of the profession. To illustrate,—a Hydrophyist, several months since, came to our city to lecture on the subject of water-cure. Not content to advance direct arguments in favor of the cause which he advocated, he must denounce all other systems, and was not sparing in his censure of the views which we were known to advocate.

Well, an opportunity soon occurred for him to display the superiority of the water-treatment over the physio-medical, and, at the

same time, to exhibit his individual skill as a physician. A patient of ours, for whom we had ceased almost entirely to prescribe—she having been in the third stage of phthisis when we first saw her, and, at this time, one of her lungs being, in a good measure, consumed,—was, as is common with consumptives, anxious to try something new. An application was made to the Hydropathist, who flattered her with the pretence, that, by the superior agency of water, he could relieve her immediately. He commenced operations; but, during some four or five days of the treatment, she sank rapidly, when she and her husband became alarmed, lest death should be the immediate consequence. They again sought our advice; and, by her resuming the use of Botanic remedies, life was prolonged for two or three months.

Now, in this matter, there was either gross ignorance or gross intentional deception; and the physician may accept which horn of the dilemma he chooses. The case was one which auscultation made absolutely certain; and, to satisfy the surviving friends, we, at the proper time, made a post-mortem examination, and verified exactly what we had foretold.

Yet this same physician, under the head of "A SKETCH, BY E. A. KITTRIDGE, M. D., in the Water-Cure Journal for Jan., 1850, undertakes *in a learned way*, to say several things about *Thomsonism*. Unfortunately, however, for himself, he manifests, that he knows as little about the thing as he does about the name. Not in a single instance has he given the correct orthography of Samuel Thomson's name, nor of any of its derivatives. We are not a Thomsonian, any more than we are an exclusive Hydropathist; but, really, we do not like to see a writer (especially so ignorant a one) make quite so arrogant pretensions, and keep so little truth on his side. Let Thomsonism, as well as Hydropathy, be treated fairly. It is generally bad policy for "the pot to call the kettle crock;" and, in this instance, the doctor is certainly about as *deep in the mud* as those whom he condemns are *in the mire*. He will do well to study Pathology a little more, before he writes any further strictures.

But, to return from this digression, the writer, in the Southern Medical Reformer before referred to, after several unimportant, un-

meaning, and ridiculous remarks about the existence and nature of the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, goes on to explain what he calls "*the reform philosophy*." "This," he says, "regards what is termed disease only as an effort of nature to remove, from the system, some obstruction to the ordinary functions."

Now, really, whether this is "reform" or not, we are at a loss to say; but that it is "philosophy," in any sense, we unequivocally deny. Suppose a man's muscles, or liver, or lungs, or any other organ to be inflamed; or, by some accident, to have been incised or otherwise wounded. Does not the inflammation or the wound constitute *the disease*, as understood by every body? To say, that "some obstruction to the ordinary functions" has occurred, and that the inflammation or the wound is "an effort of nature" to remove the "obstruction," is the very quintessence of nonsense—nonsense double-refined. It reminds us of the "philosophy" of a certain disciple of Thomson residing not a thousand miles from this city, who, in recommending some of his "*warming*" medicine to a sick man, several months since, in the presence of a friend of ours, justified his prescription on the ground, that the patient needed something "to make the internal heat swell up, so as to drive the cold out!" "*Risum teneatis, amici*"? And yet Dr. Curtis and others of his calibre talk complacently, not only of fever's being a recuperative effort of nature, but of its being synonymous with inflammation, of which they also speak in the same language. According to this *philosophy*, a man, with a sound hand, on extending it towards the fire, and finding it beginning to be inflamed, is to regard that inflammation "only as an effort of nature to remove some obstruction to the ordinary functions," though, in fact, no such obstruction existed, till the hand was exposed to the fire; and, to be consistent, these "wise men of Gotham" must proceed further, and say, that, when the inflammation has increased to vesication and produced an extensive injury, the process is "only an effort of nature to remove, from the system, some obstruction to the ordinary functions," though, in the outset, all the functions were in harmonious operation. We have often heard, that "the moon is a green cheese"; but we never, till of late, supposed, that any but children and fools believed it.

With reference, to such a power as the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, we admit or we deny its existence, according as it is understood.

If, by the term, is meant simply the vital principle exhibiting a modified action, under the influence of disease, it would be an offence against common sense to question its existence. If, on the contrary, the term be intended to express a separate power, ordinarily latent but called into action, under the experience of disease, we say unhesitatingly, that such a power is the mere offspring of a disordered imagination.

The workings of the vital principle may well be called vito-chemistry. The *nervo-vital fluid*, we regard, as only vitalized electricity. When God originally breathed into man the breath of life and constituted him a living soul, the machinery of the body was set at work under the influence of electricity, received from the atmosphere and modified by its relation to and incorporation with the human mind or spiritual essence. It has long been regarded by Pathologists, that the principal office of the red corpuscles of the blood is the stimulation of the nervous energies; and, in our firm conviction, the iron which enters immediately into these corpuscles, is there to attract, from the atmosphere, the electric fluid. Exertion, whether mental or physical, uses up and exhausts the *nervo-vital fluid* or energizing power; and this is replaced while the body and mind are essentially in a state of passivity, especially during sleep.

Before closing this already protracted article, we will say a few words in regard to the *modus operandi* of remedial agents. A few operate, in part, mechanically,—as when we use slippery elm or flax-seed tea to sheath over inflamed mucous surfaces. Others operate chemically,—as when we take soda or lime-water to neutralize an acid in the stomach. Still others, (and these are, by far, the most numerous and important class,) act dynamically or vitally; in other words, they act according to the laws, not of simple chemistry, but of vito-chemistry.

Under the last of these heads, several varieties may be specified. Electricity operates by combining with and aiding the action of the *nervo-vital fluid*. Iron and other mineral conductors of electricity operate, at least in part, by attracting that fluid into the system from

the surrounding atmosphere. Of these preparations, only such as are homogeneous with the tissues are entirely innocent. Iron, for instance, enters into the tissues ; and, hence, such of its preparations as do not already form an objectionable compound, are essentially innocent. True, if the mineral is not already organized, it cannot form any constituent part of a living tissue ; as the system is nourished only by means of organized substances,—vegetable or animal. If, however, it passes through the circulation as a foreign substance and not as a component part of the vital fluid, still it may be supposed to have, at least, some of the same effects as when incorporated. Minerals which are heterogeneous to the tissues, whatever good they may do, are liable also to work a greater or less amount of injury, according to their nature, and their tendency to disturb the animal economy. Some articles, whatever their origin, being composed of ultimate elements not organized, may, like alcohol, mingle with the circulation and so stimulate the nervous tissue, as to quicken arterial action,—and yet these articles may form no constituent part of the blood, but may be, at length, rejected from it.

But the agents which constitute the most numerous and important variety of medicines, are such as, under vital influence and in connexion with the nutritious material derived from food, become incorporated with the living tissues and aid in their renewal. This class of agents must necessarily consist of matter which is organized, as unorganized matter cannot enter into combination with animal tissues ; but the organization may be either animal or vegetable. A few animal remedies are employed ; but by far the greater portion are vegetable. This is the class which are most properly termed *tonic* medicines. The term tonic, however, like most other medical terms, has been used with some degree of vagueness. In its original import, it conveys the idea of strength ; and it is always understood to imply the imparting of an abiding power to the system. Those agents, on the contrary, which temporarily increase the action of any organs or functions, but communicate no new energy or inherent strength, are called stimulants. They may be cardiac stimulants,—such as arouse the action of the heart and increase the circulation ; or they may be stimulants to some

of the secreting functions,—as, for instance, the follicles of the skin, which, under their influence, produce, for the time, an increased perspiration.

We have much more to say on this subject; but the length of the present article admonishes us to close.

CONCENTRATED MEDICINES.

By an advertisement of Messrs. B. O. and G. C. Wilson, in our advertising columns, our readers will perceive, that they can find, at No. 18, Central Street, Boston, a supply of those remedies prepared by Messrs. Hill, Crutcher, & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio. We shall also ourselves, probably, effect an arrangement by which practitioners in our immediate vicinity will be able to obtain a supply at our office.

In those cases in which vegetable remedies can be concentrated without injury to their properties, the concentration is desirable, on account of the convenience of administration. This is especially true, in the case of children, and of persons whose delicacy of taste is such, that their stomachs are liable to reject any considerable quantity of a nauseous drug.

Through the politeness of the firm at Cincinnati, we have received several specimens of the articles prepared by them; and, in general, we are pleased with the operation. The extracts of leptandria and podophyllum are especially to be valued; as, in taking them, the disagreeable taste of the crude articles may be almost entirely avoided. The cathartic effects of both these extracts is unimpaired; and, in the case of the latter, one positive advantage, and that not a small one, is gained. The acidity or irritating property of the unconcentrated podophyllum is entirely removed, and the operation becomes of the mildest character.

We hope, that practitioners who may find it convenient, will lend our friends, Messrs. Wilson, their patronage; at least, so far as to give the above-named preparations a fair trial.

IMPERFECT URETHRA.

On Sunday, Nov. 24th, 1850, we were called to see an infant son of Mr. Edward Neely of this city, born at 5 o'clock, P. M., the day previous. We were sent for at the suggestion of the nurse, who discovered that there had been no cystic discharge, and probably could not be. On examination, we found that nature had unfortunately omitted to form any meatus urinarius for the little visitant to the scenes of earth. Though the parts were otherwise well formed, there was not the slightest resemblance of a meatus, but the cutaneous tissue of the glans was perfectly whole and smooth.

We endeavored, by means of the bistoury, to reach the urethra, and artificially to form a meatus. Our first incision was made two or three lines in depth. Not finding the evidence, that we had effected our object, and supposing it probable that we should not be able to do it, we allowed the child to remain till the following Tuesday. At this time, the fulness above the pubis giving proof of cystic distention, we made another effort to accomplish the work which nature had left undone. We inserted the bistoury from six to nine lines deep, in what would be the direction of the urinary canal, on the supposition that it was partially formed. There was a copious discharge of blood but none of urine, at the time. The next morning, however, Wednesday, Nov. 27th, the bladder was evacuated freely through the artificial opening, and the child has since done perfectly well.

Cases of hypospadias and epispadias occasionally occur; but the above was an abnormality which we had never till then seen, nor ever found described in the books. In vol. 1st, p. 313, under the head of "A Freak of Nature," we described a case of imperforate anus, the particulars of which were not entirely void of interest; and it has occurred to us, that a description of the absence of the proper glandular perforation, in the instance now referred to, might be looked at, not only with curiosity, but with profit, by our readers generally, and especially by those who are members of the profession.

PHYSICIAN'S ACCOUNT BOOK.

Among the various labor-saving inventions, which are somewhat characteristic of the present age and of yankees in particular, one has recently appeared, bearing the following title, "Physician's Account Book, designed for keeping a correct list of patients, and charges for visiting;—also, referring to medical treatment, in former cases. Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1850, by JONATHAN ALLEN, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of Massachusetts."

This book was favorably noticed by the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, in the Nos. for Oct. 2d and 9th, 1850. The Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association, also, at a late fair in the city of Boston, awarded to the publisher, a diploma, in consideration of its labor-saving value to physicians.

For ourselves, we take pleasure in saying, that, to the physician whose practice is extensive enough to render his time of any considerable importance, the book is really worth many times its nominal price, \$2,50. It is for sale at our office; and we will guarantee, that the medical man who shall have used it for a short time only, shall be satisfied with the purchase. We see not how he could better appropriate that amount of funds. Come, doctor, purchase one, and judge for yourself.

 WORCESTER ALMANAC.

This excellent annual appears in an improved form for 1851. Besides the usual amount of matter which is of general interest, it is made a complete Directory and valuable business Advertiser, for our citizens generally. It, for the first time, contains the names of the inhabitants of the entire city, which is a valuable improvement on former editions.

It is printed and published by H. J. HOWLAND, No. 199, Main Street, who is in the habit of getting up accommodations of this kind *pro bono publico*, and of *doing the thing right*. It is altogether the most valuable Almanac, not only for the inhabitants of Worcester, but also for those of this whole vicinity.

NEW ENGLAND
BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL
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CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

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ANNUAL ADDRESS,

DELIVERED BEFORE

THE MASSACHUSETTS PHYSO-MEDICAL SOCIETY,
WASHINGTONIAN HALL, BOSTON, JAN. 1st, 1851.

BY BENJ. F. HATCH, M. D.

Gentlemen of the Medical Profession :—We have come up, from all parts of our State, to associate ourselves together in one general body, for the purpose of revealing, to each other and to the world at large, such means as in our judgment, are best calculated to ameliorate the condition of suffering humanity. Our object is a noble

one. Our duty is plain, and our profession one that should stimulate us to constant and untiring exertion to avail ourselves of all means to relieve the distresses of the afflicted.

As it is an established custom, upon all occasions like this, to select some one to address those who meet together, and as I have received a notice, from your Secretary, of an appointment by your Committee to this honorable position, in obedience to the duty thus imposed upon me, I now stand before you, with a hope, that I shall, in the course of the few remarks which I am about to make, present some things which will be interesting and useful.

I regret, that the mantle has not fallen upon one more experienced and better qualified than myself, to discharge this honorable duty. But, as the task is mine, I will, with your indulgence, endeavor to redeem myself from the obligation which at present rests upon me.

The subject which I have selected, for the present occasion, is the slow progress of medical science, the different systems of practice, their merits and demerits, and the relative value of each. In this I shall find difficulties not easily surmounted; but I will speak of them, in their proper place.

The nineteenth century will ever stand prominent upon the pages of history, as an age of discovery and improvement,—as one that will record the general looking up of old ideas, theories, and speculations;—as one in which the once apparently discordant principles of nature are developed into beauty and harmony. Fine wrought theories, which are the offspring of over stimulated imaginations, are giving place to plain matters of fact. In this century, intelligence, which has slumbered in the darkness of past ages, is being developed; and, by its development, is rapidly appropriating to the use of men, the principles which exist in nature. The arts and sciences have been cultivated and perfected. Nature's mystical doors have been thrown open, and its internal workings made plain to the understanding of men. The trackless waste of the expanded waters has been made a public highway for the world, whilst its most distant corners have been brought into instantaneous communication. Distant worlds have been brought within the limits of our investigation, whilst the womb of earth, has been made prolific with the wealth of nations.

Whilst all this improvement has been going on in the world at large, the medical profession, until within a few years, has stood unmoved. Earth has rocked to and fro, until she has shaken to the foundation those pillars upon which had rested, for ages, hypothetical speculation. Long chained but now free spirits have buried theory after theory beneath accumulated wisdom, and presented to the world principles founded in nature. Pathology has not been understood; and, therefore, new speculations have been made, and new theories have been adopted, which, having prevailed for a while, have, in turn, given place to others equally unfounded.

Hippocrates, the father of medicine, first established what is generally known as the humoral system. His sentiments for a long time prevailed generally throughout the medical profession. Although several men like Praxagoras of Cos, Chrysippus, Herophilus, and Aesclepiades, advanced new hypotheses and introduced, from time to time, many innovations in practice; yet, in the main, they were all advocates of Hippocrates' humoral system.

Themison, who made his appearance about a century before Christ, was the first to reject Hippocrates' theory. His hypothesis was, that all diseases arise from two morbid states of the system, which are contrary to each other,—a state of *constriction*, and a state of *relaxation*. Subsequently, however, he added a third, which was a mixture of the first two, called the mixed state. This being the Pathology, of course the remedies would be easy of selection, relaxants and astringents.

After Themison, came the classical Celsus, whose sentiments unquestionably were far in advance of those of the great majority of the medical profession, at the present day. He conceived, that all diseases have a direct tendency to cure themselves, and that the remedies of the physician should *never be such* as to interfere with nature, but should be what experience has found to best co-operate with her. His mind, for one so early in the history of our science, was well stored with medical knowledge, and he was the originator of many important ideas which the world would do well to adopt.

After Celsus, Claudius Galenus of Pergamus, in Asia Minor, appeared upon the stage of action. Having received his rudimental

education from his father, he commenced travelling, for the purpose of accumulating wisdom from all sources within his reach; and, when his popularity had arisen to a sufficient height to overthrow all other systems of medicine, he endeavored to establish an entirely new one, and so far succeeded, that his was the prevailing sentiment for thirteen hundred years. But he, with all of the bright stars in the medical firmament which had gone before him, was soon lost in the obscurity of that period known as the "dark ages." Here this most important of all sciences slumbered;—and it has never since been fully aroused, until within the past twenty years. Nevertheless, we will look at the history of its somnolent state.

Galen's theories are but little recognised at the present day. His great fundamental principle of medical science was, that the human body contains four elements, to wit, Earth, Air, Fire, and Water, and that the body consists in addition, to these, of four humors. This doctrine however, some have supposed not to have been original with him, but to have been borrowed from Hippocrates. In addition to this, he also taught, that every article in the *Materia Medica* contains four qualities identical with the four qualities in the body. But, by what principle he selected his remedies, we are left to conjecture.

Paracelsus was the next who is worthy of notice, and he came upon the stage of action in the year 1527. He possessed a mind and an audacity well calculated to give currency to his own theories, and to overthrow others'. His impetuosity, boldness, audacity, and impudence were unparalleled. With his peculiar traits of character he very soon established his doctrines throughout Europe, and thus overthrew those dogmas of his predecessors, which had stood the test of ages.

Notwithstanding his convincing arguments, many still continued to adhere to the system of Galen; and, whenever they failed to overthrow his theory, they would resort either to ridicule or to abuse. To substantiate their own views, they would draw around them their antiquated authors, claiming that their system had received the sanction of ages, and consequently that any innovation was, not only uncalled for, but presumptuous and detrimental to the welfare of the healing principle. Like a great proportion of

our profession at the present day, they believed themselves in possession of all knowledge ; and the large mortality which everywhere accompanied their practice, was to them no evidence that medicine was yet empiricism, and required a deeper and a more scientific investigation, before it could be based upon a proper therapeutic foundation.

The greatest blessing which Paracelsus conferred upon the world, was to break that spell which had held the mind in the most superstitious ignorance for nearly two thousand years. His labor, therefore, resulted more in breaking up old theories, than in discovering anything important to the profession.

I will not, at this time, go into a detailed account of his principles ; but suffice it to say, that the study of Alchimy was his ruling passion, and that he fancied, that both Physiology and Pathology were embodied in it. He also supposed, that all animal bodies consist essentially of SULPHUR, SALT, and MERCURY, and that these, in order to constitute health, must exist in a certain proportion. He accompanied this idea with the superstitious notion, that life is the combined action of certain divinities, which reside in and preside over the several organs, and that, in order to the existence of health throughout the whole system, these divinities must be at peace with each other. This being the foundation of his theory, it necessarily followed, that the selection of his remedies must be such as would have the greatest tendency to restore peace among his imaginary deities. But upon what principle this was accomplished, I have yet to learn.

However, before leaving Paracelsus, I should award to him no small degree of honor, for introducing to the attention of the medical profession the study of *Chemistry* and *Anatomy*.

Chemistry has progressed with a praiseworthy rapidity ; and has almost, if not quite, outstripped every other science. This, however, is more particularly true in the arts, than in the cure of disease. Here, allow me to remark, that I can account for this on no other principle, than the unwillingness of the profession to adopt any innovations, or to receive anything not taught by our fathers ; and hence I conclude, that the medical profession are circummured by

a greater amount of bigotry than are the devotees of any other science.

After Paracelsus had retired from the stage of action, Sylvius of Germany and Willis of England commenced a work of medical reformation simultaneously. They believed the prevailing notions respecting the healing art, to be of such a character, that it was necessary to remove all the old rubbish, and erect an entire new theory. They succeeded in awakening the curiosity of all Europe. All eyes were turned upon these two prodigies of learning and philosophy; and all appeared anxious to hear and adopt anything which they should finally determine to be truth.

They at length published their discoveries to the world, which were, that life consists of a mere fomentative process, that the two elements of which the system is composed, are an *acid* and an *alkali*, and that health consists in the equilibrium of these two chemicals. The simplicity of this doctrine very soon recommended it to popular notice. Every man and woman could now readily become his own physician. In all disease there was only one question to solve. It was this. Which preponderates, the acid or the alkali? This question being decided, the remedy was at hand. The *Materia Medica* was arranged on the acid and alkali principle. Some remedies were supposed to contain large proportions of alkali, and others to participate largely in acidity.

This humbug continued to blind and infatuate the people for a short time; and then it gave way to the more substantial and important discovery made by William Harvey, which took place early in the seventeenth century.

About this period, Des Cartes revolutionized the world with his corpuscularian doctrine or philosophy. Mechanics and natural philosophy now seemed to engross the attention of the whole literary world. Willis and Sylvius' chemical theory was overthrown; and, with it, every vestige of the medical theories of by-gone days was carried into a hopeless oblivion.

About the close of the 17th century, all hypothetical fancies and imaginary speculations, which had hung over the human mind, upon the subject of medical science, since the days of the great founder of the Galenian school, were swept into forgetfulness, or only re-

mained upon the pages of history as an index, pointing to the follies of the past.

But destiny determined that such a blank should not continue long. Bellini, an Italian, stood out in bold relief. He directed the attention of all the learned to an entirely new principle for curing diseases. His native country had remained in darkness for many ages, more especially upon the subject of medical science; consequently, local and national pride gave him great consequence in his own native land. He directed the attention of the profession to entirely new laws, by which animal life was governed. He maintained, that all the functions of animal life are subject to the laws of gravitation, and are wholly controlled by it; that the same laws which govern mechanics, hydraulics, and hydrostatics, are applicable to animal life; and that a perfect knowledge of these laws will enable us to solve all the phenomena of vitality and organized life.

A modern historian says, "Perhaps no hypothesis, since the days of Galen, was ever received with more enthusiasm, or adopted with more implicit faith. In proportion as mathematical reasoning prevailed, attention to chemistry was withdrawn; and, so entirely were the learned world engaged with the fascinations of mathematics that for nearly a century, scarcely a single improvement was made in the science, and the application of chemical laws to Pathology and Therapeutics was altogether suspended. Now, instead of acidity, alkalinity, fermentation, putrescency, &c., we find the medical profession of this period constantly referring to calculations respecting the size of the particles, the diameter of the pores and vessels, the friction of bodies against each other, the impulse of the fluids, their deviations and revolutions, the momentum of the blood, its viscosity and lentor, its obstructions, resolutions, and various other hypothetical matters, derived directly from a mechanical cause, and considered as the sole agent in every corporeal action. It required but a very short experience to convince the world, that this mechanical doctrine could result in no practical benefit to mankind.

Next, we are completely inundated with secret remedies. Every apothecary, grocery, and country store has been and still is deal-

ing them out to the people. As contemporary with these nostrums; also, "Indian doctors" spring up in every corner of our streets, who possess no other qualification to recommend themselves to the confidence of the people, than to assume the appellation of *heathen*. The people are running to and fro in quest of medical skill. They have freely paid their money to regular physicians, and almost the only benefit which they have received in return, is narcotized brains, palsied muscles, and carious bones. In fact, this has been carried to such an extent, that the most profound ignorance of all medical theories is almost a sure passport to public confidence.

Physicians have, therefore, by their unskilfulness, torn from the people the last ray of confidence; and the community, in turn, have invited into the field of action the most unqualified, until every city, village, and country town is disgraced with amateur doctors. The very few discoveries of past ages have been made tributary to a monopoly or aristocracy, rather than to a universal reformation. At this moment, all Europe seems to lie in quietude with a practice which is everywhere marked with desolation. No bright star, predicting the coming of salvation, has yet arisen upon the land.

From the earliest records of American history, we have been subjected to the influence of European principles. We have freely drawn from a foreign land, both "that which kills, and that which makes alive." We are now, however, proud to say, that America is taking the lead in this great reform. We have men whose minds and medical qualifications are well calculated to carry forward the onerous but honorable work. They have already succeeded in establishing a practice which is accompanied by less than one fourth the mortality of any which has preceded it. Those diseases which have carried dismay into all parts of our globe, and which have ever remained invulnerable to the darts of the physician, are now brought within our control, and made to yield, with a child-like simplicity. Yes, gentlemen, it has often been ours to seize the individual whilst struggling in the arms of apparent dissolution, turn away the tyrant death, and with joy restore the victim to his anxious friends. Have I not rightly said, that our profession is a noble one?

We are indebted to Thomson and Beach for the first impetus

of this reform. Other free and noble spirits have enlisted in the same cause, until we have a system which has, to a great degree, disarmed disease of its terror, and will ever stand upon the pages of history as a bright memorial of the age in which we live. Dr. Buchanan, who has made many important discoveries in relation to Neurological science, is well deserving of our highest congratulation.

And, for fear of having no better opportunity, allow me, at this time, to earnestly recommend to all who have anything to do with the sick, to make themselves familiar with his discoveries. I regret that I am not more so. I have made many experiments, all of which have proved highly satisfactory.

The polarity of the application of counter-irritants and stimulants cannot fail to be of great utility to the practicing physician. These discoveries, like many others which are familiar to us, are new to the world at large; and, therefore, we should use our influence for their promulgation. I am proud to think, that these discoveries had their birth in America; for the reproach, that all our medical knowledge is transplanted from the old world, is, by no means, agreeable. I rejoice that nearly all that practice, which is by far the most successful, has had its origin in this country. In this, as in everything else, America, though young, is prolific.

The transplanted practice has had its trail filled with either the dead or the mortally wounded. The wails of the afflicted and the groans of the dying have deafened our ears. Our hearts have been made sad by our streets' being filled with the habiliments of mourning. But, whilst the pioneers in the reformation have turned the destroying angel away, they have had their most sanguine hopes more than realized, and thousands on thousands are now living monuments of their superior skill. By experience we have learnt many new remedies, and new applications of old ones, by which we have become a hundred fold more successful than they to whom these means are unknown. This fact cannot fail in time to be duly appreciated by the world.

Such a reformation has taken place, that nine tenths of all our prescriptions are either new or entirely unknown to any other class of physicians. Those drugs the effects of which we behold in ev-

ery corner of our streets and which have carried desolation into almost every family, are exchanged for such as are sanative, rather than destroying, in their nature. What proportion of the medical profession know any thing of Podophyllin, Macrotrin, Leptandrin, Stillingia, &c.,—remedies, the curative effects of which are not exceeded by any in the *Materia Medica*, and, in many diseases, cannot be equalled.

I think I hazard nothing in saying, that, even in this city, the intelligence of which is not exceeded if equalled by any in the world, there is not one physician in ten who has any practical knowledge of the importance of these remedies.

If I am correct in this statement, it is, at least, a strong evidence, that it is not so much the object of the Allopathic portion of the profession to gain knowledge from all sources, and make additions to their limited *Materia Medica*, as it is to protect their antiquated principles from innovation. If there is not a strong jealousy, a fearfulness of being superseded, and an unwillingness to adopt any thing which has not had its origin among them, why are they still unacquainted with important remedies which have been, for a generation, in use?

It is a well known fact, that the mass of practicing physicians obtain their knowledge from the authors of medical works and medical statistics, and that these authors have never admitted any discoveries, however important, which were not made in Allopathic ranks. Consequently, those who have consulted only these authors, have remained uninformed; and the bright morn of reformation has yet to shed its first gentle rays upon their limited understandings. The time has been, when many of our innovators have been obnoxious to the reproach of ignorance. It was necessarily so, in the early stages of the reformation. But, since the creation of our Institutions, Conventions, and Associations, and since the existence of our publications as a means of communicating discoveries from one to another, I venture to say, that our class of practitioners possess a knowledge of the whole Esculapean art, not equalled by any other.

We cannot, at this early day, expect to be entirely free from that class of practitioners who publish themselves as reformers, but who

have neither medical, literary, nor mental qualifications sufficient to prepare them for the responsibilities of the profession. The old-school practitioners have, by their unskilfulness, thrown open the doors, and invited into our profession men who do not possess even the rudiments of medical knowledge ; and the latter, enveloped in all their ignorance, have successfully treated a large class of diseases which the former had given up in despair. As long as such continues to be the case, it will be both useless and inhuman for us to raise our voice against them. I can perceive of only one method by which this evil can be remedied ; and that is, for us to bring into the field of action men whose skill and medical qualifications shall be such as to regain the confidence of the people. If I am not correct, why is it that mushroom or amateur doctors have sprung up in a night, have gone forth in the morning, and have succeeded in obtaining public confidence ?

That class in whose lap the public have reposed for ages, have forfeited all claim to confidence, and are being known only in the records of the past. They are wedded to antiquity. Their minds are unprogressive, and their practice truly unsuccessful. Their votaries have left them, and they stand alone, save here and there a congenial unprogressive spirit, to mourn with them over the loss of public confidence. But, hark ! hear their anathemas upon all innovators and reformers : “ Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things written in the book of ” our “ law to do them ” ; and cursed are the people who adhere not to our long established principles.

Gentlemen, that long and dreary night is nearly passed. The morning star of intelligence is shedding its gentle rays over an enlightened world. The full noon-tide glory will soon cover you. Your hardest struggle is over. Your victory is almost won. The people, with gladsome hearts, stand ready to welcome you to their confidence ; and to rejoice with you over the blessings which you have conferred upon the world.

That day, in which bigotry will give place to investigation, and intolerance to liberality, will ere long make its appearance. The present is the last struggle of old theories and speculations. It will soon be over, and its spirit will take its flight from its dilapi-

dated tenement into a brighter world, where investigation will not be altogether unknown. Prepare to sing its obsequies.

Allow me now to invite your attention to the different systems of practice ; which appear to be four in number, viz : Allopathy, the Botanic system, Hydropathy, and Homœopathy. I shall find it necessary to speak of these separately ; and, in doing so, I will, as far as I am able, speak of their *merits* and *demerits*.

1st, Allopathy. We will not pretend to deny, that this system, without any material change, has stood the test of more than two thousand years. Like the Romish Church, it has sustained itself, not so much from its true merits or philosophical ideas, as its thorough discipline and organization. It has well succeeded in sustaining a kind of monopoly or aristocratic tyranny. Its merits, like those of all other monopolies, are nearly or quite lost in the labyrinth of its demerits. When we would look for the former, our minds become bewildered, and we are lost in the forest which has been stripped of its verdure by the frost of time ; and, when we behold a green shrub, it is so entwined with vines of error, that we despair of its extrication.

I am glad to say, that its votaries are men who, in point of both moral and intellectual worth, will not suffer by a comparison with any. But what does all this benefit the patient, if, when they are called, their knowledge embraces not the proper use of some renovating cordial ? It is true, that they generally have a competent knowledge of Obstetrics, Anatomy, Physiology, and Surgery. But, were I to speak of these merits as peculiarly belonging to Allopathy, I should state that which is not founded in truth ; for, even upon these branches, they are, not only equalled, but exceeded by all well-educated reformers.

Here allow me to say, that, for fear of being considered partial in my remarks, I have endeavored to search out some merit which is peculiar to that class alone ; but I must acknowledge my inability to do so. All the knowledge which is communicated by Allopathic Professors to their pupils, is also taught by the Professors of the Reformed School, with a large additional amount, of which the former have no just conception.

Not so of the *demerits* of Allopathy. They are prominent to

every observer, and unfortunate to every patient. We are led to regard the whole Allopathic pharmacopœia as one vast classification and organization of errors and therapeutic evils. Calomel has spread its false reputation all over the inhabited portions of the globe. It is, in the view of the orthodox physician, the only reliable "elixir of immortality" in the empire of medicine. He considers it the Samson of all therapeutic means; and, without it, he dares not venture to treat the simplest form of constitutional disturbance. Yea more;—the appellation of quack is freely applied to all who do not swear allegiance to its importance.

Paracelsus, who introduced this article, on the ground, that the body was composed of salt, sulphur, and quicksilver, was the first to announce and employ *mercury* as a universal panacea for all human suffering. For this, he and his followers received the appellation of "Quack Salvors"; not then, as now, on the ground of its rejection, but of its free use as a remedial agent. If the free use of quicksilver constituted a quack in the days of Paracelsus, it cannot do less in the light of the middle of the nineteenth century.

These quacks constitute a class of practitioners whom we yet have among us, to reform whom will be a philanthropic effort on our part; and, in proportion to our success, will the world reward us with its approbation and gratitude. No field of benevolent action more immediately demands the labors of the philanthropist than this, and none will yield a richer harvest of enjoyment to the sympathizer with the woes of mankind.

I will here leave our Allopathic brethren, after quoting the language of Professor Chapman of Philadelphia.

"If you could see what I almost daily see, in my private practice, persons from the South, in the very last stage of a miserable existence, emaciated to a skeleton, with both plates of the skull almost completely perforated in many places, the nose half gone, with rotten jaws, and ulcerated throats, with breaths more pestiferous than the poisonous Bohon Upas, with limbs racked with the pains of the Inquisition, minds as imbecile as the puling babe, a grievous burthen to themselves and a disgusting spectacle to the world; you would exclaim, as I have often done,—O the lamentable ignorance which dictates the use (as medicine) of that noxious drug calomel!

It is a disgraceful reproach to the profession of medicine—it is quackery, horrid, unwarrantable, and murderous quackery. What merit do physicians flatter themselves they possess by being able to salivate a patient? Cannot the veriest fool in Christendom give calomel and salivate? But I will ask another question. Who is there that can stop the career of calomel, when once it has taken the reins into its own possession? He who resigns the fate of his patient to calomel, is a vile enemy to the sick, and, if he has a tolerable practice, will in a single season lay the foundation for a good business for life; for he will ever afterwards have enough to do to stop the mercurial breaches in the constitutions of his dilapidated patients. He has thrown himself in close contact with Death, and will have to fight him at arms' length, as long as one of his patients maintains a miserable existence."

The merits of Homœopathy consist in the partial abandonment of all medicine and leaving the system alone to contend with disease. Hahnemann laid its foundation in spiritual or dynamic force, and recommends to the practitioner to "dilute, shake, manipulate, magnetize, and spiritualize," his medicines, for the purpose of potentializing and widening the circumference of their influence upon the human system. This medical system is much less pernicious than that of which we have just spoken. Though Homœopathsists use medicines which should be expunged from the *Materia Medica*, yet the diminutive quantity in which they are administered renders them comparatively harmless. To what extent this class of physicians adhere to infinitesimal doses I am unable to say; but I have seen prescriptions from some of them ordering for their patients one ounce of calomel.

But, in justice, I am constrained to say, that, with some of my patients, I have found, in Homœopathic remedies, the most gratifying results; whilst, with others, they have appeared to be useless.

My present conviction, founded upon experience, is, that many constitutions or temperaments will find this system of practice sufficient to restore health, whilst others will derive from it little or no benefit. Its great demerit consists in the use of poisonous minerals, the non-removal of excrementitious substances from the system, and in its inappropriateness to many constitutions.

Every practitioner should be acquainted with its merits, and know how to appropriate them to the removal of disease. But, like others, it is a ONE IDEA system, and falls very far short of covering the whole ground of the Esculapian art.

The principle of *similia similibus curantur* may appear to be founded in truth in many cases; but, notwithstanding it may outdo the old system in point of practical utility, yet it will be found inadequate to the removal of a large class of human ills.

The merits of Hydropathy consist in its restoration of the cutaneous exhalents, the equalization of the circulation, and the removal of drugs already deposited in the system. In the cure of many diseases, especially those of a chronic character, it by far excels either of those which I have already mentioned.

I am not prepared to speak of any demerits, other than the extreme limitation of its practicability. In short, it is another *one idea*, which is of great importance in its place, and the benefit of which every reformer duly appreciates and carries out in practice.

The Botanic system next claims our attention; and, to this, the world owes a debt of gratitude,—not because it covers the whole ground of the healing principle, but on account of its naturalness and beautiful simplicity. It has done more to open the public eyes to investigation, and to break up the long established principles of empiricism, than any other system.

Its merits consist in the exchange of poisonous minerals for renovating Botanic remedies, attention to temperature, equalization of the circulation, and restoring the general functions of the system.

This, like all other systems, has been too limited, both in theory and practice; and, in many cases, has been committed to very unskilful hands. It contains many useful observations and practical precepts; and, by these, many important cures have been accomplished. It has many practical advantages over Allopathy which are daily developed to the world.

Would time have permitted, I should have been happy to have spoken more at length upon the various systems of practice; but, as I have already greatly taxed your patience, I will now leave the subject, after briefly speaking of the *true reform* which is at the present time agitating the world.

We have seen that each of these systems contains many important ideas, many facts which are founded in nature ; and we very naturally come to the conclusion, that a harmonious union of all the redeeming qualities will compose a system, which, though it fall far short of containing the whole truth, will nevertheless be a hundred fold superior to any *one idea* theory.

The new system, of which I am now to speak, has unfortunately allowed territorial lines to call it by different names. In this State, you have seen fit to call it the "Physo-medical system," whilst, throughout the Mississippi valley, it is called the "Eclectic." Which name is the more appropriate, I leave for you to decide. Circumstances have had a tendency to render me a partial judge. The courtesy which has been shown me by the "Eclectic Medical Institute" of Cincinnati, Ohio, has fixed my prejudices in favor of the latter term. As a matter of convenience I will use the phrase "American Medical Reform;" for it has truly had its origin in America, and it boldly abandons all exclusive proscriptive policy, and fearlessly plants itself upon free investigation.

It selects from every system of practice, and so appropriates what it selects, as out of all to found a new system upon proper therapeutic laws, and to constitute it one that shall be effectual in the removal of disease. It has thrown open the doors of investigation, and has boldly walked forth into the heretofore comparatively unexplored fields of Therapeutics and Institutes of Medicine. In fact, such a change, in this respect, has taken place, that nine-tenths of all diseases are treated on an entirely new plan, and are a hundred fold more successful, than that adopted by any other class of practitioners.

In the practice of Surgery, as well as in other departments, the remarkable improvements and superior results of American practice, in comparison with all that has been accomplished by the highest skill of Europe, challenge professional scrutiny. These improvements and results, however, do not appear in the use of the knife, so much as in that constitutional treatment which has often restored the diseased parts of unfortunate patients. By us, thousands of limbs, which Allopathy had condemned to amputation, have been preserved and made to perform their proper functions.

While speaking of Surgery, allow me to call your attention to Prof. Hill's Eclectic Surgery, recently published. It is a work which should be in every physician's hands, and one which, I trust, will be soon introduced, as a text-book, into every Reformed School in America. Its author is a master of his business; and he has succeeded in bringing out a work which is truly meritorious.

In Obstetrics, and especially in the treatment of diseases of females, so great has been the improvement, that almost every form of disease, peculiar to that sex, has yielded with the utmost readiness. So true is this, that we are liable to be thronged with females who have been for years in the care of other classes of physicians; and, in such cases, I assure you, that, as far as my experience has gone, they leave our hands, with restored health and with hearts overflowing with gratitude to Medical Reformers.

"In the treatment of cholera, we have the comparative statistics, afforded by the reports of cholera practice, in New York and in Cincinnati. In the latter city, we observe that nine Eclectic physicians, during the month of May, treated 330 cases of cholera, and upwards of 200 of choleroïd disease of a milder form, with the loss of but five patients; while the cholera reports of other physicians to the Board of Health, exhibit, during the same month, 432 cases of cholera and 116 deaths!

In the month of June, the disease having arrived at its maximum intensity, and many of the cases being reached by the physicians only in the collapsed stage, the mortality was necessarily greater. Hence the reports of Eclectic physicians in Cincinnati present an aggregate, for the two months, of 939 cases of cholera, and a large number of choleroïd diseases not fully reported, which were treated with entire success in all but 34 cases, which proved fatal. In making up this aggregate of deaths, we have included a number of cases in which the physician's directions were disregarded, or in which he was called in too late to have any reasonable hope. Even thus, the aggregate mortality appears to have been less than four per cent. (being 3.62), while the mortality of cholera patients, under Old-School treatment, has been from 40 to 60 per cent. throughout Europe."

Thus, gentlemen, we have a brief and imperfect synopsis of the

peculiarities and advantages of American Medical Reform. They are such as to justly call forth the gratitude of the world; and, like all other principles founded in truth, they are simple and beautiful in their nature. Though we have so far succeeded in our benevolent efforts, as to justly cause the hearts of the inhabitants of earth to rejoice, yet let us remember, that much truth still lies in the undeveloped future.

Let "Progression" be our motto; and, as we travel on in the field of investigation, we will unfurl the flag of free thought, and beckon to our contemporaries to increase their slow pace, lest they soon be lost in the wilderness of the past.

THE MASSACHUSETTS PHYSO-MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The members of the Massachusetts Physo-Medical Society met at the Washingtonian Hall, Bromfield st., Boston, on Wednesday, January 1st, 1851. The Secretary called the Society to order, at 10 o'clock. The President being absent, Geo. H. Dadd, M. D., of Boston was appointed President pro tem. The minutes of the last annual meeting and the proceedings of the Board of Counsellors were read and approved.

On motion of Dr. Dadd, JOHN HUNTER, M. D., of Boston was elected an honorary member of the Society. The Censors presented the names of Dr. Nehemiah Swan of Lowell, Job T. Dickens, M. D., of Newburyport, and E. A. Allen, M. D., of Randolph, for membership, who were duly qualified by signing the constitution and paying the initiation fee.

On motion of Prof. Newton, proceeded to the choice of officers for the ensuing year; and on balloting, the following was the result.

- For President, SETH C. AMES, M. D., Lawrence,
- “ V. President, JOB T. DICKENS, M. D., Newburyport,
- “ Treasurer, Dr. W. JOHNSON, Boston,
- “ Librarian, PROF. C. NEWTON, M. D., Worcester,

For Counsellors, CALVIN BACHELDER, M. D., Lowell,
 “ “ L. W. JENNESS, M. D., “
 “ “ BENJ. F. HATCH, M. D., New Bedford,
 “ “ J. M. ALDRICH, M. D., Fall River,
 “ “ REUBEN GREEN, M. D., West Acton,
 “ “ GEO. W. SKINNER, M. D., Newburyport,
 “ “ A. W. PRATT, M. D., Taunton,
 “ Censors, PROF. C. NEWTON, M. D., Worcester,
 “ “ “ W. BURNHAM, M. D., Lowell,
 “ “ STEPHEN CUTLER, M. D., Worcester,
 “ “ GEO. H. DADD, M. D., Boston,
 “ “ AARON ORDWAY, M. D., Lawrence.

The annual discourse was delivered at 11 o'clock by Benj. F. Hatch, M. D. of New Bedford. On motion of Prof. Newton, the thanks of the Society were presented to Dr. Hatch for his “able and eloquent address,” and a copy of the same was requested for publication.

Prof. Newton offered an amendment to the Constitution, as follows,—that the phrase in Art. 3, Sec. 2,—On the day of the anniversary of the Worcester Medical Institution in the city of Worcester,—be substituted for, “On the last Wednesday of June in the town of Springfield.” This was laid on the table under the rule. Dr. O. P. Warren proposed an amendment to the Constitution, substituting the English for the Latin language in the Society's Diplomas. It was laid on the table. On motion of Dr. Skinner, adjourned till 1-2 past 1 o'clock, P. M.

Agreeably to adjournment, the Society met in the afternoon. Prof. Newton called for the consideration of his amendment of the Constitution. The ayes and nays being taken, it was voted to consider the question. After a discussion, in which several took part, the amendment was adopted, two thirds voting in its favor. Dr. Warren moved the consideration of his amendment in relation to the Diplomas. The roll being called, and the constitutional number being found in favor of taking it from the table, considerable discussion arose in which much interest was excited. The main question being called, the ayes and nays were taken, and the Society refused to amend, by a vote of five in favor and fifteen against the amendment.

The Secretary offered the following, which was lost. "Whereas, as Medical Reformers, we are bound by every consideration of justice to adopt all honorable measures within our power to protect the LIVES, HEALTH, and HAPPINESS of the people in general, and especially those under our immediate professional care, and further to have regard to the errors and abuses existing in the medical profession,—therefore, resolved, that, in the opinion of this Society, the best means of preventing the frequent occurrence of DEATH, and the often less serious but TERRIBLE consequences of the IGNORANCE OF CARELESSNESS of the APOTHECARIES, would be the passage of a law, by the Legislature, requiring ALL PHYSICIANS to *write their prescriptions* both in the ENGLISH AND LATIN LANGUAGE.

Geo. H. Dadd, M. D., presented the Society with several Volumes of the London Lancet, valued at fifteen dollars, with a request that all others who have the means would do as much for the Library.

Voted, that the next meeting be held in Fitchburg.

On motion of Dr. Skinner, adjourned.

GEO. W. CHURCHILL, *Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNSELLORS,

AT THEIR MEETING, HELD IN LOWELL, DEC. 25, 1850.

The Board met at the office of Dr. Calvin Bachelder, at 11 o'clock, A. M., agreeably to a call of the President. In conformity with the Constitution, the following appointments were made for the year 1851.

To deliver the annual discourse, Geo. W. Churchill, M. D., Lowell.

Committee on Accounts.

Dr. S. C. Ames, Lawrence,

“ Joseph Cheever, Boston,

“ Lloyd Goodnow, Quincy.

Committee of Arrangements.

- Dr. Geo. H. Dadd, Boston,
 “ L. W. Jenness, Lowell,
 “ Reuben Green, West Acton,
 “ A. W. Pratt, Taunton,
 “ H. H. Brigham, Fitchburg.

Voted, that each county in the State be constituted a district, and that the practitioners in each district be requested to organize Societies as soon as practicable.

Voted to procure a *seal* and a suitable engraving for a Diploma for the Society.

Voted to renew the application to the Legislature for a charter. Adjourned, sine die.

Per order, GEO. W. CHURCHILL, *Secretary.*

LIST OF THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS
 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS PHYSO-MEDICAL SOCIETY, FOR 1851.

- President*, Seth C. Ames, M. D.
Vice President, Job T. Dickens, M. D.
Cor. and Rec. Secretary, Geo. W. Churchill, M. D.
Treasurer, Wm. Johnson.
Librarian, Calvin Newton, M. D.
Counsellors, Calvin Bachelder, M. D.
 Geo. W. Skinner, M. D.
 L. W. Jenness, M. D.
 Benj. F. Hatch, M. D.
 A. W. Pratt, M. D.
 J. M. Aldrich, M. D.
 Reuben Green, M. D.
Censors, Prof. C. Newton, M. D.
 “ W. Burnham, M. D.
 Stephen Cutler, M. D.
 George H. Dadd, M. D.
 Aaron Ordway, M. D.

Honorary Members.

Prof. E. Morgan Parritt, M. D., Wooster, Ohio.
 Orran P. Warren, M. D., Pittsfield, N. H.
 John Hunter, M. D., Boston.

Members.

Dr. Geo. W. Churchill, Lowell,
 “ Walter Burnham, “
 “ Charles Toothaker, “
 “ S. C. Ames, Lawrence,
 “ Geo. L. Harris, Lowell,
 “ Asa D. Runals, “
 “ Calvin Bachelder, “
 “ James S. Olcott, “
 “ A. W. Pratt, Taunton,
 “ Geo. W. Skinner, Newburyport,
 “ Wm. D. Vinall, Lowell,
 “ A. M. Higgins, Townsend,
 “ L. W. Jenness, Lowell,
 “ Wm. E. Lord, East Boston,
 “ H. H. Brigham, Fitchburg,
 “ V. H. Fitch, Lowell,
 “ P. L. Simmons, Bristol, N. H.
 “ M. E. Thompson, Lowell,
 “ J. W. Perkins, “
 “ Franklin Gilman, Middleboro,
 “ Samuel Pitcher, Jr., Hyannis,
 “ Calvin Newton, Worcester,
 “ Stephen Cutler, “
 “ John Hooker, Springfield,
 “ J. V. Wilson, Waterville, Me.
 “ J. W. Chapman, Boston,
 “ Joseph Jackson, “
 “ John R. Patten, “
 “ Geo. H. Dadd, “
 “ James R. Whittemore, Cambridgeport,
 “ Lloyd Goodnow, Quincy,

-
- Dr. Aaron Ordway, Lawrence,
 “ Joseph Cheever, Boston,
 “ C. Tewksbury, “
 “ Benj. F. Abbott, “
 “ Joshua Abbott, “
 “ Henry Cummings, “
 “ Chas. M. Sweet, Kennebunkport, Me.
 “ William Leach, Meredith Bridge, N. H.
 “ F. H. Kelley, Lawrence,
 “ O. P. Warren, Pittsfield, N. H.
 “ H. P. Huntoon, Townsend,
 “ Wm. Johnson, Boston,
 “ H. P. Remick, Charlestown,
 “ Waltham H. Dillingham, Concor,d
 “ John L. Martin, Littleton, N. H.
 “ John Allen, Lowell,
 “ Reuben Green, West Acton,
 “ James M. Aldrich, Fall River,
 “ D. L. Ambrose, Newburyport,
 “ J. F. Russell, Methuen,
 “ Job T. Dickens, Newburyport,
 “ Nehemiah H. Swain, Lowell,
 “ P. S. Leaming, New Bedford,
 “ B. F. Hatch, New Bedford,
 “ E. A. Allen, Randolph.

Per order,

GEO. W. CHURCHILL, *Secretary.*

MAGNETIC DISEASE.

Prof. Newton :

Dear Sir,—There has been developed, recently, a peculiar case of magnetic disease, a report of which may interest many of the readers of the Journal. The following copy and remarks are at your disposal.

“Statement of difficulty occurring from an abuse of phrenomagnetic power, resulting as herein set forth ; viz—that, on Tues-

day evening, October 22, 1850, at the Academy Hall, in the town of Topsfield, Mass., Mary Ann Janes, daughter of Samuel Janes, was injured as follows. One Mr. A. W. Hardy threw on her a magnetic influence against her will, and produced, through her, various simple experiments, (so called,) and then cast off his influence, leaving her free and in a normal state of mind ;—that then a Mr. Stimpson came to her and requested the privilege to produce some experiments, and did so ; during which, she sunk into a state of sleep-waking, from which they (Hardy and Stimpson) could not arouse her, and which ended in spasms, convulsions, derangements of the mental functions, and like symptoms of a most distressing character, that could not be relieved, until medical advice was called,—thereby subjecting the parents and friends to much anxiety and distress, as well as to pecuniary expense ;”—“ also, that while in this state, she was conscious of, and did describe things and events correctly, (by clairvoyant power,) before made obvious to the senses, even while free from any one’s magnetic influence, and sane as to matters around her ; and this was especially so, when first recovering from the severe electro-cerebral disturbance. She was in this distressed state from Tuesday evening, October 22, until Friday, October, 25, 1850, when again the cerebral and mental functions became normal, though nervous weakness remained for a length of time.”

Signed,

Augustus Janes,
Eliza Janes,
Lavinia F. Brown,

“ I hereby certify that the description, in the above, of the condition and symptoms of my daughter, Mary Ann Janes, from the time she was brought to my house, at 10 o’clock, Tuesday evening, are minutely correct ;—also, that the operators (the said Hardy and Stimpson) were laboring from that hour, 10 o’clock Tuesday evening, till 3 o’clock, on Wednesday morning, to relieve her from her distressed condition, when I compelled them to desist, believing, from observing the result of their movements, that they were doing more harm than good.

(Signed)

Samuel Janes.

“ I hereby certify, that I have been acquainted with the above

named Samuel Janes for many years. His character for truth and veracity is good."

(Signed)

Richard Phillips, jr.

(The above named Richard Phillips, jr., is Justice of Peace, and Coroner for the County of Essex, Mass.)

The peculiarities of this case are rather remarkable, one of them more particularly. I refer to her possessing clairvoyant power, while *apparently* in a perfectly normal state of mind. She was conscious of all that occurred about her,—conversed with her friends freely, yet informed them of what was happening in other rooms, in the village, and of events transpiring at distant places. Had she possessed this ability to perceive absent things, while in a "mesmeric sleep," there would have been nothing remarkable connected with it; but the fact of such power's existing with apparently a normal condition of the mental functions is something peculiar in the history of phreno-magnetic developements.

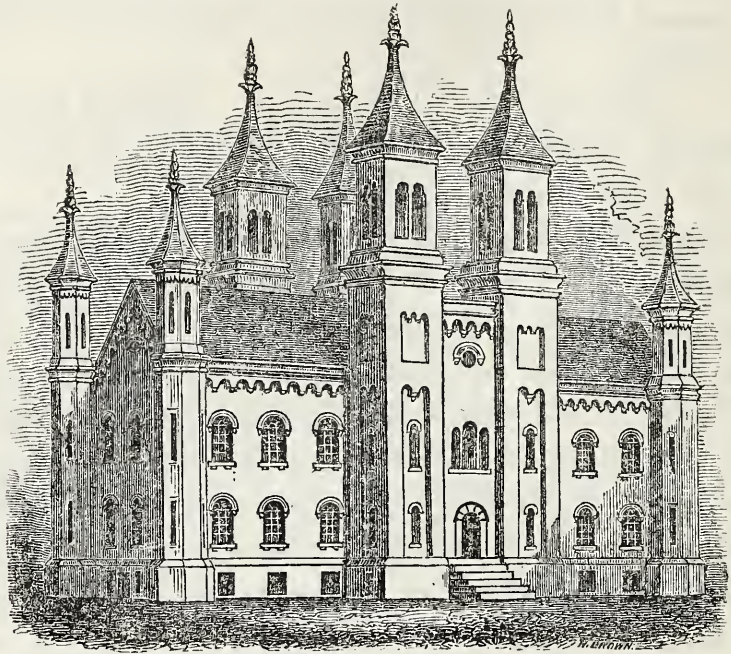
In conclusion, I would say, that she was relieved of the *violent spasms*, &c., by free mesmeric manipulations or passes; and of the peculiar state, into which she sank under such passes, by water applications, designed to remove the cerebral congestion, which supervened, caused by the exalted action of the mental power—and by the use of one or two Botanic remedies, adapted to excite an action in the alimentary canal, which, during the disturbance, became entirely torpid.

The following fact may illustrate the ignorance of many of the Allopathic portion of the profession. The consulting physician, proposed *bleeding*, to remove the cerebral congestion, which proposition, of course, was refused. He then proposed *sulphas cupri*, for an emetic, instead of lobelia and euphorbia, saying, "that, *if it (lobelia &c.) did not vomit her, and should be retained, it would produce certain death.*" Suffice it to say, a dose of the lobelia compound *was* given, of six times the ordinary strength, and *no effect was produced*, save, at first, slight nausea, and ultimately calm and undisturbed sleep.

Truly yours,

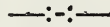
GEO. W. SKINNER, M. D.

Newburyport, Nov. 9th, 1850.



[Worcester Medical Institution.]

Editorial.



PROFESSIONAL CHANGES.

Prof. Stockwell's personal matters and the present condition of the Physo-medical College of Ohio rendering it inconvenient for him longer to give instruction in our Institution, he has tendered his resignation of the chair of Anatomy and Physiology, and Prof. G. W. Morrow of Memphis, Tennessee, has been appointed in his place. We have before expressed our views of Prof. Stockwell as a teacher in his department; and we regret, that he cannot well continue to give us his assistance. We sincerely wish him success in his efforts to advance the cause of medical truth in the West, where he still labors.

If he and his associates at Cincinnati, now that Dr. Curtis has retired from their number, shall themselves aim at high attainments in the literature and science of the profession, and shall render the character of their instructions generally elevated and dignified, we doubt not, that their School will receive a liberal patronage; but, if the errors and vulgarities of Thomsonism shall still be liberally

blended with their views and give tone to their operations, they will find a moral incubus attending all their hopes of future prosperity. It is now quite too late in the day for men to succeed as teachers of medicine, who understand and illustrate only a superficial routine practice,—especially, if they have not literary attainments sufficient to enable them to communicate their thoughts in intelligible and decent English. The men who have been dubbed as Professors in some of the medical Colleges at the South and the West, when they assume their honors, remind us very much of the fable of the jackdaw bearing the peacock's feathers, and of that of the frog blowing up herself in an endeavor to equal the size of an ox. The title of Professor, worn as it is by some who, had they lived in the days of our great grandfathers, would possibly have been considered sufficiently advanced for a place in the higher or middling classes in Dillworth's Spelling Book, is but a contemptible burlesque in matters of the medical profession. We have not much to object to Patrick Flynn or Michael Calligan's being acknowledged *Professor of Hod-carrying*. The caricature explains itself; but, as things have been, not a few medical Professors might well receive a "Reward of Merit" for standing at the head of a monosyllabic class of three, or some of them might even be found worthy of a certificate of advancement from the "Boys' Primary" to the "Boys' English School." *O tempora! O mores!*

On the authority of those who know Prof. Morrow well, we are happy to assure our friends, that he is a young man of unusual promise as a teacher, and that he is thoroughly versed and at home in the department which he is appointed to fill. Students, therefore, may rest assured, that they will lose nothing by this unexpected change in our Faculty.

Prof. Brown has nominally had a place with us for a year past; but, contrarily to our hopes and expectations, we have not been favored with his actual services. At his own request, his name is now withdrawn from the Professorship of Materia Medica and Botany; and, to fill his place, the Trustees of the Institution, by their Committee, have appointed Marshall Calkins, M. D., a graduate of the Institution in the Class of 1848. Prof. Calkins is yet a young man, and enters on the duties of this department with

becoming diffidence. He is, however, aspiring in his views and aims, and is now pursuing a course of thorough literary training. Intending to make professional study the business of his life, he is preparing, as soon as may be, to visit Europe, and avail himself of such advantages as are to be gained particularly at the Medical Institutions in France. His appointment is made in expectation of his permanent continuance with us, and favoring the Institution directly with the benefits of his increasing years and information.

Finally, it will be grateful to at least a portion of the friends of the Institution, to know that a chair devoted directly to the illustration of Hydropathic principles has been created, and that S. Rogers, M. D., of this city has been appointed to that department. Prof. Rogers is a graduate of the medical School at Castleton, Vt; and, for several years past, has been devoted immediately and almost exclusively to the study and practice of Hydropathy. He is a gentleman and a scholar; and, we cannot doubt, that he will do honor to himself and the Institution, in the Professorship which he is to fill. It is proper for our readers and friends to know, that, though a special admirer of water as a medical agent, and a believer in its adaptedness to a great portion of human diseases, he yet advocates the use of other agents in those cases to which water is less applicable, but confines his medication entirely to innocent and sanative remedies. There will, therefore, be no disagreeable conflicting of views between himself and the other members of the Faculty. We all admit, that water, as a medical agent, is one of the most valuable; though, for special reasons, some may choose its more, and others its less extensive application. We hope, that the connexion of Dr. R. with us will be a long-continued and a pleasant one.

We will only add, that, since our first efforts to plant a medical College in this place, changes, in the Faculty and in matters of interest and accommodation to students, have repeatedly occurred. The policy, however, of the Board of Trustees has been essentially unvaried; and one important aim which has been constantly preserved, is to secure, in the several departments, the services of the ablest men in the profession,—men who cannot be content with ordinary attainments, professional or literary, but who will make

the study of medical science and literature their engrossing business. We have no hesitation in avowing our purpose to secure a Faculty possessing more talent, natural and acquired, than can be the boast of any other medical College in the land; and we mean, that, commensurate with this preeminence, shall be the amount of true medical science taught in our Institution.

ANÆSTHETICS.

As the use of chloroform, for anæsthetic purposes, has very generally superceded the use of ether, we have, till of late, been in the habit of using it *cautiously*, and have had no special apprehension in regard to its effects. We confess, however, that our views are somewhat modified, since witnessing the sad result of a surgical operation, by Prof. Burnham, on the 20th of Nov., 1850. The operation was performed on Mr. Abraham Almy of Fall River, Mass.; and consisted in the amputation of a leg near the upper extremity.

Mr. A. had been, for several months, afflicted with a cancer on the thigh, of the class appropriately called fungus hæmatodes. This had been twice removed by the knife,—first by Dr. Miller of Providence, R. I., and again by Dr. J. Mason Warren of Boston, in this State. The tumor removed, in the first operation, weighed 1 1-2 lbs., and, in the second, 2 1-2 lbs. At the time of amputating the limb, it had renewed its growth to the probable weight of 4 or 5 lbs.

The operation had to be performed as near as possible to the groin, as the tumor reached from the knee upward to that point. Considerable time was necessarily consumed; and, during the whole, the patient was kept insensible, from the effect of chloroform, which was administered by one of the apothecaries in the place, who was familiar with its use. Some ten minutes before the close of the operation, Mr. A's pulse being discovered to be quite feeble, Prof. B. requested that no more of the anæsthetic agent should be administered, and, in a few moments, the pulse

rose to near its usual standard. The administrator, however, fearing that there would be returning sensibility, exhibited an additional dose. Immediately the pulse again sank; and, in some 15 or 20 minutes, after the operation was complete and the stump dressed, the man was dead.

Prof. Burnham, as a surgeon, has few equals. The work, in this instance, was done neatly, carefully, and in as little time as the nature of the case would admit, which was about 40 minutes. The patient lost scarcely three table-spoonfuls of arterial blood,—the tournequet, which was adjusted and held by ourselves, being so tensely drawn, as effectually to compress the arteries, and the Professor seizing them, one after another, for the application of ligatures, almost as soon as they were discovered, and before he proceeded to sever the bone.

It is true, that two or three quarts of venous blood were contained in the fungous growth; and this blood, of course, was discharged, on the application of the knife. As, however, that or an equivalent amount was constantly in the limb, we cannot see how the quantity discharged could essentially affect the circulation in the rest of the system, or diminish the stimulating power at the heart.

Mr. Almy, had become very much debilitated by his disease; and it had been considered exceedingly doubtful whether he would long survive the operation. As, however, the tumor was increasing with great rapidity, and as amputation afforded his only chance of having his life protracted beyond a few days, it was his own urgent request, that the operation be performed. No blame was attached to the operator; but death, occurring under the circumstances, was, of course, a matter of severe affliction to the family, and of painful regret to all.

In concluding this article, we will refer our readers to the views of H. J. Bigelow, M. D., Prof. of Surgery in the Massachusetts Medical College at Boston, and one of the Surgeons to the Massachusetts General Hospital. His views are expressed in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal for Nov. 20th, 1850. Speaking of the use of anæsthetics in the Hospital, he says;

“It is a little striking, that those who are in the daily habit of ad-

ministering anæsthetics for the slight operations of dentistry, or in midwifery, are often startled at the violent or seemingly dangerous symptoms which sometimes result from the administration of the dose required for protracted operations; but I believe that any one who shall have witnessed these effects during a brief period at the Hospital, and who shall have learned their true relation to the anæsthetic state, especially in point of danger, will feel himself at home in administering the ether in any emergency whatever. I use common ether (sulphuric). Chloroform has killed people. There is sufficient evidence that patients in good health, to whom chloroform was administered in the ordinary way and with ordinary care, have become pulseless, dead, suddenly and without warning. Such accident has either never happened with ether, or is exceedingly rare. Chloric ether, dilute chloroform, blisters the skin, which requires abundant oil to protect it. So that, on the whole, common ether is safest, cleanest, simplest, and is, indeed, apart from its odor, a perfect anæsthetic."

LEAD DISEASES.

Mr. Jonathan Allen of Lowell has recently published a work, bearing the following title, "Lead Diseases, a Treatise from the French of L. Tonquerel des Blanchés, with notes, and additions, on the use of lead pipe and its substitutes. By Samuel L. Dana, M. D., LL. D.

As yet we have been able to give this work but a hasty perusal. The subject, however, is one of increasing importance to the community, inasmuch as lead is being more and more extensively used for aqueduct purposes, and there is reason to apprehend, that its use has often been the cause, unexpectedly, of serious and fatal disease.

In France, the author, for his known scientific character, is regarded as authority; and, as the work is carefully translated by Dr. Dana, it should be read with equal interest in this country. It is for sale at our office. Price, in good half binding, \$1,00; unbound, \$0,75.

OUR APPROACHING LECTURE TERM.

The sixth Course of Lectures in the Worcester Medical Institution will commence on Thursday, March 6th, and close on Wednesday, June 26th, 1851. The Introductory Lecture will be delivered by the President, on Thursday, the first day of the Term, at 3 o'clock, P. M. During the Course, six Lectures will be delivered on each of the secular days of the week,—Saturdays excepted, on which days there will be but three. The Lecture hours will be from 9 to 12, A. M., and from 2 to 5, P. M.

The advantages to be enjoyed by students at this Institution are now of the highest order. The Board of Instruction will be full, and each, in his own department, will be ambitious to excel. An unusually large Class of students is expected; and we feel the highest confidence, that satisfaction with the instructions given them will be the most entire and universal.

ERRATUM.

We regret, that, in our last issue, on page 25th, the words *gaultheria procumbens* were inadvertently substituted for *mitchella repens*. The article which Dr. Porter intended to refer to is what is commonly called the partridge berry, and not the spicy winter-green or checkerberry. Minor errors,—such as our readers will readily correct for themselves,—will frequently occur, in spite of our utmost caution; but one like this, whether made by our own or our printer's carelessness, is always to us extremely annoying and mortifying. But "the best miss it sometimes," *as our readers see.*

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CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

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Communications.

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THOMSONISM.

[The following article, contained in the first number of the *Stethoscope*, a monthly publication just commenced at Richmond, Virginia, well merits the strictures which *Medicus* has subjoined. Its spirit is kindred to that of numerous others which have, of late, run off from the pens of Allopathic physicians. Such articles, even without note or comment, prove, to a candid mind, at least one thing. They show conclusively the most miserable ignorance and egotistic boasting, on the part of the writers. It is not alone in another profession, to which Cowper once alluded, that we find “skulls that cannot teach and will not learn.” To our mind, few

things are more disgusting, than the sight of a jackdaw physician, plumed with some peacock's feathers, and strutting about under the delusive idea that he must necessarily be the pride of the whole neighborhood. Such ought to know, that not quite all the community are fools; nor all dim-sighted enough not to see, that the little finery exhibited, when so bunglingly put on, is only borrowed, and not a natural endowment.

In the case before us, the writer, by affixing M. D. to his name, has designed to intimate, that he is a graduate of some medical Institution. For his own sake, this is very well; as, from the style and character of his remarks, we never should have judged, that his attainments had entitled him to that honor. But the consideration of the credit which he will reflect on the College that graduated him is quite another affair.

That the article of Dr. Peebles contains some truth we have no disposition to deny. Slanderous falsehood, like all

"Vice, is a monster of so frightful mein,
As, to be hated, needs but to be seen."

To answer its malicious purpose, therefore, it has to be so intimately associated with truth, that its real appearance shall be overlooked or mistaken. The old serpent understood the true principle of success, in this matter, when he told our common mother, "Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know, that, in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened. and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." The enlightening of our first parents' perceptive powers was a truth to be realized, on the eating of the forbidden fruit; but it was not true, that another consequence would not be the threatened death, and there was a false application of what was truth in making it a reason for denying this death. So in the case of the review of Thomsonism. The doctor evidently designed, by seizing on some of the errors of a crude and imperfectly developed system and holding them up to ridicule, to induce the public to receive, together with these just views, the most flagrant misrepresentations. It is quite unfortunate for him, however, that he did not a little better study the lesson set him in Eden's bower. The falsehoods which he has uttered are not sufficiently disguised, by the intermingled truth, to deceive discerning minds.

By some of the prejudiced, and those willing to believe a lie, these falsehoods may, indeed, be received unqualified; but the author should have remembered, that, at this time of day, there is too much intelligence in the community generally, to admit, indiscriminately and without examination, the correctness of every unsustained assertion. In this country, very many have ceased to yield, in these matters, the servile obedience of Domine Sampson, engorging pottage at Meg Meriles' command.

We are no Thomsonian, at least as the term is generally understood in New England. We have not the first particle of sympathy for the sentiment, that every one can properly be his own physician. We believe it important for medical men to be thoroughly trained for their work. We see not how they can otherwise be qualified correctly to diagnosticate disease and judiciously to prescribe the best remedies. We contemptuously discard that ridiculous notion, that heat is life and cold is death; and we do not believe in burning or scalding disease out of a man, by kindling up a fire in his stomach. It seems to us, that the pathology of every morbid affection cannot be too fully known, nor the *modus operandi* of remedies too well understood.

But, though several of the notions which Thomson inculcated were erroneous and crude, yet every candid mind must admit, that what he has done has been the means of calling public attention to many matters of practical importance, which were before disregarded by the profession and the community. He exposed the errors and destructive tendencies of many Allopathic practices, and substituted, in their stead, a far safer and more sanative mode of medication. And now many of those who have been engaged in developing a theory of medicine the foundation of which Thomson, in a sense, laid, still choose, in honor of his personal efforts, to be called by his name. How far they pursue a course, which, had he lived, he would have approved, is questionable. But, be that as it may, their medical faith is known by the epithet Thomsonian; and it is this faith, particularly, which Dr. Peebles, intends to present in a false light. This, however is not all. He makes, indeed, a distinction among those who profess to be medical reformers. He regards "Eclectics" as having "arisen out of the ashes" of Thomson-

ism ; but even these, according to him, are only "a new swarm of specious quacks," and are "a *more* dangerous, because more imposing and disingenuous sect." They all equally fall under sentence of condemnation, because all "emerge from their head-quarters, like locusts, to desolate the country."

Now, we are free to say, that the man who will allow himself to utter sentiments like these is professionally either a knave or a fool ; and he may seize on that horn of the dilemma which he prefers. He may, in many respects, pass for an upright and honorable man ; but, in medical matters, if he does not design to utter flagrant abuse, he is certainly so blinded by prejudice, as to be incapable of perceiving some of the simplest truths. For the honor of morality, we would certainly hope, that the latter supposition is the true one. Indeed, the doctor's article contains strong internal evidence, that, in the main, at least, such is the case ; and that, like some of old, he only "speaks evil of things which he knows not." Take, for instance, the orthography of Thomson's name. In every case in which he has employed the word, he has spelled it incorrectly. In like manner, he has misspelled the derivative term, expressive of Thomson's mode of medical practice. Now errors of this kind, though small in themselves, yet prove most clearly, that the writer had paid little or no attention to the subject which he has pretended to review. He writes like a man who has hastily run his eye over a work against which he is bitterly prejudiced in the outset, and who immediately commences pouring forth a tirade of invective to give vent to his unhallowed spleen. Again, the reckless assertions which he makes in regard to Thomson's practice, as being "an unmitigated evil," "the cause of much mischief," &c., and, in regard to the man himself, as having been guilty "of murder too palpably committed to escape the observation of the bystanders," all favor the supposition, that the writer is more of an egotistic ignoramus, than a wilful falsifier.

But we have already extended these remarks far beyond our original design. We, therefore, submit the article on Thomsonism, with Medicus' strictures, to the candor of our readers. We only advise Dr. Peebles, when he writes again, to see that he has in exercise something of that "veneration" which he tells us was "much

wanting" in Samuel Thomson, and of the existence of which in himself, we fail to gain any evidence from this ebullition of his disordered brain. EDITOR.]

THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF THOMPSONIANISM.

BY J. F. PEEBLES, M. D.

This is an indigenous production. Perhaps, on that account, we ought to approach it in a friendly spirit. Ours has been said to be "the greatest people in creation." The writer is the last person in the world to underrate the national supremacy; but candor is an indispensable attribute of the historian. This compels us, in the very outset, to declare that this, which is the most prominent specimen of our native medical delusions, proves, that the attempts of our people in that line have, as yet, been awkward, bungling, and extremely unrefined. The right materials seem not to exist with us yet for excellence in these matters. How coarse and crude appears this torturing practice of medicine, when compared with the refined idealisms of homœopathy and mesmerism; even before the less elegant system of hydropathy, it sinks into insignificance—it has no prototype in the old world. It embodies a spirit which has no existence there, that of our restless, dauntless, active, western backwoodsmen, who even judge of their "physic" by the amount of labor it is capable of performing. It sprung from the necessities of this part of our population, and it embodies that which comports with the characteristics of their minds.—The man who is ripe for a belief in Thompsonianism would turn up his nose at homœopathy. The true nationality of its production is elucidated by its course; it tends westward with the pioneers, leaving the east, where men, living upon their wealth and retired from business, have the time to be invalids, for the prevalence of the more luxurious and aristocratic systems of homœopathy and its kindred spirits.

Samuel Thomson, its founder, was born in the year 1769, in the town of Alstead, New Hampshire. His parents were among the first who settled in that region, then a wilderness; they were poor, and supported themselves by the labor of their hands. The young Samuel, therefore, became early acquainted with manual labor; and he tells us himself, in more than one place, that he had no fondness for it. Whatever genius he might have possessed, was certainly not soon discovered by his hard-working father, who, despite his aversion to it, and a lameness which much incapacitated him, kept his son steadily employed on the farm. This parental sternness, as has often been the case, was the making of the boy. It fixed his aversion to labor so indelibly, that he early began to

turn about that he might devise some means of living without it. An opportunity was not long in presenting itself. Being totally unprovided with physicians, the necessities of the rude settlers, scattered through that wild country, often led them to seek medical aid from any source it was proffered. In this way a sort of rude practice sprung up in the hands of old women and others, whose medicaments were gathered from the fields. Young Thompson was not slow to discover the necessities of the community, and with an eye always toward an escape from the drudgery of labor, he early joined these drug-gathering parties, and eagerly turned his attention to the simple practice of the neighborhood. The expedient was a successful one; his knowledge of the rude medicaments in common use became so perfect, that when only 8 years old he was dubbed "Doctor" by his neighbors, and was often called on to decide upon the properties of medicinal plants.

His acquirements, and the general belief in his great medical promise, finally overcame the sternness of his father, and he tells us, that, provided his services could have been spared from the farm, and had his education, which as yet consisted of only one month's schooling, been sufficient, he would, in his 16th year, have been sent to learn medicine under a certain root doctor of Westmoreland. This step, had it been carried out, might have been unfortunate for his subsequent celebrity as a doctor; and if so, it would certainly have been fortunate for many a poor victim to his crude and remorseless system of practice. We have no idea of the medical knowledge of the root doctor in question; but we hold that, were he possessed of any experience in disease, or any information about remedies, it would have been sufficient to have enabled him speedily to instil that in his pupil's mind, which would have thoroughly disgusted him with the career he was about entering upon. Our meaning can best be illustrated by a veritable incident. We once heard of a groom, who fancied he had a natural turn for surgery. After performing with the rudest implements, many minor operations, a woman was finally brought him with a cancerous breast, which the most distinguished surgeons had declined amputating, because the disease had extended itself to the glands of the axilla in such a manner, as to render the operation, not only useless, but immediately dangerous. It was a mere trifle to our groom. He removed it in a jiffy. It is true, the axillary artery was wounded and the hæmorrhage was terrific; yet, nothing daunted, he coolly siezed the wounded vessels with a pair of ordinary pinchers well heated, and miraculously stopped the bleeding. The wound healed kindly, and the woman was soon sent home as well.

The result of this feat was the formation of a purse, by some be-

nevolent persons, who, determining that such natural abilities should not be lost to the world, had resolved to afford the operator a regular medical education. Before his term was half out at the university, however, he returned home and quietly resumed his stable duties.—When asked for an explanation of this conduct, his reply was, that he had become so shocked at his former foolhardiness, by what he had learned of medicine, that he was deterred from its further prosecution;—that he then knew the danger of the knife, and, henceforward, those who chose it might become surgeons; but, as for himself, he never meant again to remove even a wart from the human body. Denied even the small chance of having the conceit taken out of him, which the root doctor might have afforded, our hero, we find, was left to pursue his labors on the farm and his medical studies at the same time. Without learning, without books, without a guide or example, it appears, of any kind, this rude child of genius boldly knocked at the door of nature's great storehouse of knowledge, and he fancied that it was opened unto him. His history is a curious and not uninteresting example of the study of medicine *de novo*, without reference to what was hitherto known respecting it, occurring in our own times.

A contrast of his method, with that of the most primitive medical enquirers of which we have any account, certainly proves an advance in the human mind, which is exceedingly interesting. Instead of appealing to the gods or to the heavenly bodies; instead of selecting remedies as was done by the earliest medical enquirers, according to a fancy, dictated by the shape, color, brilliancy of substances, Thompson very philosophically, certainly, appealed directly to nature. He tasted and tried for himself; he experimented, on his playmates and fellow-laborers, with any thing that came in his way. We approve of this method of enquiry, and when we have said that, we have said all we can say in the praise of our hero.

The great storehouse of nature had been too sedulously and thoroughly examined by men qualified for the work by the learning of ages, to leave any thing to be culled by so crude and ignorant an observer as Thompson. Yet, for all this, we can sympathise with his belief in the originality of many of his discoveries. How was he, for instance, to know that the lobelia had been long known and used by physicians, when he was altogether unlettered, had never seen a medical work, and had no acquaintance with any man having any pretensions to medical knowledge. The maintenance of this belief, when he was told better, is exactly what might have been expected of one so ignorant and uncultivated in every thing necessary to an enlightened and civil man. Though utterly use-

less to science, the labors of Thompson brought him rich results in the way of conceit and self-sufficiency.

He soon began to look upon himself as a favored emissary of Heaven, sent to snatch his fellow-creatures from the clutches of the murderous faculty. Taking his own statements as authority, the man seems to have had but slight grounds for such a belief. The views which he took of disease would disgrace an enlightened New Zealander. We marvel how even he could have held such doctrines. It appears to us that the very powers of thought required to frame a theory at all of disease, ought to have ensured him against such manifest absurdities. He looked upon the human body as a great pot, to be boiled or refrigerated at pleasure. Disease he held to be something, endowed with a sort of life, which could only be killed out of the body by his "courses." To destroy this mischievous stranger was the end of his medication. He puked, steamed, and stimulated; that not answering, he puked, steamed, and stimulated again and again. His method of practice was exceedingly simple; it was as plain as the building up and the putting out of a fire. He made no allowances for the vital properties of the body, but acted on it as though it were but inorganic matter. Heat, every one knows, volatilizes water: taking the hint, Thompson cured dropsy through an evaporation of the effusion, by raising the internal and external heat of the body. Such crudities fail to excite even our derision, and we turn from the further consideration of his mere theories with feelings of pity, blended with amazement, that such notions could have ever found advocates among a civilized people. Having fixed upon his "courses," to be employed alike in the treatment of all diseases, he set out on his great mission. It is due to the man to state that he prosecuted his plans with admirable energy. Indeed, it is difficult to recognize the possession of so much perseverance, associated in the same individual, with so little intelligence. One would have supposed, at least, that the latter would gradually have been supplied, to some extent, by the exercise of the former quality. Not so with Dr. Thompson—he was too wise to learn; and he gained nothing by the contact with the world. His ignorance and self-sufficiency encrested him too securely to admit of the penetration of a single ray of knowledge. He rivalled Paracelsus in the importance in which he held himself: the possessor of the much longed for philosopher's stone could not have been more arrogant. The brass of the man was inconceivable. Not content to preach his doctrines into the ears of the unenlightened in medicine, he bearded the lion in his very den. He tells us that he called to have a conversation on medicine with Dr. Rush, and speaks of an interview with the elegant and accomplished Prof. Barton of Philadelphia.

The smiles of physicians at his blunders he construed into envy of his success, and he seemed to be in perpetual trouble lest some one should seize and appropriate his discoveries. He carried the war into the enemy's country, and probably owed much of his popularity among the unenlightened to his attacks upon the faculty. It was he that originated the prejudice against mineral medicines, still deeply rooted among the ignorant, and set the popular current in favor of vegetable or botanic remedies. Such was the character of Dr. Thompson. We dismiss its consideration with the assertion, that so much ignorance, self-conceit, and daring energy were probably never before associated together in the same individual.

After many years spent in journeying about from place to place, healing the sick, the results of his medical investigations and discoveries, Dr. Thompson, to protect himself, as he says in his narrative, from being robbed of all merit and emolument, ultimately embodied in a book, which he sold under the protection of a patent. His first patent, it appears from his narrative, was obtained in 1813. The early introduction of the system was attended with many annoyances. Dr. Thompson fairly suffered martyrdom for his strong faith in his discoveries. We read in his book constantly of severe trials, arising chiefly from the ingratitude of his patients, the persecutions of the faculty, the faithlessness of his agents, and the general wickedness of mankind, from the judges on the bench, who sat on his causes, down to the old women who had acted as nurses to his patients. His whole life, as he has most touchingly given it, is a satire on humanity; an instructive commentary on the injustice of the world; marked, however, by the pleasing contrast afforded by his own meek endurance of evil, and steady adherence to the interests of his fellow-men. The Doctor seems to have encountered a perfect shoal of swindlers; to have submitted his bantling to the world in most evil times; hence, he got but slight gains for all his troubles—received but little remuneration for his benefits to mankind.

His agents ran off, however, with immense sums obtained from the sale of rights, which, first to last, must have yielded a vast deal of money. The new doctrine gradually spread from New Hampshire into other states. Next to that giving it birth, Ohio, from the first, appears to have afforded it the warmest reception. It was disseminated with the greatest zeal. The manner of its circulation was like that of a patented machine. Agents, armed with set phrases against the use of mineral poisons, and in favor of vegetable remedies, peddled the books through the country, and sold the right to their use in practice at twenty dollars per right. It steadily spread on, until it pervaded the whole country, including the Can-

adas. Every neighborhood was invaded, and in every neighborhood one or more individuals were to be met with, possessed of the requisite turn of mind necessary to constitute a Thompsonian doctor. An observer might soon have learnt to point out the individual in any given place likely to adopt the new calling. The varieties of the species are great, yet admitting of classification. Your embryo Thompsonian doctor is considered in his neighborhood a smart man for his chance, although yet he has never been good for much. He is constantly astonishing his neighbors by his versatile mind. He is much wanting in veneration; hence, old and established usages of every sort are frowned at by him. There is nothing which he believes he cannot do; hence he is ever ready to attempt anything that comes to hand. He has no particular trade or business, yet he follows any that he fancies. Ten to one if he is not set up in some intricate trade, as watch-making, which he has never learnt. If not so, he aspires higher. He may deal a little in law—generally he is only a preacher—in every thing he is essentially by nature a quack and pretender.

These are the men who readily take up this practice of medicine, making their neighborhoods ring awhile with their exploits, causing the old women to gape and wonder at the canker ejected, by the emetic weed, from stomachs hitherto held innocent of such abominations.

These are the men who decry the faculty, who shudder at mineral remedies, and who see health alone in the vegetable kingdom. One such was asked in our presence of what was calomel made? Of copper and brass, was his confident reply, doubtlessly deriving the opinion from a fancied analogy between that "awful" poison and the venomous look of the rust of these metals.

It took time—but, as we have said, the new practice has pervaded the whole country. We suppose fifty years must have elapsed from its first promulgation before it became so generally diffused. Not only in its results, but in the manner of its invasion, does its progress resemble that of the cholera. It comes, and after a time departs; its residence in all places is temporary, and its return only at long intervals. After sweeping through a neighborhood, it will depart; years after, when the memory of its freaks has become dimmed in the recollection of the survivors, it will suddenly reappear and vehemently assert its claims to popular favor. Although partly, it is not altogether in this way, that it has been kept alive. Samuel Thompson, it seems to us, was honest in his belief about this practice. This is demonstrated by the artless manner he unfolded his doctrines. It is evident he meant them to rest exclusively on their own merits. He believed them himself, and he expected

them to carry conviction to others. This was a frail reliance ; the creed had within itself the elements of its own speedy destruction. We affirm that, had its original spirit been maintained, had not its control passed in a measure out of his hands, the system would have died with its founder. Long before his death, Thompson complained bitterly of the innovations of his disciples. These, more artful and long-sighted than himself, watched the popular mind. Money-making was their object ; hence, to keep the delusion triumphant, they steadily propped it wherever it appeared to be giving way.

In this way only has it been kept from sinking. In late years but few, if any, of the true breed are to be met with. Thompsonianism, as Samuel Thompson taught it, has long been dead ; but out of its ashes there has arisen recently a more dangerous, because more imposing and disingenuous sect. We have now the Eclectics. These pretend to combine the excellencies, without the obnoxious parts of both systems of medicine, the "regular" and the Thompsonian. This has led to a new swarm of specious quacks, which overspread the land.

Cincinnati is their head-quarters ; from thence they emerge like locusts, to desolate the country. In many places they are now in the full tide of their prosperity. But they cannot last long ; this medical monsoon will soon vanish ; then Thompsonianism will be forever dead. The system is completely worn out ; there is not enough of it left to hitch on another saving appendage. One word about the practical operation of this system of medicine, and we are done with it. We have before alluded to the theories which guided Thompson in the application of his remedies. They are too absurd and ridiculous to be again referred to ; yet we candidly state that there was more in his procedures than he had the mind to appreciate. We mean that he was unable to perceive wherein his remedies were in certain cases salutary ; too ignorant to tell in what manner they might sometimes cut short an attack of disease. Need anything more be said to prove the utter recklessness and danger of this system of quackery ? His remedies were powerful ; they produced the most violent and perturbing effects. In this way, in cases suitable, but limited in their number, their revolutionary tendencies might induce, although in a bungling and exceedingly uncertain manner, salutary changes. Applied without discrimination, as it was in every disease, it could but lead constantly to the most criminal consequences. The people are slow to condemn their petted systems ; yet Samuel Thompson, for all that, was several times brought to the bar of justice to answer the charge of murder, too palpably committed to escape the observation of

the bystanders. Unlike some other delusions, all his blunders and crude experiments upon his patients have added nothing to the stock of medical knowledge. He had but glimpses of very few and unimportant therapeutical truths, such as the influence of sweating as a curative means, which truths have been long unfolded in the most satisfactory manner, and are known to the merest tyro in medicine. He could do nothing, with all his bungling and torturing procedures, which medical men do not hourly do by safer, simpler, and less disgusting means. He developed no principle in medical practice which had not been known for ages, whilst his therapeutical additions, which were new, were utterly valueless. The whole delusion was but an unmitigated evil. In addition to its direct evil tendencies, it has indirectly been the cause of much mischief. Its spirit, and the manner of its introduction, tended to make the people rebel against medical authority. It diffused a contempt of study and learning, and excited a prejudice in the popular mind against physicians as a privileged class, who held unjustly a monopoly, which they used to oppress the people. The vaunted success of its heroes favored the idea, that any one with twenty dollars in his pocket could be a better doctor than the most scientific and learned physician. It fostered and maintained all the existing popular errors about drugs, and even originated many that were new. We repeat, therefore, that the whole delusion, from the first to the last, has been an unmitigated evil, and one not at all likely to reflect credit upon the intelligence of our people.

REVIEW BY MEDICUS.

Mr. Editor:—

Seeing an announcement, some time since, of a Virginia Medical Journal, the "Stethoscope," we awaited its appearance with anxiety—hoping that the combined intelligence of the Medical Faculty of the State would get up a periodical worthy of the "Old Dominion" and of the South. When the first number reached us, we examined it carefully. An article, headed "Rise and Progress of Thomsonism," attracted our especial attention. We anticipated, from its title, a full developement of the rise, progress, principles, &c., of that system, which has, for half a century, hung over the medical horizon. A perusal of the article convinced us, that, either the author was ignorant of the

subject under consideration, and incapable, therefore, of making an analysis of the system, or he wilfully misstated the subject. It would seem that he desires to gain notoriety, as a champion of Allopathy, and an opponent of Eclecticism. This article evidently evinces, that he is sore from encroachments on his practice, by some Thomsonian or "Physiological Doctor."

We should naturally anticipate, a scientific refutation of its principles; but, alas, the author either is as silent as the tomb upon these, or has wilfully misrepresented them. The article seems, throughout, to have been written more for the mere sake of writing, than for the purpose of imparting information, or of throwing light upon the subject.

It is true, the writer makes mention of the ignorance of some of those who have "pretended to practice." He informs us, that it is periodical in its character,—and he makes some reference to its paroxysms. He refers to the ignorance of some 'worthy,' as to 'Surgery' and the components of calomel. If, however, this worthy's knowledge of its components were as great as that which the author of the "Rise and Progress of Thomsonism" has evinced of the subject he attempts to elucidate, we say, he should have written an essay upon them; but, perhaps, more modest, he envies not the reputation of being dubbed scribbler. All men are not constituted alike. Some are envious of notoriety at every hazard. Perhaps the author of the "Rise and Progress of Thomsonism" would like to be considered "a man who has *writ* much" although "that envious world" might hint—Nonsense. The author, with inadvertant candor, says, Dr. Thomson did actually believe in his own system. This, to the author, must be a matter of astonishment, as he is fully aware, that, for the last century, every Allopathic physician of any reputation has disbelieved in his. The former judged from success; the latter by failures. And, if the author is not in the same category as his brethren, his knowledge of medical literature and medicine must be on a par with his acquaintance with the principles of Dr. S. Thomson; for no man, possessing common intelligence, can read medicine four months without concluding "the whole fabric is a tissue of contradiction." But *writing men* are seldom *reading men*. They love the perusal of nought but their

own lucubrations. The delightful *aura* emanating from these is so soothing to the organ of *Self-esteem*, as to throw them into an extatic paroxysm, and to render them oblivious of all other productions.

We intended an analysis of the article, when we sat down ; but, alas ! Mr. Editor, we are in the same quandary, in which you doubtless find yourself from some "Big Heading,"—viz: after its perusal, you can find nothing worthy of notice,—no principles laid down, no arguments entered into. Nor are we led, except from the caption, to think that the author is writing upon much, if anything. An attempt at a review, therefore, might seem Quixotic. That the system of medicine known as Thomson's was, in its incipency, crude, none will deny. It was not then, indeed, a system,—but, emphatically a practice. Its author, while gifted with the strongest natural powers of mind, was debarred from the acquisition of the Schools, and was left dependent alone upon his own innate powers, without the refinement and polish imparted only by scholastic attainments. This, to the author of the "Rise and progress of Thomsonism" affords a subject of disparagement. Because young Thomson's position in life rendered labor necessary, his mind was unfit for pretensions to originality in science. The man or boy, doomed to toil in the emanations of the barn-yard, or to enrich the soil by the "sweat of his brow," should never, according to his fastidious taste, presume to enrich the field of medicine. Such an idea is too humbling to the dignity of the profession. But, before the author presumes to condemn S. Thomson, he should inquire, Who was John Hunter,—he who, it might be said, has done, in many respects, for the profession what Newton did for natural science ? Why, a poor carpenter, who, by self-tuition, perseverance, and unwearied application, gradually arose in life, till he assumed the most conspicuous place in the metropolis of his country,—the highest point in the galaxy of his profession.

Another subject of ridicule, on the author's part, is the "young Samuel's" precocity in medicine ; but, if precociousness be a bar to eminence, then some of our first sculptors, painters, mathematicians, &c., are unentitled to the honors awarded them. Nature models the genius. She forms its character even in the embryotic

state. He whom she destines to climb to the pinnacle of fame, gives, from earliest childhood, scintillations of that genius which is to render him immortal. But we are too apt to condemn in others that which we lack ourselves. Hence, the author condemns precociousness, "he having no part therein."

In speaking of the "young Samuel's" tutor—the "*root doctor*,"—he says, "We hold, that, were he possessed of any experience in disease or any information about remedies, it would have been sufficient to have enabled him speedily to instil that into his pupil's mind, which would have thoroughly disgusted him with the career he was about entering upon." We presume the author, in this, speaks from experience. His course of study disgusted him with his future career; but we presume, alas! that, like the "young Samuel's 'necessity,' "a disgust of manual labor" led him to follow it, "*nolens volens*." Unlike the *groom* he mentions, he had not the moral firmness to eschew the evil, and gain his daily bread in some honorable occupation. But we would ask the author, if *all*, like the groom, find out the danger of the knife? Such must be our natural conclusion. If so, the groom had more moral honesty than the surgeons of this day. Our opinion is, however, that to no class of men is suffering humanity more indebted, than to the surgeons.

The author continues, "Without learning, without books, without a guide (where was the *root doctor*?), or example, it appears, of any kind, this rude child of genius, boldly knocked at the door of Nature's great store house of knowledge." Yes, he did knock, boldly and not unsuccessfully. Nothing, to our mind, is more pleasing, than the sight of the man, who, doomed by circumstances, is forced to plod on his way, over the steep and rugged path, to the temple of Fame, without aid from his fellow men, without the sympathy of friends, to strew with a flower or cheer with a smile,—who has to dash boldly to the goal, supported only by the innate power of his own native genius. For a man, under every facilitating circumstance, to reach the goal of fame, is a matter worthy of our admiration; but, when he has to face the chilling blasts of poverty and buffet the waves of adversity, yet still, unshaken, pursues his way, regardless of the jeers and scoffs of the world, such a sight

presents a moral sublimity which should call forth every better feeling of the heart. And the man who, in his own envious spirit, would seek to detract from his well earned laurels is entitled to and should receive the anathemas of every enlightened mind.

That Dr. Thomson did make discoveries in medicine, we think no man would hazard his veracity so far as to deny. Prof. Waterhouse, not only gives him the honor of discovering the medical virtues of *lobelia inflata*, but expressly states, that he deserves to be ranked as a benefactor of the human family. The man who, at this day, attempts to rob him of this honor, evinces either a total ignorance of the subject, or an evident desire to pervert the truth; and we boldly say, that not one of the Faculty is acquainted with the therapeutical virtues of lobelia,—much less with its history.

The author, speaking of Thomsonian doctors, says, they are “wanting in veneration;” and then, speaking of their versatility, says, they are usually preachers. This, we must say, is to our very illiterate mind, a paradox. How preachers, the ministers of our blessed religion, can be wanting in veneration, is to us indeed strange. We have usually considered *veneration* as the very faculty most developed in ministers; but, we presume, that, in our ignorance, we have overlooked all its phrenological phases, and that the author of the “Rise and Progress of Thomsonism” will give us an essay upon phrenological combinations—clearly proving that *veneration*, (the very faculty which leads to the *love* and *reverence* of our Maker,) is not essential to ministers of the gospel; ergo, ministers have no *love* or *reverence* for the Almighty. If so, there must be a radical change in theology.

But all enlightened minds acknowledge, that *veneration* for established usages, devotion to old authorities and systems, has ever been the “sternest opponent to the progress of reason, to the advancement of natural truths, and the prosecution of new discoveries.” It was this which drew upon Harvey the attacks of the whole medical profession. It twice caused Galileo to be brought before the inquisition. It produced the attacks upon Sir I. Newton for the discovery of the composition of light. It caused our immortal Franklin’s views of electricity to be hooted at by the savans of

Europe. It induced the persecutions of Samuel Thomson; and it, together with one more powerful—self interest,—now draws down upon his followers the revilings of the “*soi disant*” medical Faculty. When, oh when! will man learn by experience? If past history be dead to them, what hope have we for the future? Every truth unfolded must fight its way to popular favor. Those who should be the first to receive and appreciate, are the last to acknowledge it. Such is the vanity of man. If, therefore, Thomsonians have thrown off this veneration for old time-honored usages and practices; they have taken the greatest step towards the reception of truth, the appreciation of the value of every new discovery. Their judgments should, therefore, be appreciated, and their decisions received, as their minds are unbiased, though it may be said, *slightly prejudiced* against that time-honored custom, of *inducing a mercurial disease*, to cure a fever. Whether this prejudice is just or not, we leave to those, who have suffered from ptyalism, a diseased palate, the loss of the lower jaw, ozæna, mercurial ulcers, mercurial rheumatism, and to those *whose systems, are converted into delicate barometers*. To decide this point we cannot undertake, although we have heard many a “poor invalid declaiming, in no measured terms, against this time honored custom;” and, if our memory serves us, the “*savans*” of the “*science*,” have not been wanting in its condemnation. But of this we will not be certain; for their pages may present different conclusions, to those *who can read them scientifically*,—we cannot. Will the author of the “*Rise and Progress of Thomsonism*,” so far *compromise his dignity*, as to enlighten us? He can read them scientifically.

The author says; “He” (Thomson) “soon began to look upon himself as a favored emissary of Heaven, sent to snatch his fellow creatures from the clutches of the murderous Faculty.” The least acquaintance with the past history of human discovery and improvement, would have shown the author, that a feeling of zeal is necessary to success in the world. No man can perform any important part, without the *fiat* of the Almighty. Men are but his instruments to work out his will and purposes. He endows them with the faculties and capabilities suitable to the part they are to play in the drama of life. All men of genius, all who have played,

or are to play any important part upon the world's stage, have this feeling. It is innate. Instead of ridiculing its existence, we should regard it as the harbinger of future success.

And well might Dr. Thomson have such a belief. In his own simple and artless manner, he tells us of his success, even in the most hopeless cases. The physicians, in their efforts to relieve, only entailed, by their course of treatment, new forms of disease, worse than the original. He, on the contrary, gave relief, even after hope, the last boon of man, was gone. Was it not natural, then, for him to ascribe his success to the interposition of the Almighty in his behalf? In this, at least, he showed *his veneration!* And better would it be, if every physician asked the blessing of Heaven upon his administrations. The physicians of this day are so *successful* as not to need the interposition of the Almighty!!

“The views he took of disease,” continues this writer, “would have disgraced an enlightened New Zealander. We marvel even how even he could have held such doctrines.” That Dr. Thomson's theory of disease was, in many respects, crude and unphilosophical, not even his most ardent admirers will deny; but we have yet to learn, that specious theories ever availed at the bed-side of the sick. Experiment—experience alone can enrich the science of medicine. We see the theories of the “*savans of medicine,*” as fitful and changeable as the wind. One builds up a beautiful theory, clothing it with all the paraphernalia of sophistry, and defending it with every argument, physiological and pathological, thereby hoping it may give him immortality; but, alas! too ephemeral to stand the test of facts, it passes away, to give place to another, which lives also but its day. Has theory ever enriched medicine? Has it given one remedy to mitigate disease? Is it to theories the *Materia Medica* is indebted for a single remedy? Is the world indebted for cinchona to theory, or to the untutored unlettered savage of Peru? Was it theory which taught the value of iodine? Was it science which has swollen the indigenous *Materia Medica* to its present size? Did this teach us the properties of serpentaria, senega, spigelia, eupatorium, or any of them? No, it was chance, the genius of the savage,—not of scientific man! Dr. Thomson experimented. He watched the operation of his remedies. He

saw that they were sanative. His was not the province to theorize but to cure his patients; and he was supereminently successful. If physicians discard every remedy—every means of procedure, introduced by what they are pleased to style empiricism, like Othello, “their occupation” will be gone; for by this alone, has the *Materia Medica* been and can it be enriched.

If lobelia be a valuable remedy,—if it is a safe and certain emetic,—the *most valuable antispasmodic*,—why reject it, or refuse to Samuel Thomson the honor of its discovery? What matters it to the poor unfortunate laboring under tetanus, hydrophobia, or hernia, what relieves him, or who discovered the remedy! And small must be the moral honesty of that man, who, offering himself as a physican, allows his patient to suffer, to languish in excruciating torture, to die,—because the remedy prepared by Nature’s hand, was first made known by an empiric? But, one thing, we are glad to hear,—that Allopathists will discard all remedies made known by empirics. If so, mercury can no longer find a place among them; or the obliquity must be removed from Paracelsus. But we suppose, they will hold a “special meeting,” and Paracelsus will be announced as one of the chosen few. Oh! how sweet this posthumous fame will be to the shade of the empiric! Like Bunyan’s Ghost, it will come forth, not to haunt, but to receive the right hand of fellowship. Oh! shade of Samuel Thomson! thy day, too, must come!

Speaking of Thomsonian doctors, the author says: “Money making was their object.” We ask, if money making is not the object of every physician? If the profession were doomed to live upon a bare competency,—to pursue their duties from charity alone, should we find them flooding the country, like the locusts in the land of Egypt? Would our medical Schools be sending forth, annually, new swarms to cover the very few green spots, now free from their ravages? Would medical Societies be forming *immutable* charges, heavy enough to swallow up the estate, after they have destroyed the body? If *charity* alone is their governing principle, why threaten with all the horrors of Inquisition excommunication to any one who abates, “even to the weight of a hair,” any exorbitant charge? Ah! better for the man to have been under

the ban of the Inquisition of Spain, in its darkest hour, than to be found suffering his benevolence so far to act, as to charge one dollar, when they say two. The mark of the Faculty is placed upon his forehead; and he goes forth with "their curse upon him," never again to be recognized as *scientific* or *skilful*, unless he abjures such an unholy thing as charity! If heavy charges make *scientific men* and *successful physicians*, they should double their fee bills. Perhaps, this is the reason the Thomsonian, no matter what his medical attainments, cannot be a scientific man;—his conscience will not permit such unlawful charges. "He," Samuel Thomson, "could do nothing, with all his bungling and torturing proceedings, which medical men do not hourly do by safer, simpler, and less disgusting means." Well! is the author willing to allow their practice to be simpler than Thomson's. We thought the simplicity of the Thomsonian practice formed the great objection to this system. Is *antimony* less bungling and torturing than *lobelia inflata*? Is the vapor bath, which imparts such gist to oriental life, more torturing than vesication by flies? Is the application of fomentations and stimulants more torturing than acupuncture? If so, the nervous sensibilities of the human system must have undergone a radical change.

The author continues—"It," Thomsonism, "*excited a prejudice in the popular mind against physicians as a priveleged class, who HELD UNJUSTLY A MONOPOLY WHICH THEY USED TO OPPRESS THE PEOPLE.*" The Genius of American Institutions is such, as ever to oppose the introduction of privileged classes and monopolies. These are antithetical to that innate principle of independence and freedom, which pervades the breast of every American. They may spring up in countries, where they serve to form the bulwark of the throne; where inequalities and grades form the complexion of society: but here, where the minds of all are as free as our glorious national emblem, public opinion can never submit to the dictates of any class or sect; or allow, to any body of men, privileges and monopolies, superior to those of her humblest child. This desire, on the part of certain classes, to enjoy peculiar privileges, superior to those of other men, has ever prevailed. The mechanical arts, religion, medicine have all sought them; and nothing has done more

in certain countries, towards enslaving the minds of the mass, than their existence. Nothing supported and propped up a false religion so long, but its peculiar privileges and its monopoly of men's souls. Having released the soul from such shackles,—must we now trammel the body? These *peculiar privileges* and *monopolies* have ever been used as a means to oppress the masses, for the support of the favored few. That Allopathic physicians desire these peculiar privileges is well known. Their combined action has tended to this point for half a century. They have sought it by every means. They have written for it,—spoken for it,—petitioned for it. Shall they have it? Will they not use it for oppression? Their acts,—the constitutions and by-laws of their Societies prove it. They now expel members for *undercharging*. They refuse admittance to members—no matter what be their medical attainments, if they cannot conscientiously bleed and give mercury, or subscribe to their every dogma. If any individual of the community refuses to pay the rates of the Society,—no matter how exorbitant,—and appeals to the higher tribunal of the law, from thenceforth, he can receive “no balm from Gilead,” but must suffer on a bed of affliction unaided—unnoticed. If such be now their acts, what would they be, if sanctioned by Legislative powers, if they were rendered the sole arbiters of health? Has any man the right to demand,—has any set of men the right to prescribe, to the community, medical advisers of a certain class? As well at once give a monopoly to every occupation, even to our shoe blacks. Such grants would trammel every freedom of thought and of action. If our religion, our doctor, and our shoe black are prescribed,—verily, we must submit to pray one way and go one road to Heaven,—be physicked against our wills, and *have our shoes blacked in any way*. The very idea is preposterous, and deserves only a smile of scorn, at the weakness of the cause, requiring Legislative aid to prop it,—being unable to support itself by its own merits.

One more quotation and we are done. “Thomsonism, as Samuel Thomson taught it, has long been dead; but, out of its ashes, there has arisen recently a more dangerous, because more imposing and disingenuous sect. We have now the Eclectics. These pretend to combine the excellencies, without the obnoxious parts of

both systems. This has led to a new swarm of specious quacks which (who) overspread the land."

If we had no other grounds for belief in the Eclectic practice, this paragraph would have fully convinced us of its truth. It evidently demonstrates a dread, on the part of Allopathists, of the Eclectic system. Men never dread or fear that which is erroneous, but that which bears the impress of truth. Dr. Thomson's practice, was valuable; in many cases, in which that of the Allopathists failed to give relief. This succeeded; and hence, it was *practically* true; although Dr. Thomson was unable to appreciate why, upon pathological grounds. So much, therefore, of his practice, Eclectics receive. Dr. Thomson did not consider scientific attainments necessary to make a *practical* physician. To a certain extent, this may be true; but, if there are a few men, whose natural discriminating powers, would enable them to practice a successful routine, still these form only exceptions, and go to prove the necessity of the highest attainments to the physician. Eclectics are desirous of raising the standard of these attainments, and extending the time of study; two sessions of four months, with two years of preparatory study, being too short a time, even for the most gifted, to acquire a knowledge of medicine and its collateral branches. *Eclectics*, in practice, are bound to the dogmas of no School or sect, but *glean* indiscriminately from all. If lobelia, or iodine, or opium, or the vapor bath, or shower bath, or nitre, or capsicum be indicated, they prescribe it. In the use of two agents they differ from Allopathists,—mercury and bloodletting. These they consider as unnecessary, nay, dangerous. The indications for these, they think can be fulfilled by other remedies more effectual, or, at least, not liable to injurious consequences. Upon vito-chemical grounds, they prefer remedies from the vegetable, rather than from the mineral kingdom. They differ also from Allopathists in their views of disease,—consequently, on the indications to be fulfilled. There is no difference, as to the manual operations of surgery, or text books in the collateral branches of medicine.

Thomson, and his more immediate followers, claim to have made many discoveries, of the properties of indigenous remedies, of the greatest value,—which are unknown or unappreciated by the Al-

lopathists. The "Eclectics," making the same ground the more immediate field of their labors, have also added many valuable remedies to the *Materia Medica*. Unbiased in their views and feelings, they have ever been willing to test, fairly and candidly, every remedy, no matter from what source it has come, purporting to be of value ; and, in this way, many of the most valuable remedies have been added to their means of cure. They care not whether the article has been used by an empiric, a quack, or an Indian. If valuable, they receive it as a gift of our Almighty Creator. This has enabled them to find means of cure, for many diseases, at present, the "*approprium medicorum*" of the Allopathic School. In their pharmaceutical preparations, they claim, also, to have made advances ; and, by their advances in combinations, to have prepared compounds exceeding in efficacy those at present known and appreciated by the Allopathists.

Men who make any one branch, the peculiar object of their study and investigations, necessarily make more rapid advances in it, than those whose researches are of a more general character. Hence, "Eclectics," making our indigenous articles their immediate object of investigation, have made more rapid advances, than those who sneer at remedies, prepared at their very doors, by the hand of Nature.

If, therefore, the *vegetable kingdom* contains, as is the opinion of many of the first physicians of the age, remedies for every ill to which flesh is heir ; and, if these remedies are safer and more certain in their sanative operation, then it necessarily follows, that the Eclectics are more advanced in the *healing art* properly so called, than our Allopathic physicians. Indeed, I sometimes think, that the existence of two, or several distinct sects or classes of physicians, is ordained by the will of the Almighty, that perfection in the healing art might be more rapid, and man be sooner released from the thralldom of disease. Instead, therefore, of condemning any particular or separate School of medicine, we should willingly examine the claims of each, with unbiased judgments ; and, if any good is found in any, receive it,—thus continually adding to our stock of knowledge, and really making the science of medicine, a blessing to the Human Family—the hand-maid of religion. The one ministering consolation to the diseased soul, the other applying

remedies to the body—man, thus passing through this vale, buoyant with life and redolent of health, with his soul at peace with God and man, may indeed feel and return thanks to his Maker, for such a happy millenium. We hope, therefore, that the Allopathists, will receive the truths of the Thomsonian practice,—and not reject them, because of the humbleness of their propounder,—remembering, that God frequently uses “the weak things of this world, to confound the mighty;”—that, if the system be true, God himself is its author, man merely his instrument; that, if we poor frail mortals condemn the instrument, we condemn the Author of Nature, himself.

Now, we appeal to every candid mind, if the ground taken by Eclectics is not the true one, to

“Sieve upon Truth, wherever found.”

Their objections to the use of calomel and the lancet are based upon their well known injurious sequences, as set forth by medical authors. Their exhibition of lobelia, cayenne, and the vapor bath, when indicated, is based on the effects of these in the removal of disease, and on irrefragable therapeutical grounds. *All* other remedies, for every practical purpose, may be said to be in common. If the injuries to the human system, effected by the use of *mercury*, overbalance the good, then it should be rejected from the *Materia Medica*. If it even, in a few constitutions and under unfavorable circumstances, induces dangerous or fatal disease, and a substitute for it is found, it should be rejected. Eclectics believe, that all the indications fulfilled by mercury, can be fulfilled by other and harmless remedies. In proof of this they appeal to their success in cases in which mercury is considered indispensable.

In conclusion, we say, Thomson will be revered and his name handed down to posterity, as one of the *benefactors* of the human family, while his reviewer, historian, or biographer, of Stethescopeic memory will be slumbering in oblivion.

The Eclectic practice, taking the only true philosophical ground and demanding a high standard of attainments, will gradually overshadow our land, by its own merits, without requiring to be upheld by Legislative monopoly, while Allopathy, even with every fostering care, will be remembered “only among the things that were.”

A NEW ANTI-SPASMODIC.

Prof. Newton:—

Dear Sir,—There is an animal *of the weasel kind*, from which a strong scented substance may be procured, quite as powerful as the musk or any other anti-spasmodic ever called into use. This fœtid liquor I have administered on sugar in doses of from 1 to 5 drops, in the case of two patients afflicted with what I, in my ignorance, call *periodic spasmodic asthma*; and from it I have witnessed the most wonderful results, and relieved those who for years could not be effectually relieved by any means which had been employed.

I do not wish to inquire whether the patients referred to were diseased. I know they were, and had been for many years. I am sure there was a debility of the lungs and uterus in particular, and of the whole nervous system in general. I know, also, that, during every month, for a longer or shorter time, there was a metastasis of nature's action to the lungs, or a powerful nervous sympathy of the lungs with the uterus, in its functional action. I, moreover, know, that every slight exposure to improper air or over action of the nervous system would bring on spasms similar to what were sure to occur during those periods alluded too above. I know, also, that the aforesaid remedy did instantly relieve; and, by continuing it once a day for a week or ten days, permanent relief has resulted, and the patients, thus far, have enjoyed a degree of health to which they had been strangers for many years. I know, in reference to one of the cases, that the influence of the medicine was felt to be in operation for two months after its use, and that the smell of it was detected by the patient in the secretions, as they were removed from the system.

May I inquire, therefore, into the *modus operandi* of this remedy? Does it not possess therapeutic properties, aside from its power to allay spasms? It is known to go in the circulation to every part of the human system. Not only has it removed morbid secretions from the *lungs* and *uterus* in the cases before referred to, but the skin and bowels have by it been freed from excrementitious matter, and left in a healthy condition.

The only objections to its use seem to be, the difficulty of procuring it, and the fœtor which is unpleasant to the patient and nurse. The taste, I am assured, is not objectionable. These same objections, however, hold in respect to other nervous agents, and in this instance, the latter is less important from the fact, that it is easy to keep this fluid in a double vial, and drop it in the open air, so that, in an hour or two, the fœtor is all removed.

WM. BAILEY.

HILL'S SURGERY.

PROF. NEWTON:—

Dear Sir,—Through the politeness of Prof. B. L. Hill, M. D., I have been favored with a copy of his recent work on Surgery. A press of engagements has prevented me from examining it as thoroughly as its importance demands; yet, from the recommendations of those who have investigated its merits, and its adaptedness to the "Reform Practice," I have no hesitancy in giving it a warm approval. The mechanical execution is superior, and does much credit to the publishers, W. Phillips & Co. The work is sufficiently voluminous containing 671 large 8vo. pages.

E. MORGAN PARRITT.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan. 11th, 1851.

Selection.

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AMERICAN REFORM MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

[Since the article, respecting the appointment of Dr. Churchill to a chair in the recently established Institute at Louisville, was put in type, we have received the Announcement of the Faculty,—from which we select the following. We wish our friends success in their efforts at medical reform. Living, as we do, at a latitude and longitude quite different from theirs, it would be unwise in us to attempt to suggest, with any definiteness, what course it is proper

for them to pursue. We will, however, express the hope, that they will fix high their standard of qualifications for the reception of College honors. Quacks enough, in all conscience, are annually sent forth from Allopathic Colleges. Let reformers take care, that no ignoramuses receive from them a sanction to engage in the practice of medicine. EDITOR.]

FACULTY.

JAMES MILOT, M. D., *Prof. of General, Special, and Pathological Anatomy.*
 CHARLES J. CHILDS, M. D., *Prof. of Principles and Practice of Surgery.*
 J. HENRY JORDAN, M. D., *Prof. of Institutes and Practice of Medicine.*
 GEORGE W. CHURCHILL, M. D., *Prof. of Materia Medica and Therapeutics.*
 ALEX. H. BALDRIDGE, M. D., *Prof. of Obstetrics, and Diseases of Women and Children.*
 SAML. A. HUMPHREY, M. D., *Prof. of Chemistry and Physiology.*
 JAMES MILOT, M. D., *Demonstrator of Anatomy and Prosector.*
 A. H. BALDRIDGE, M. D., *Dean.*

The second Course of Lectures in the American Reform Medical Institute of Louisville—and first Spring Course—will commence on the second Monday in March next, and will continue three months, or until the last of May.

The difficulties under which the Trustees and friends of the Institution labored for a time, in regard to securing suitable Professors, have at length been overcome. The Faculty is now complete—the Chairs all being filled with men who are tried practitioners of the Eclectic or American Reform School of Medicine, and who, it is believed, are thoroughly qualified for the departments assigned them.

The Faculty will all be present, each Professor in his place, and each department will be as thoroughly taught and exemplified as is done in the Winter Course. In order to do this in a Course of but three months, all unimportant discussions, and every thing not really essential and useful will be excluded from the Lectures—the object will be to make them as strictly *practical* as possible,—omitting nothing however that is really important or necessary to be known. It will not be a Course given by a *part* of the Faculty, as is usually the case in Spring Sessions held at other Institutions; the Faculty and the course of instruction will be both full and complete.

Besides the branches enumerated above, there will be extra Lectures delivered by some of the Professors on physical Diagnosis, Toxicology, and Medical Jurisprudence.

A senior Class will also be formed, soon after the commencement

of the Session, of such as design Graduating—who will receive extra instruction from each Professor, for the purpose of advancing and preparing them for Graduation. In fine, no pains will be spared by the Faculty to make their Course of Lectures throughout as comprehensive and interesting, and at the same time as instructive and profitable to the class, as can possibly be done in the time allotted; and they flatter themselves that they will be able to render them fully as much so as can be obtained in any other Institution.

The first six weeks of the Session, in the Anatomical department, will be devoted to Dissection, and the Anatomy of the soft parts; hence students who wish to devote special attention to this department should be here at or before the commencement of the Course. There will be no lack of material or opportunity for Anatomical demonstration; an ample supply of subjects will always be on hand, or easy of access, for demonstrations, both in Anatomy and Operations in Surgery.

FEES FOR THE COURSE.

The Faculty have resolved to place the fees for the Spring Session at the following low price, so as to be within the means of every one who may wish to attend:

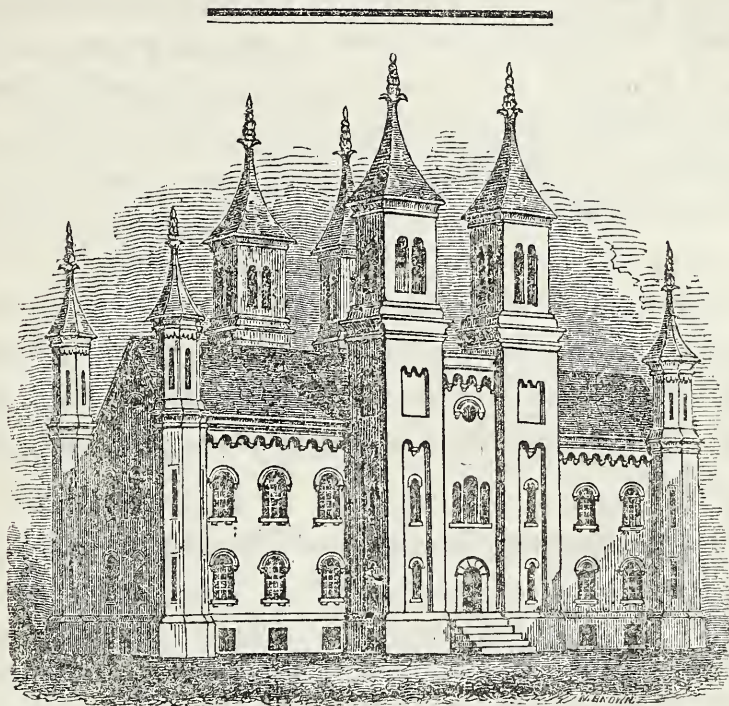
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| Tickets of each Professor, | \$ 5. |
| Matriculation ticket, (paid but once,) | \$ 5. |
| Making in all, | \$ 35. |

The Demonstrator's ticket will be \$ 5—and fee for Diploma, \$ 20.

The amount for the Professors' tickets will invariably be required in advance—unless, where the parties are known, it is secured by note with approved security. Matriculation fee must always be in advance.

The extreme low price of the tickets, together with the fact that the Session is held during a season of the year when physicians generally have most leisure, it is believed offers inducements seldom to be met with in Medical Colleges. A very favorable opportunity is offered to such physicians as have never attended a Course of Medical lectures, and such as have not Graduated—which they may do well to avail themselves of. Such physicians as have been in practice three years and upwards, it will be seen, will have an opportunity of Graduating by attending our Spring Session. A rare opportunity is also offered to students who have attended one Course, or who are attending the present winter, in some other In-

stitution, and who would like to "get through," or Graduate, in time for the summer and fall practice. Indeed the opportunity we offer is so favorable, to both students and physicians, that we feel justified in calling special attention to it, as one which should not be allowed to pass unimproved.



[Worcester Medical Institution.]

Editorial.



WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION.

After the abundant odium which has been heaped upon us, by ultra and partially educated Thomsonians, on account of the elevated and scientific character of our notions of medicine,—after the free use of almost every possible opprobrious epithet applied to us, by different classes of the profession,—and, especially, after the repeated instances of wanton abuse on the part of the original editor of the *Botanico-medical Recorder of Ohio*, it is somewhat gratifying to us to find a brother editor disposed to applaud the work of our hands, and recommend generally, to the friends of a common cause, the adoption of collateral measures. Hence we

are pleased with the subjoined remarks of Prof. Stockwell, the editor of the Physo-medical and Surgical Journal, now published at Cincinnati, Ohio, in the place of the Botanico-medical Recorder formerly published by Dr. A. Curtis. Prof. S., unlike his predecessor, is a man who understands the importance of thorough attainments on the part of every member of the medical profession; and his influence, in regard to the character of the paper, and of the College with which he is connected, so far as his ability shall allow, will ever be, we trust, of the right stamp. We bid him, and his present associates in the College at Cincinnati, God-speed, in the important work of elevating the standard of professional education. May the plaudit, given to our Institution, henceforth be as applicable to the Physo-medical College of Ohio; and our brother may rest assured, that we will march, shoulder to shoulder, with him, in fighting the battles of medical truth, as well as walk, hand in hand, with him, through every bower of peace secured as the conqueror's reward.

“PHYSO-MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WORCESTER, MASS.

The annual Session of this Institution commences on the first Thursday in March, 1851, and continues sixteen weeks. The ensuing Session is the sixth Course of Lectures that has been given by this Institution, is the third one of its chartered life, and the first one of its own college edifice life. First the collection of gentlemen and formation of a Faculty, then the obtaining of a liberal charter, and, lastly the erection of a beautiful and costly college edifice;—thus has our sister School of the East progressed, and may it be a sign of her future prosperity. There is one most excellent feature in this School, namely, the high standard for graduation. We are misinformed, if a student can graduate there, unless he *merits* his diploma. No venality marks the distribution of her degrees. It is not the quantity but the quality that she would graduate. She would induce as many young men as possible to attend her instructions, but the conferring of her favors is reserved for the thorough medical student. The country is sufficiently flooded with graduated mountebanks from the Reform Schools, as well as the Old Schools, and it is high time that the former (the latter will take care of themselves) were stopping this flood of half made doctors, and demanding thorough acquirements in all the chairs of medicine. The Worcester Institution is setting a good example. The novelty of the Physo-medical System has disappeared; its periods of assertion, fanaticism, and daring combative-

ness, have also disappeared ; and the period of facts, carefully noted, calm conclusions, and thorough attainments, is appearing. If Reform is destitute of *such* men, she will certainly sink into oblivion ; but, if she possesses hard working men, students that study at midnight, indomitable men, she will rise with new beauty and strength, and her claims will be acknowledged by all. The Worcester School aims at this, and she is doing much for the establishment of innocent medication. S.”

On the 6th of the present month, our next Lecture Term commences, and we have every possible assurance of a large Class. Our Faculty will be full, and we cannot doubt, that the instruction, in every department, will be able.

PROFESSORSHIP OF HYDRO-THERAPEUTICS.

In noticing, in our last issue, the appointment of Dr. Rogers to a chair in our Institution, we spoke of his department as “devoted directly to the illustration of *Hydropathic* principles.” We then felt, and so did Prof. R., that the term *Hydrotherapy* was objectionable, on account of its being understood to imply, of itself, a *system* of medical practice ; whereas the application of water, as a therapeutic agent, forms only a part of the general system of sanative medication.

Materia Medica, according to Webster, is “a general name for every substance used in medicine.” Therapeutics is “that part of medicine which respects the discovery and application of remedies for diseases.” In strictness, the former term signifies simply the articles used as medicines, while the latter implies the explanation of their healing properties. Ordinarily, however, the terms are employed as essentially synonymous. A professorship of Materia Medica supposes an illustration of the medicinal nature of the articles employed ; and a Professorship of Therapeutics can scarcely involve any thing more.

Water is an article of the Materia Medica ; and, as the chair, in which Dr. Rogers is now placed, is designed for shewing its sanative effects, in all its modes of application, in all the various forms of disease to which it is suited, his Professorship is, in fact, that of *Hydro-therapeutics* ; and, in accordance with his request, it will hereafter be so designated.

CATTLE DOCTOR.

We, several months since, noticed a work on the veterinary art, by G. H. Dadd, M. D., of Boston. We are pleased to learn, that the same author is about to issue another book, bearing the following title.—

“The American Reformed Cattle Doctor; containing the necessary information for preserving the health and curing the diseases of Oxen, Cows, Sheep and Swine, with a great variety of original recipes, and valuable information in reference to Farm and Dairy Management; whereby every man can be his own cattle doctor. The principles taught in this work are, that all medication shall be subservient to nature; that all medicinal agents must be sanative in their operation, and administered with a view of aiding the vital powers, instead of depressing, as heretofore, with the lancet and poison. By G. H. DADD, M. D., Veterinary Practitioner, author of ‘Anatomy and Physiology of the Horse.’”

Dr. Dadd is a thoroughly educated physician, and a gentleman possessing a large share of plain practical sense. We are glad to see this kind of professional talent devoted to the humane work of preserving the lives and promoting the health of domestic animals. Hitherto cattle doctors have been men of no pathological, and of scarcely any physiological information; and the remedies administered in the case of diseased animals have very commonly been entirely inappropriate. We are glad to know, that the author is well sustained in his business; and we doubt not, that his veterinary efforts will be of great service to cattle, and utility to their owners.

AMERICAN REFORM MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

In medicine, Reform is, with great propriety, the watchword, among the liberal and intelligent, in almost every part of the country. We are happy to know, that, in Louisville, Kentucky, a medical College has just been chartered, bearing the name given at the head of this article, and that our friend George W. Churchill, M. D., of Lowell, Mass., has been appointed to the chair of *Materia Medica*. The doctor is a man of energy and perseverance in whatever he undertakes. We wish him success in his new relation and trust that his influence in the West will be extensive and radically reformatory of Allopathic errors.

NEW ENGLAND
BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL
JOURNAL.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

VOL. V.

WORCESTER, MASS., APRIL 1, 1851.

NO. 4.

Communications.

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INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS,

TO THE SIXTH COURSE OF LECTURES IN THE WORCESTER MEDICAL
INSTITUTION, DELIVERED MARCH 7TH, 1851.

BY PROF. C. NEWTON.

PRELIMINARY CORRESPONDENCE.

PROF. NEWTON ;—

Dear Sir,—At a meeting of the gentlemen composing the present Class of the Worcester Medical College, the undersigned were appointed a Committee to solicit a copy of your valuable and highly interesting Introductory Lecture for publication in the New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal. In performing this most agreeable duty,

permit us, sir, to cordially add our personal solicitations. that you will not refuse to confer upon them so great a favor.

We remain, very respectfully, yours, &c.

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| S. C. ELLIOT, Maine, | G. W. STOTESBURY, Georgia, |
| A. T. WILMARTH, New Hampshire, | ISAAC S. ALGER, Vermont, |
| CHARLES ABRAHAM, New York, | A. A. GIFFORD, Massachusetts, |
| N. P. LOCKLING, Rhode Island, | M. C. LATHROP, Connecticut, |
| S. M. BLAKEMORE, Tennessee. | E. O. G. ANDREWS, Mississippi. |
| D. F. ARMSTRONG, Indiana. | |

C. NEWTON, M. D.

Worcester, March 6th, 1851.

GENTLEMEN,—

Your polite note is received. The Lecture to which you refer was prepared in the midst of many professional engagements. As, however, it contains some items of historical information which I think important to be chronicled, I cheerfully comply with your request.

With great respect, I am yours, truly,

CALVIN NEWTON.

Messrs. ELLIOT, STOTESBURY, WILMARTH, ALGER, ABRAHAM, GIFFORD, LOCKLING, LATHROP, BLAKEMORE, ANDREWS, AND ARMSTRONG.

ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN of the *Medical Class of the Worcester Medical Institution* :—

Eighteen hundred and fifty years ago, an individual, in the fulness of a pious rapture, exclaimed, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word." The occasion was, to that good man, one of deep and thrilling interest. He had long waited for the redemption of his people, Israel; and now a Savior was born, and was even in his presence. Under such circumstances, how could he refrain from expressing the warmest emotions? How far his mind was enlightened to behold the spiritual nature of the Messiah's kingdom is uncertain; but, in a prophetic vision of only the temporal deliverance of his nation, his eye must have beheld enough to inspire him with something more than mere patriotism. A flame of the liveliest devotion to his God was kindled up. He felt, that the great object which rendered his life desirable to him was now secured, and he could cheerfully resign all the scenes of earth for new and untried realities, in another world.

I pretend not to a prophet's ken, nor have I before me, in any sense, scenes of spiritual or even of political interest. I am, how-

ever, to-day inspired with emotions of unusual intensity; and the cause of these is not the unreal creation of an insane mind. There are before me plain matters of fact,—things which my eyes and your eyes behold,—things deeply interesting in themselves, and yet far more so, from the almost certain prospect which they afford, of a brighter and more glorious day, not distant in the future. I refer to circumstances, connected with the Worcester Medical Institution, and with the cause of medical reform, especially in New England.

Five years ago in January last, single-handed, I commenced the publication of a medical periodical, under the name of the "New England Medical Eclectic and Guide to Health;" and this, though its name was, in the following January, changed to the "New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal," has continued ever since to be regularly issued. On the 27th of January, also, five years since, at my suggestion, measures were adopted which laid the foundation of the Institution over which I now preside; and, on Wednesday, the fourth of March, in that same year, the first annual Course of Lectures in this Institution was commenced, by myself and one associated teacher. That Course was continued thirteen weeks and one day, and was delivered before a Class nominally numbering fifteen students, though more than a majority of them were very irregular in their attendance.

The second annual Course was commenced on the first Thursday of March, 1847, and continued fourteen week. This was delivered by myself and three associates, to a Class numbering twenty seven students, the most of whom were constant in their attendance, were deeply interested in the instructions which they received, and were greatly profited.

The third annual Course, which was of fourteen weeks, commenced on the first Thursday of March, 1848. This was delivered, by myself and four associates, to a Class numbering twenty-eight students, the most of whom were also attentive, interested, and profited. One who, this year, completed the period of his professional study, now holds a place in our Faculty.

The fourth annual Course, also of fourteen weeks, commenced on the first Thursday of March, 1849, and was delivered by myself and four associates, to a Class of twenty-nine students. The most

of this Class also were uniformly attentive, and deeply solicitous to become thoroughly acquainted with the true philosophy, as well as the practice of medicine. An application to the Legislature of the State to charter the Institution, having the two previous years been made and rejected, met, this year, with Legislative favor ; and, on the 10th of March, was passed, by both Branches, to be enacted, and was approved by the governor. At the close of this Course, June 6th, eleven young men eminently well qualified to enter on the duties of the profession, received the honors of the Institution, and went forth, with buoyant hopes of blessing the world and doing credit to themselves and the Institution. One of this number is now a Professor in Central Medical College, at Rochester, in the State of New York. But, alas ! how uncertain are all human hopes ! How frequently are the fairest prospects blighted in an hour ! Within a few weeks after this year's Anniversary, one of these eleven promising graduates,—one who, without any invidious comparison, may be said to have been peculiarly amiable and talented, fell a prey to sickness and death, under the most appalling circumstances. Dr. John R. Durell, while in the village of Chepachet in Rhode Island, away from kindred and intimate acquaintances, was suddenly seized with a fever of the most malignant type, under the influence of which reason almost immediately lost her throne, and he was left, in his insanity, to make several ineffectual attempts at suicide. In a few days reason returned in a limited degree ; but, as his mental powers somewhat improved, physically a new feature to his disease appeared. Mortification seized on his extremities, and soon extended high, upon the limbs, towards the trunk of his body. I spent, with him, the night of the 25th and 26th of July ; but, Oh ! the change ! On being told who I was, he recognized me, and asked a few questions rationally ; but, in a few moments, his expressions became incoherent, and his mind was again beclouded. That form, lately bearing the image of its Maker, was now becoming loathsome to the sight and smell, and wasting with corruption. In a few days, he was no more. As the earthly tabernacle was fast crumbling down, the spirit took its flight to God, who gave it.

The fifth annual Course, likewise of fourteen weeks, commenced on the first Thursday of March, 1850, and was delivered by myself

and three associates. Six Professorships had been created ; but, in the department of Surgery, a protracted sickness, forbade Prof. Burnham from rendering his aid ; and the Professor elect to the chair of *Materia Medica* was prevented, by several combined reasons, from entering on the duties assigned him. The Class, this year, numbered twenty-eight students ; and it is no disparagement to the preceding Classes to say, that, while those composing this were deeply interested in every branch of their professional education, they manifested a pre-eminent fondness for tracing out the pathology of every disease and determining the laws which govern the action of therapeutic agents. Five only of them, however, were, on the day of the Anniversary, June 12th, admitted to the degree of Doctor in Medicine.

Since the chartering of the Institution, it has conferred the honorary degree on several individuals, practitioners of experience and merit, who have been, and still are denied the advantages of a regular professional education. Before the obtaining of the charter, annually a few students had been judged worthy of graduation honors ; and such had received diplomas,—the first year, from the Botanico-Medical College of Georgia, and, the second and third years, from the Eclectic Medical Institute of Virginia. Four of these graduates have since received the honors of our own Institution ; so that, in all, we have regularly graduated twenty individuals, nineteen of whom, as far as I know, are now living, and the most of whom are in successful and extensive practice. Those, too, who were graduated by the courtesy of other Colleges but have not received diplomas from us, are quite generally, though not in all cases, succeeding well in the profession. Lastly, a very considerable number whose limited pecuniary means have constrained them prematurely to enter on the active duties of the profession, blessed with a good degree of practical sense, though but partially trained, are now making good routine practitioners, and contributing a share towards the advancement of humanity's cause.

In a retrospective view of these things, I must be allowed to exclaim, with pious admiration, What hath God wrought ! I entered the medical profession, influenced by religious motives ; and, though my labors have been arduous and my trials severe, yet I

triumphantly rejoice in what has, in a few fleeting years, been effected. True, I have, not only been openly opposed by avowed enemies, but been secretly interrupted in my efforts by pretended friends. At one time, and that not long since, the demon of opposition concealed his cloven foot in a corner of our own halls; and, pretending to spy out mismanagement, embezzlement, arbitrary control, and kindred wrongs, circulated the false information, through private channels, from Dan to Beersheba. At that time, a cloud somewhat dark seemed to be spreading over our professional horizon, and threatening to pour a devastating torrent upon all our educational operations. This, however, was soon pierced by the sunshine of truth, and now only promises, I believe, to show, in more delightful contrast, the splendor of an unclouded noon and a protracted brilliant day.

Only eight months since, the oracle of ultra Thomsonism uttered its denunciation against us, and its prophetic cry, that our prosperity was at an end, and that the number of students constituting the present Class would be less than *nine*. We were warned, that the presiding genius of medical reform in New England was wounded in spirit, and henceforth would lend us no more favor. At the time, however, in which that prediction was uttered, I could not help feeling, that it was rather the language of a dreamer of dreams than of a genuine seer. But, having no available test of what is genuine in the matter of divination, I was disposed to await patiently the revelations which time might make in the case. I remembered, it had been said of old, "If thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken?—when a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously;—thou shalt not be afraid of him." I did have confidence in the power of truth, and in the favor of the God of truth. I did expect, that when the true position of the friends of this College should be generally understood, the influx of students and our general prosperity would be decidedly greater than they had before been. Still, though I looked for an increase in these respects, I hardly durst predict what I to-day see and know. Indeed, as I look around

this hall and observe this interesting group of students assembled at the commencement of a new Course of Lectures, I am ready to exclaim, with rapturous surprise, like one of old, "These!—whence have they come?" Do I not behold in the intelligent and expressive countenances before me, and in the immediate prospects of our Institution, enough to reward me for all my toil, and trouble, and personal abuse? At least, it will not be judged unsuitable, that the warm emotions of my heart prompt me to "thank God and take courage." Like a good man of old, I have been "in perils among false brethren,—in weariness and painfulness,—in watchings often," while I have pursued the even tenor of my way,—unblenchingly, indeed, though sometimes hardly able to say, that "none of these things move me." As those who said, "We are troubled on every side, yet *not distressed*;—we are perplexed, but *not in despair*," I have been sustained and guided safely through every exigency. Though "persecuted," by the open opposers and the pseudo-friends of medical reform, I have, by some choice spirits, at least, "not" been "forsaken." Though "cast down" at times, my faithful *armor-bearers* have defended me, that I should not be "destroyed." Well, as these things are past, and I am yet living under circumstances which give hope of further and yet greater usefulness in the profession, I am not disposed to cherish continued animosity. Like the Indian, I can "forgive and *forget*, but I can't help *remembering*." I am disposed, joining hands yet more closely with all the *true* friends of reform, to "leave the things which are behind, and reach forth unto those things which are before." The Worcester Medical Institution has now a Faculty, some of whose members are "tried friends," while, in all, I have the best reasons for placing the most entire confidence.

Such having been the progress of events at home, permit me now to refer briefly to the history of some collateral events abroad. That Samuel Thomson with all his errors, coarseness, and immorality, really laid, in some sense, the corner stone of the whole fabric of reform in medicine, no intelligent and candid man is disposed to deny. Nor needs any one blush to own this truth. "God hath" often "chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise;—the weak things of the world to confound the things

which are mighty ;—and base things of the world, and things which are despised hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are, that no flesh should glory in his presence.” However humiliating it may be to the pride of human learning, the fact is undeniable, that a great proportion of the most important discoveries made in the various branches of science have been made by men who, in the common acceptation of the term, are uneducated. The truth is, education makes the scholar, but nature makes the genius ;—at least, a natural propensity in some one direction, existing in unusual measure, lays the foundation for those inventions and improvements to which incidental circumstances and a strong application of concentrated thoughts give birth. Even if the embryo genius be indulged with the means of extensive intellectual culture, that very fact, by extending the circle of vision and bringing into view a variety of objects, necessarily divides the attention and proves unfavorable to the most penetrating observation of any one object.

Acknowledging, then, these well established laws of mental action, it becomes us also to acknowledge the indebtedness of science in general to men of native, but comparatively uneducated talent. Especially, are we bound to admit, that, in medical science, many truths owe their developement primarily to the efforts of this same class of men. In fact, almost every truth now considered important, by the profession, has been first arrived at, either by accident or by some empirical process,—particular considerations being siezed on, and hasty conclusions being formed by energetic minds. When these conclusions afterwards are established as correct, by a careful induction, this is commonly done by men of more cultivated intellects ; and then only it is, that the truths in question are admitted to belong to medical science.

To Samuel Thomson's bold and independent thought we are indebted for the presentation of *some* practical truths, which, as they have since found their position according to the laws of science, are now seen to be of great value. Thomson theorized but little. His practice could hardly be called a system. It was rather a crude collection of notions, some of which we retain for their correctness, while the remainder we reject for their errors. Taking

up these notions and separating the true from the false, reformers in medicine are now applying their energies to give rank and development to the former, and to spread out, before the world, a system divested of every error and resting only on pillars of eternal truth.

With this object in view, Schools have been established and chartered in different portions of the United States. Of these, some of the more early incorporated, especially, having failed to cherish and inculcate adequate views of a system of medical truth, have been deficient in prosperity, and must essentially change their policy or soon be numbered among "the things that were." Numerous others, however, are relieving their being under circumstances which promise yet to tell most favorably on the progress of the cause. Besides our own State, New York, Ohio, Georgia, Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania, have all received incorporated Schools, designed to aid in effecting the promotion of true medical science. How far each has succeeded in its object, it might be invidious here to inquire. Suffice it to say, there are, before every candid mind, unmistakable evidences, that those whose standard of professional qualifications is set the most elevated, bid fair to receive, in future, the greatest and most lasting prosperity. Highest in the scale of professional science taught and of qualifications required for graduation, I believe, is, at present, the Worcester Medical Institution; but several others are elevating their aims, and, I trust, will be found efficient and valuable coadjutors. My prayer is, that party animosities of such character as to restrain the progress of truth, may never be allowed to exist; but that, uniting our energies, we may thereby double the speed with which a common cause shall advance.

Having said what I now have, in reference to the relation of our views of medicine to Dr. Thomson's personal efforts, to prevent misunderstanding, it is proper for me here to add, that we are not entitled to the epithet Thomsonian, any more really than we are to that of Allopathic. Thomson broke the spell of Allopathy, and *commenced* a train of measures which have resulted in the formation of a new system of medicine; but he did not himself form this system. Far from it. That has been done by other and more

cultivated minds, since his day. He taught the practical utility of a few medicines which were, at that time, almost unknown to the profession. Others have developed the principles of an innocent and sanative medication; have corrected what was wrong in his practice; and have reduced what was true, to general laws and scientific principles. The process by which this end has been effected has been gradual. At different times and at different points of the field of labor, different individuals have borne an important part. Among others Drs. A. Curtis and W. Beach have rendered themselves distinguished; and it would be injustice to both of them not to say, that they have each done much. But the views of the former, especially, on account of their imperfectness, are fast passing into the shade; while even the latter is far too superficial in what he has taught us, to be longer regarded as authority. He has done little more than give us trains of symptoms, and a corresponding routine practice. Such scanty notions can now find no place in our Schools. Students of medicine must henceforth be taught the pathology of disease, the *modus operandi* of remedies, and whatever else is necessary to a scientific discharge of professional labor.

Before I close, allow me to call your attention, for a few moments, to some subjects which will be of immediate interest to yourselves, during the Course of Lectures on which you to-day enter. First, in regard to the comparative advantages which you will here enjoy, we freely admit, that, in some particulars, we cannot favor you, as you might have been favored by a resort to other and older Institutions. We cannot show you, from week to week, an extensive Hospital practice; nor can we afford you as good opportunities at a weekly medical and surgical clinic, as we could earnestly desire. We have not as extensive a medical library nor as splendid and costly chemical and anatomical apparatus, as have some old and richly endowed seats of professional science. At the risk, however, of hearing the sarcastic reply, "*Sour grapes,*" I say unqualifiedly, that these advantages, though desirable in themselves, are really of secondary importance. Really, almost the only privation, in the case, to be cared about is that arising from the lack of opportunity to witness any considerable number of sur-

gical operations. But no one place of learning ever can afford all the desirable means of securing a thorough professional training; and I am honest in my conviction, that the Worcester Medical Institution will afford you, during the present Term, advantages which, at and before its close, you will unhesitatingly say have far more than counterbalanced all the privations experienced.

All the chairs in our Institution, I now believe to be filled with competent men; and I do not expect any one department to suffer or receive a deficient attention. Some, however, are susceptible of more originality of teaching than others; and, in those in which it may find place, we have the men from whom you may be authorised to expect it. I have the *modesty* to say, that you may look to our Faculty for the illustration and practical application of views, which are not taught elsewhere, either in our own country or in any other. The nature and operation of the vital principle, histogeny or the cell doctrine, together with the various physiological laws which govern the development and perservation of the several tissues, the character and connexion of the different morbid changes to which the human body is subject, the mode in which remedial agents accomplish the end for which they are designed, and the precise points which the physician should bring under consideration when he comes to the examination of his patient, with kindred subjects, are all here to be discussed in a manner which, I trust, will be admitted to be at once original, highly instructive, and of great practical utility. Allow me to forewarn you gentleman,—so deep are my convictions on this matter,—that, if, on the twenty fifth of June next, you shall not seem to have found my words true, I shall ascribe the failure to your inattentiveness and lack of comprehension rather than to any error as to the facts. It becomes you, therefore, severally to see, that you give the subjects which shall be brought before you, your undivided attention, and that you apply to them your most penetrating acumen.

This brings me, secondly, to a few words of advice as to the manner and circumstances of your attendance on the whole Course of Lectures. It was once the admonition of perfect wisdom, "Take heed how you hear." Much valuable truth has been uttered in vain, by public speakers, simply because of a wanton neg-

lect of this just direction. To little or no purpose is any truth communicated, unless it is, to a good degree, "marked, learnt, and inwardly digested." Words may fall plentifully and even delightfully on the ear, and yet produce no correct and important impression. The hearer, to be essentially profited, must make it his undivided aim to receive the full force of the thoughts communicated. And the man who does this will often find himself gathering up golden treasures, in the very spot where indolent minds would have refused to labor, because of the impression, that worthless sand only was there to be found. Even when the teaching is materially deficient, the attentive mind may gain from it some valuable information. The bee, it is said, gathers honey from even poisonous flower. In like manner, the student, if he will, may derive profit, not only from deficient, but even from erroneous teachings. Remember, then, gentlemen, that, whatever be the character of the instructions here given you, whether, erroneous, deficient, correct, or highly valuable, you may be, and you owe it to yourselves to be benefited.

One word more and I have done. Our cause, though it has passed the weakness of infancy and is rapidly approaching the maturity of manhood, yet has not acquired all the advantages derivable from the experience of age. Important posts are being fast established, at which those who are to-day mere students of medicine must soon be stationed. Professors of medical Colleges, editors of medical Journals, surgeons, and consulting physicians in cities and the larger towns must soon be had in large numbers, to supply the growing and imperious demands of the profession. By far the greater portion of these must come from the ranks of such as are yet young and but partially educated. It is, therefore, to be hoped, that some, at least, of you, may have the praiseworthy ambition, not merely to aspire to offices of professional trust and honor, but to labor assiduously to become qualified acceptably to fill such offices. The standard of education with us must be set high; much higher than it now is, in the Allopathic or in any other ranks. The men, under whose influence principally this standard is to be thus elevated, must themselves be thoroughly disciplined and instructed in things pertaining, both to professional

science and to science in general. As far as my personal ability extends, I shall labor to raise up, in competent numbers, those who shall be qualified to lead in the cause of medical truth. If any of you whose mental and moral traits of character shall justify the attempt, are willing to aim at some of these higher objects, I am ready to take you by the hand, and lead you on to the extent of my power ; but never, no ! never, will you find me disposed to assist in dubbing, with the title of Professor, a mere ignoramus,—one whose head has, thus far, contained but two ideas, and who supposes, that, if he ever adds a third, it will be quite improvement enough for one short life. No, gentlemen, I scorn the sentiment, that any who are not now and do not intend to be till death diligent students, can be worthy of prominent places in our professional ranks. Such and such only as strive for superior excellence can ever obtain my support or countenance. How far you may be inclined to second these views, we shall, in a few weeks, see.

Let me remark, however, that, if you are disposed, to the utmost, to avail yourselves of the advantages to be here enjoyed, during the Term on which we now enter, you can derive great profit from a rightly directed social intercourse and mutual instruction. It is by “agitation” (I speak not as a politician)—agitation calm and tempered with all fraternal kindness, that we are to learn the several phases which any subject is capable of presenting. As we are not among those who suppose that all possible truth in medicine has now been developed, we, of course, feel, that we have trackless forests yet to penetrate. Exploring tours, we know not how many, are yet to be made ; and these are always best accomplished, not by an individual, but in parties,—so that the success of any one can readily be communicated to all. I hope, gentlemen, that, in exploring the yet unknown parts of medical science, you will prepare yourselves to form a vigorous and intrepid company. May I not, also, hope, that, among you, some master spirits will arise, that will judiciously lead the way and direct the course of their associates, so as to afford the party the greatest probability of success ?

Some of you have doubtless already understood, that I am myself arranging soon to “flee my country” for a season, “for my

country's good,"—especially, for the good of that portion of the profession to which we are attached. Not improbably before I shall have the happiness to meet another Class in our Institution, if my life and health are spared, I shall have visited the other continent to look over such fields of medical science as may there be found. And you may rest assured, that whatever benefits I may derive, will be consecrated to the interests of true medical reform and of the several Classes that are here educated especially. To the welfare of this Institution in particular, my heart and life are and shall be unremittingly dedicated; and, when I go the way of all the earth, I hope to leave behind me, not merely a pecuniary legacy that will supply some of the Institution's future wants, but a richer legacy of professional literature and science, embodied in medical works and instilled into the minds of hundreds and thousands of the profession.

VAGINITIS.

BY DR. P. JOHN, OF MILLVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

Vaginitis is an inflammation of the mucous membrane of the vagina, and exists in two forms, acute and chronic. Some, and perhaps the majority of writers, treat of it under the head of *vaginal leucorrhœa*, from the fact of its exhibiting a morbid secretion and a discharge of a muco-purulent fluid from the vagina; but, as it is essentially an inflammation of the organ affected, I prefer the term with which this article is headed.

I shall treat upon each form separately; but would remark, that I shall not include that kind of vaginitis resulting from some species of contagion, such as gonorrhœa, &c.

1. ACUTE VAGINITIS:—This form, so far as my observations have extended, is rarely found in unmarried females; and those in whom menstruation has ceased are scarcely ever troubled with it. Such are more liable to the chronic form.

Causes:—Among these are sudden cold, force and violence done to the parts, excessive venery, exertion too soon after parturition,

high and luxurious living, etc. It may likewise, occur sometimes from inflammation spreading from the vulva internally.

Symptoms:—Generally, in the acute form, there is a peculiar feeling of heat and soreness in the vagina, with more or less itching of the vulva, etc. These symptoms vary of course in intensity with the amount of inflammation present. After a time, other symptoms or an increase of those enumerated supervene, such as pain, smarting, a sensation of bearing down, together with a strange feeling of tightness or want of room in the parts, as though the parietes of the vagina were swollen, which, on examination, will be found to be the case.

Not unfrequently there will be an accompaniment of sensations of chilliness, dulness and languor, pain in the back and about the hips, groins, etc., more or less headache and thirst, with increased pulse and coated tongue.

Sometime after the occurrence of these symptoms, from one to three days, a thin but colorless fluid makes its appearance, sometimes quite profuse in quantity, and often so acrid as to produce more or less excoriation on any tissue with which it comes in contact. This fluid soon changes to a white or rather a yellowish color, becoming of a thick consistence; nor is there any very perceptible diminution in quantity, until there is a subsidence of the attack. After the establishment of the discharge, the other prominent symptoms become reduced, their distress being entirely relieved. The duration of this form depends upon the management. It may terminate in one week; it may continue four.

Narrowing of the vagina or adhesion of its sides may be the consequence of neglect or bad treatment; and this might prove somewhat of a difficulty in case of parturition at any subsequent period.

Diagnosis:—This form is sometimes confounded with *gonorrhœa*. The following diagnostic signs may assist in distinguishing the two diseases. In gonorrhœa peculiar erosions or superficial ulcers are found on that part of the mucous membrane covering the cervix uteri, and these are not very difficult to detect on careful examination; but in vaginitis they are absent. In the former disease, there is nearly always a discharge from the urethra; in the latter,

it is very rare. There is likewise a much less frequent enlargement of the glands of the groin in the latter. To distinguish vaginitis from *acute uterine leucorrhœa*, the condition of the organs affected should be carefully examined. In vaginitis the cervix uteri is but slightly, indeed scarcely at all, affected.

Treatment:—In violent attacks, I recommend to the patient to remain in the recumbent posture as much as possible; and, when the inflammation is high, and the constitutional symptoms intense, a nauseating and relaxing course of treatment is instituted, with fomentations or poultices to the vulva, continued until the violence of the symptoms abates. A warm hip bath, occasionally used, will be found a valuable adjuvant. Injections of warm water and mucilage of ulmus into the vagina should be used. If, after the acute symptoms have subsided, the discharge still continues, the treatment should be similar to that recommended in the chronic form, which will now claim attention.

2. CHRONIC VAGINITIS :—This is a far more common affection among females than the acute. Indeed, it is said to be one of the most common forms of disease to which they are subject,—“few escaping an attack at some period of their lives. Nor need we be surprised, when we take into account the variety of local stimuli to which the organ concerned is exposed, in addition to those more general causes of disease which act on it in common with other mucous membranes.”

Though occurring sometimes anterior to puberty, it most frequently makes its appearance between that period and the catamenia.

Causes:—Various causes are enumerated by the books, among which are excessive coition; difficult parturition; menorrhagia; prolapsus uteri; irritation from foreign bodies in the vagina, such as pessaries, etc., or in neighboring parts, as ascarides in the rectum; the injudicious use of certain emmenagogues unwarrantably administered for what is supposed to be tardy menstruation; tight lacing, by pressing the viscera down upon the uterine organs, causing prolapsus, and obstruction in the free circulation of the blood in the portal vessels, etc., etc.

Symptoms :—There is generally a discharge of fluid very similar in appearance to the common vaginal mucus, rarely possessing other than bland properties ; though there are cases in which it has been so acrid as to excoriate the edges of the external parts. The appearance of this discharge varies, from a white mucilaginous-looking fluid, to one of a color bordering on yellow, and resembling pus. These differences indicate different degrees of violence in the disorder.

There is likewise a difference in quantity. In some cases it is so moderate as to be almost imperceptible to the patient herself ; in others, it becomes so profuse as to make a very hasty and decidedly injurious impression on the general system. In this case, there is the supervention of a pallid countenance ; dull and languid eyes ; a dejected, fretful, and peevish disposition ; debility ; cold extremities ; small and feeble pulse ; dyspeptical symptoms ; gastralgia ; pains in the back, groins, and lower extremities ; with numerous other distressing symptoms, which prove harrassing to the patient and troublesome to the practitioner.

Females habitually affected with vaginitis very rarely bear children. In most severe cases of the kind, menstruation is entirely suppressed. In the few cases in which it does appear, it is very irregular in respect both to time and quantity.

Treatment :—The cure of chronic vaginitis is often attended with no inconsiderable difficulty, from the fact, that, though a disease of local character, it never fails ultimately to affect other organs, and by degrees to derange, to a greater or less extent, the whole organism. The extent of this derangement, or, in other words, the state of the general health must be taken into account, as one of the preliminary steps in the treatment of this form of disease. As general derangements are always serious impediments to the remedial management and cure of affections of a local character, they will be found particularly so in this. Hence the importance of especially attending to them in the very beginning of our treatment. Then, whatever these derangements may be found to be, or whatever constitutional symptoms may present themselves they should be promptly met with the appropriate remedy, whether relaxant, diaphoretic, nervine, or tonic. I proceed to notice what

the local part of the treatment should consist in. Astringents and tonics (among which are geranium and tinct. myrrh.) should be thrown into the vagina, by means of a female syringe. Frequently a solution of castile soap, as an injection, will be found of great advantage, from its cleansing properties. Creasote, in the proportion of from eight to ten drops to a pint of rain water, injected from once to twice a day, I have found very beneficial. These should be administered very slowly, the patient assuming the recumbent posture. They may, at first, be administered tepid, but afterwards cold. In some cases advantage has resulted from occasional douche baths given to the loins; and, in other cases, counter-irritant applications to the sacrum have been of use.

MILK SICKNESS.

This is an affection which prevails, to some extent, in several of the States. It is variously named by medical men. Some call it trembles, some puking fever, and others puking complaint.

There are various opinions in reference to the *cause* of this disease. Some suppose it to be a plant which, when eaten by cattle, thus communicates its poison to the milk and flesh of the animal; so that, if either the milk or the flesh be eaten by persons, it gives rise to the disease. Others suppose it to be a mineral which is communicated to animals by water running over beds of mineral poison. My opinion is that neither of the above theories is correct. I have conversed, in reference to the cause of this affection, with various persons, resident in different States, some of them where this complaint has prevailed; and the most of them agree with me in regard to its cause.

The theory that I shall offer, supposes it to be a mineral that is found in low, wet, or springy lands. This mineral is not found to do any injury during the time the lands are covered with water. After the water disappears, and the lands become dry, the cattle go thereon to feed, and they become poisoned. The question now to be solved is, By what means do the animals contract this poison,

if it be mineral, and is not taken into the system through the medium of water ?

The theory, then, supposes the mineral to rise, during the night, in the form of vapor, and to settle on the vegetables, whilst the plants are moistened with the dew. I am not certain whether there is more than one plant on which this mineral will settle. That this is true, is demonstrated by keeping the cattle up, until the dew passes off in the morning. If the cattle are kept up whilst the plants become dry, there is no danger whatever. This has been proved to my own satisfaction. I have known one or two families that were in the habit of keeping their cattle up until the dew passed off, and they never had the first case of milk sickness ; whilst their neighbors and their neighbors' cattle were, in considerable numbers, dying. This mineral is never found to rise, and settle on plants where the grounds are cultivated, unless the lands be left, for several years, without being stirred. If they are so left, the mineral will again appear on the plants and be dangerous, as before.

Symptoms :—The most superficial observer can detect this disease, by the peculiar and offensive smell. Those that are acquainted with the affection, can detect it several days previous to the patient's confinement to bed, by the peculiar and disagreeable odor given off from the breath. The patient himself observes it by his weariness, his lassitude, and his great exhaustion, produced by the slightest exertion. Obstinate costiveness either accompanies or succeeds these symptoms, which are soon followed by nausea and vomiting, with a burning sensation and great distress at the stomach. If the disease continues, it soon brings on great debility, attended with a singular trembling.

Post-mortem examinations reveal the following peculiar phenomena. The stomach is invariably found to be empty. The duodenum is filled with half-digested food, throughout its whole length, from the pyloric orifice to the jejunum. The liver is considerably enlarged and swollen, and of a dark gangrenous color. The gall-bladder is some two or three times as large as it ought to be, and is filled with gall of a dark green color. The passage, through the ductus choledochus into the duodenum, is entirely stopped. The

jejunum and ilium I have never found to contain any thing, with the exception of a little mucus tinged with blood. The cœcum, the ascending, transverse, and decending colons are found empty, and present rather a gangrenous appearance, on their internal mucous surface. There is, however, in some cases, a small quantity of coagulated blood, found near the ileo-cœcal valve; and, in rarer cases, there is found a slight trace of it in the transverse colon. The kidneys are generally swollen, and invariably present a gangrenous appearance,—more so than any other organ in the system. The rectum presents the last peculiar trait of this disease, that I shall mention. This is found to be filled with hardened and firmly compacted fœces.

Treatment:—The symptoms readily suggest the indications to be fulfilled. In the first place, give the fluid extract of lobelia, in five drop doses, to be repeated every ten or fifteen minutes; or, what is nearly as good, give a decoction made of the herb of lobelia, sweetened with honey. This should be given in small doses, and repeated as above. This removes the irritability, allays the distressing burning sensation at the stomach, and quiets the nervous system. There can be no medicine given that will remain on the stomach to better advantage, than lobelia. At the commencement of this treatment, an enema should be given, composed of lobelia seed, ten grs., and anti-bilious physic, twenty grs., mixed in a decoction made of ulmus fulva or gum arabic, q. s. This should be repeated every thirty or forty minutes, until free emesis takes place, three or four times,—the above directions being followed during the whole time. This removes the contents of the duodenum and rectum, which is the first and most important indication to be fulfilled. The next, and a very essential one, is to give something to act on the liver, remove the contents of the gall-bladder, and relax the ductus choledochus, so that the gall shall flow with its natural freedom into the duodenum. The best article which I have ever used for this purpose, is the extract of podophyllum, given in one grain doses and repeated every four hours, until the bowels move sufficiently. In order to keep the liver as active as it should be, a compound should be used, composed of the following articles;—extracts of podophyllum, leptandria, and sanguinaria, equal parts, in one and a half grain doses, to be repeated night and morning.

The kidneys should, also, be strictly attended to. If they are not, the patient will suffer with a weak, trembling sensation in the small of the back, even after he begins to walk about. To prevent this difficulty, a counter-irritating plaster should be used, to allay the irritability and remove the pain from the organs. For this purpose, the following compound will answer very well;—balsam of copaiba, 1 oz., spirits of turpentine, 1 oz., olive oil, 2 oz., essence of mentha viridis, 2 oz.;—dose 1 dr., to be repeated twice or three times a day.

External applications are of great utility, in the treatment of this complaint. A plaster made of the following articles will answer a very good purpose;—prepared charcoal, ulmus fulva, and zingiber, equal parts, mixed with essence of mentha viridis, and applied over the region of the stomach.

After the disease gives way, tonics should be used to invigorate the system. Among the best articles for this purpose, is the extract of hydrastis and ptelia, equal parts, given in two grain doses, to be repeated every four or six hours.

A. S. WHITEHALL, M. D.

Attica, Ind.

PROGRESS.

PROF. NEWTON;—

I see, that you encourage frequent contributions to your invaluable Journal from various sources. This is as it should be. I have not seen, however, many articles from the pen, of clergymen. This is not because there are not scores of gentlemen in the profession, who feel an interest in the progress of medical truth. The writer has conversed with several who are deeply interested in the reform going on in the medical world. He has known one distinguished minister whose life, under God, has been preserved, in consequence of botanic remedies. Others have been restored to health by the same means.

But I took up my pen to scribble a few words on progress. Advance is the watch-word of the age. Knowledge is increasing.

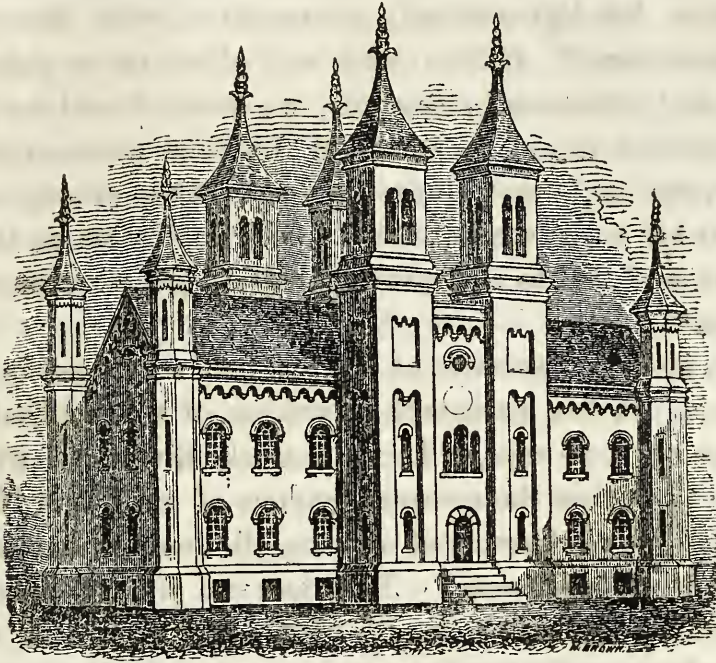
What discoveries have already been made! What has mind discovered within a few years! It has overcome obstacles and achieved wonders. It has investigated and commanded the lightning. It has made the powers of steam obey its mandates. It has discovered a way by which the inhabitants of one clime can talk with those of another.

We are just beginning to see what steam is doing on the water and lightning on the land. The volume of nature has been opened wider than ever, and many an unturned leaf has been read. New regions are being explored. Wonders are multiplying. Immortal mind is ascending the heights of science and gazing upon surrounding realities. The glorious cause of reform is going on. No power on earth can prevent it. The shackles of superstition are being burst, and millions are becoming free. Men will reason for themselves. Every thing now must be examined. This same principle of progress is seen in medicine. Millions are now studying these things, who once did not trouble themselves with them. Millions more are beginning to inquire.

This is not the age for mineral poisons, nor any other. What is the difference between the present and the past age? In the former, the physician studied the laws of health: in the latter, the people do this. Then the physician only was expected to understand the human system; now the school boy of 10 is pouring over his physiology. Yes, a great change has already taken place. In such a change we rejoice. We call for a reform in the medical world, and we will have it. The people are rising in the majesty and dignity of reasonable beings; and a reform will be the result. Among the various means in bringing about this long looked for change, we hail with sincere gratitude to God the establishment of the Worcester Medical Institution. May the smiles of Heaven rest upon it.

A CLERGYMAN.

Jan. 27, 1851.



[Worcester Medical Institution.]

Editorial.

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DR. A. CURTIS.

In the March No. of the *Physo-medical Recorder*, published at Cincinnati, Ohio, there is an article written by Dr. A. Curtis, and headed, "Professor Newton on Professional Changes," which, for its unfairness and untruthfulness is only equalled by some of the same individual's private letters to ourselves. Often, of late, has his course reminded us of the old heathen adage, "Whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad." The doctor seems bent, even to insanity, on abusing every one who chooses to advocate a higher and more scientific professional course than is consistent with his being acknowledged as the great oracle in medical matters in this country.

In his history, we have not the first illustration of the fact, that, when a man has once fallen from the exercise of high-toned morality, it is altogether uncertain at what point his course will finally be arrested.

We are sometimes forbidden to sit in judgment on a man's motives. Well, it is true, that we cannot directly see the hearts of

individuals; but high authority has taught us, "By their fruits ye shall know them." If Dr. Curtis will allow us to judge of his feelings and intentions by this rule, we think it will be perfectly easy to convict him of purposes not the most commendable. At any rate, that he intends to utter untruths, or so grossly to prevaricate, that his words shall produce a false impression on the minds of others, and that to our special disadvantage, we cannot, in the least, doubt.

Let us look, for instance, at one or two sentences in his first paragraph. In that paragraph, speaking of the application of a certain proverb, he says, "I can scarcely divine on what other principle to explain the constant practice of our friend Newton, of Worcester, Massachusetts, of abusing all those whom he cannot make work in his harness." This does not *directly* assert, but it does certainly imply or *indirectly* assert, that we are in the habit of using abuse, under the circumstances named. Now we peremptorily deny the assertion, and devolve the burden of proof on the doctor. In law, every man is accounted innocent, till he is proved guilty.

Again he says, in the same paragraph, "You are aware, that he has spoken very highly of me, when he expected me to aid him in his College; that when, as in 1848, he thought I opposed him, he paid me some rather back-handed compliments, and that, in 1850, he played the same game over again."

We dislike exceedingly to fill our Journal with *extended* controversial articles. We know that, in general, they cannot interest our readers. Were it not for this, we would gladly review the whole matter of the courtesy which we have, at different times, extended to Dr. Curtis, and the ungrateful and ungentlemanly manner in which that courtesy has been received. As things are, suffice it to say, that, from the first of our efforts to establish a medical School here, we have had some misgivings as to the scientific character of the doctor's medical views. The most of our New England friends, however, at the time when we first endeavored to secure his services, had almost unlimited confidence in his professional ability; and, with the hope of promoting the general good, by satisfying the wishes of others, we cheerfully consented

to a proposed union of interests. This was refused on his part; and, in the spring of 1848, as the readers of our Journal well know, he set up a separate School in Boston, and adopted measures directly belligerent. He then pursued these measures to the utmost, to give that opposition School a permanent existence. The project, however, failed; and Dr. C.'s insulting and scurrilous letter to us which we then published, sank his reputation in New England very many degrees. Still there were scattering friends, especially in Connecticut, who thought that he ought to be respected for his efforts as a pioneer in the West; and they believed, that he was heartily sick and ashamed of that opposition measure. They believed, that, if we would overlook the past, he would, henceforth, gladly harmonize in the measures of the New England friends.

We own, we lacked confidence, that *piggy* could be converted into a *lap-dog*; but we had no personal hostility to cherish, and we were willing, that the wishes of our professed friends should be again gratified. Once more Dr. C. was cordially invited to help us in our School; but the manner in which he conducted himself, on receiving the invitation, would disgrace the poorest specimens of civilization. If he is not content with this our version of the matter, we will publish, for the information of the public, one or both of two most ungentlemanly letters which he wrote us, on the subject of the invitation extended to him. If we shall be constrained to do this, we feel quite sure that what remains of the wreck of his moral and professional reputation in this region will, at once, be irrecoverably lost. If some of the friends of our cause among us have inadequate conceptions of what the profession requires, they generally have, at least, some correct notions of what is decent. When Dr. C., in the paragraph on which we are commenting, endeavors to represent us as chargeable with inconsistency, he certainly does us great injustice. We are willing and desirous that our whole course, in this matter, should be thoroughly understood,—the more thoroughly, the better for us, we are quite sure. We will only say farther, that, if there has been any error on our part, it has consisted in an undue manifestation of kindness and friendship towards one who had so fully forfeited all claim to consideration.

But let us look at the doctor's second paragraph. He commences it by saying, "I observe in his Journal for February, that he is disposed to treat you, Professor Brown, and others in the same manner." Now this sentence is absolutely false, and the writer, if he knew any thing, knew it to be so. He is, therefore, either a fool or a knave; and he may have which horn of the dilemma he chooses. We have done no such thing as he says, and we defy any man to bring the shadow of proof. We do not remember, that we have said *much* of Prof. Brown, in any way. Our personal acquaintance with him has been too limited to justify any unqualified assertions. With Prof. Stockwell we have, since last spring, been acquainted; and his ability as a teacher of Anatomy, we have uniformly commended. What we have said of him is before the world; and none but the evil eye of Dr. Curtis, we believe, has seen, in our writings, any thing to his disadvantage.

Dr. C. says, "While you were Professor in Worcester, he praised you, *without measure*." This is not true. We did not praise Dr. S. without measure. We spoke of him *in flattering terms*, and we do still. Dr. Curtis adds, "But now you have resigned, any body may take your place, without any detriment to the Institution, and 'students may rest assured, that they will lose nothing by the change.'" Here again, if the doctor is not more stupid than the *donkey* which he lately mounted in Mississippi, under circumstances not very favorable to a reputation for uprightness of character, he knows that, by his misapplication, he has egregiously perverted the sense of the words quoted from us. He implies, that we have said, "any body else" could fill the chair of Anatomy and Physiology as well as Prof. Stockwell, and he drags in a quotation from us, as if to confirm this implication; whereas, we have not, in the remotest manner, hinted any such thought. To speak plainly on this point, we cannot give Dr. C. credit *for ignorance* here. We believe, that he knew he was wickedly misrepresenting.

It is true, that, after speaking in high terms of Prof. Stockwell, we did refer to the good fortune of the Worcester Medical Institution in securing so able a man as Prof. Morrow to succeed him. We intended no invidious comparison between the two gentlemen, and we expressed none. Since, however, the matter has now come

up in this shape, we will say, that, in commending Prof. S. we spoke particularly of his qualifications to teach in the department assigned him, and not of any superiority of attainment in literature and science generally. Prof. S. has too much modesty to pretend to having enjoyed any special advantages in the latter respect.

We will add, that we find, in Prof. Morrow, far more than we anticipated, before making his personal acquaintance. Besides being a good general scholar, he is certainly the most minute and able Anatomist with whom we have ever been acquainted. We have sat under the instruction of some of the ablest Lecturers in the department of Anatomy in Allopathic Schools. We have been acquainted with several teachers, in the same department, in Physo-Medical Colleges; but, really, we never before found the man who seems so familiar with every thing belonging to every bone, muscle, vessel, and other part of the human system. In his mind every thing is, like the alphabet of his own language, in present recollection. We have no fulsome eulogy to give of Prof. M. We have no wish to represent him as a prodigy in every thing. We believe he belongs to the human race; and it would be strange indeed, if, like most other *young men* especially, he does not, in many respects, fall very far short of the *highest conceivable* excellence. We are not aware that specimens of *such* excellence have often been let down to earth, by the powers above. Even Dr. Curtis, whatever *he may think of himself*, will, in our judgment, fall below the mark, till he can learn to tell what is in the neighborhood of truth,—especially, when the character of others is involved in his use of language.

To the sentence above quoted, Dr. C. adds, “Though this *may* be possible, if not *probable*, yet I cannot see how your simple resignation in Worcester is to reduce you from a first-rate Lecturer to one who ‘understands and illustrates only a superficial routine practice,’ and ‘has not literary attainments sufficient to enable him to communicate his thoughts in intelligible and decent English.’” Nor can we see how Prof. S.’s resignation can have any such effect. The quotation from us, *lugged in* here, had no reference to him.

Dr. C. proceeds, “*Possibly* the doctor did not mean *you*, when he said, ‘*The men who have been dubbed Professors, at some of*

the medical Colleges at the South and West,' &c." Well, we did not mean Prof. Stockwell. But the doctor adds, "If he did not, he was unable 'to communicate his thoughts in intelligible and decent English.'" "The men' means all the men in said Colleges, 'who have been dubbed Professors,' &c. I was *never* dubbed a Professor in any College, South or West. I 'assumed' the honor, before any such College was known;—so he *could* not mean *me*. You and Professor Brown were 'dubbed Professors,' here *and at Worcester, too*; but it seems that your science and literature have all vanished, since your resignation there." Now, really, we would ask any man of common sense, if the doctor, in these sentences, has employed correct logic, or even 'communicated his thoughts in intelligible and decent English.' If he has, our powers of reasoning and taste need yet a great deal of cultivation, to enable us to understand the excellencies of the language. But, since, in our remarks, we failed 'to communicate our thoughts in intelligible and decent English,' we will now say, that we had no reference to Prof. Stockwell, Prof. Brown, or even Prof. Curtis. We will, however, remark, that, from the present time, we shall have no occasion to exclude "old grey;" for, in the communication on which we are commenting, he has certainly, in several instances, most miserably abused his native tongue.

Take a few illustrations. His very first sentence reads, "PROFESSOR STOCKWELL,—it is said to be human nature to pronounce sour grapes those which she has tried in vain to secure." If this is 'intelligible and decent English,' we must study rhetoric some longer. As yet, we are unable to appreciate the excellencies of the phraseology. Again, the doctor quotes from us a part of a sentence, as follows: "'The title of Professor, worn as it is by some who, had they lived in the days of our great grandfathers, would possibly have been considered sufficiently advanced for a place in the higher or middling classes in Dilworth's Spelling Book'; &c.'" He then comments—"A *title* advanced to a *class* in a *spelling* book! Is not that very intelligible English?"

Worse and worse. Really, a child who is ten years of age and has studied only the rudiments of the English language, readily sees that the participle *advanced* agrees grammatically with the relative pronoun *who*, the antecedent of which is *some*, and not

title, as the doctor intimates. Now, soberly, we would advise the late Chancellor of the Ohio University personally to commence the study of Dilworth's Spelling Book; and, when he has mastered that sufficiently, let him obtain a boy who has studied syntax a little, to teach him the *first* principles of 'intelligible and decent English.'

Once more,—if the doctor will allow one who cannot employ 'intelligible and decent English;' to catechise him for a moment, (we could not think of acting the part of his preceptor,) we would just ask him, what author of English grammar has sanctioned the pronoun *me* in the nominative case, as in this sentence, "They cannot be *me*?" Or, if the Chancellor himself is sufficient authority, then many will individually say, *Me* am glad to know it.

But the climax is not yet capped. Passing from the consideration of literary and scientific qualifications in ourselves and others; the doctor enters boldly on a practical illustration of his disregard for truth. He says, "I have a letter from Professor Newton, written since I saw him, offering me, not only my choice of chairs in his College, but the whole control of the funds of said College;—at the same time assuring me, that I possessed a power to do good in New England, which was equalled by that of no other man, and urging it on me as a duty I owed to the cause of truth and humanity to accept and 'assume' the proffered honors!"

This is a downright fabrication. The doctor has no such letter from us, and never had. Really, a heathen would say, The gods have made this man mad, that they may destroy him. It would seem, that such a gross untruth could be uttered only by an insane man: and yet the doctor has taken with us a liberty of this sort *before*; and we will, if necessary, prove it by the presentation of his own hand-writing.

As to Dr. C.'s forestalling future events in the history of Professors Gabbert and Morrow, they are not likely, just now, to appreciate his sympathy, and, therefore, he may as well withhold it, till his prophecies shall be realized.

But the doctor, having commenced the enunciation of falsehoods, seems not to know where to stop. He goes on to say, "that doctors Curtis, Hill, Stockwell, Brown, Kost, Parritt, and Courtney have all been invited to Worcester," &c. If, by being "invited

to Worcester" he means an authorized invitation from our Faculty or Board of Trustees, this again is an absolute untruth. A part of these gentlemen have had *no such invitation*.

But further still, the doctor proceeds to say of us, "He sought our aid to save his College from destruction." Here again is an untruth or a distorted representation. We never sought his aid *for that purpose*. That we did, on two occasions, manifest a readiness to harmonize with him on certain conditions, we have already admitted, and the circumstances we have sufficiently explained; but we did not, until after the second invitation was extended to him, believe him debased enough to be guilty of such a dishonorable course, as we have now measurably exposed.

We have not time, and it would be taxing the patience of our readers too much, to unravel the whole of this complicated tissue of abuse and falsehood. We will only add, that our course is an open and frank one. We mean to act uprightly in all things. If pseudo-friends attempt wantonly and wickedly to injure us, they may rest assured, that we shall not tamely submit to be trampled on; but those who do with us *the fair thing*, will always find us trustworthy, liberal, and honorable.

In closing, we will say, that we have not, in this number, space for Dr. C.'s "Review of Medical Reform in New England." It will appear in our next.

OUR PRESENT LECTURE TERM.

We are happy in being able to say, that our expectations in regard to the opening of the present Term are fully realized. The number of students already in attendance is about forty. They are collected together from eleven different States, and constitute a Class of unusual promise. They are generally young men of able talents, and they are deeply interested in studying every branch of medicine. Not content with a superficial knowledge and a preparation for a mere routine practice, they manifest a most commendable zeal to investigate, to the greatest extent, the true philosophy of medicine. A few others are expected soon to

join the Class; so that the whole number, the present Term, will probably be between forty and fifty.

Professors Gabbert and Morrow are on the ground, and are acquitting themselves with honor. Of Prof. Morrow we have spoken particularly in another article. In Theory and Practice, Prof. Gabbert is an able teacher. His long and extensive experience, in the use of Physo-medical remedies, enables him to bring before the Class a great amount of the most valuable practical truth. Students are no longer compelled to listen to that unceasing chiming of *Steam and Lobelia* for every disease; but the treatment recommended is such as true science and common sense suggest, being varied according to the nature of the disease for which it is exhibited.

The success of our Institution is now no longer a problem. The paramount advantages which students will henceforth enjoy here, are being extensively acknowledged; and, when we shall have scattered abroad the graduates of a few more such Classes as the present, we feel quite sure, that Allopathic and every other form of quackery will have suffered most serious invasions, if, indeed, they are not quite suppressed, in different sections of the country.

PROF. CALKINS' RESIGNATION.

Some months since, when the chair of Materia Medica and Botany in our Institution was vacant, Dr. M. Calkins, a young physician of great promise, though of limited experience, was urged to accept an appointment to that department, so that the benefits of his services could be enjoyed during the present Term. Dr. C. is now pursuing a liberal education, with special reference to increased usefulness in the profession; and he was reluctant to be diverted, even for a season, from his chosen pursuit. He did, however, consent, in his interest for medical reform and for the Worcester Medical Institution particularly, to allow the expectation to be created, that he would fill the chair as well as his circumstances would permit, if it could not be satisfactorily filled by some other individual.

The Trustees of the Institution, however, having, at length, succeeded in making other provision for that department, Prof. Calkins

voluntarily retires, and gladly avails himself of the opportunity to pursue, uninterrupted, his literary course, to completion; and we venture to predict, that, at no distant day, he is destined to arrive at a high degree of professional honor.

The Professorship is now filled by the appointment of Dr. E. S. McClellan of Cincinnati, a gentleman of whose promise it is sufficient to say, that, while his literary and general professional attainments are adequate, he is *the individual* who has introduced to the world the concentrated vegetable medicines which are now coming so extensively into vogue. As a pharmacist, his advantages have been superior; and, as he still superintends his Establishment for the preparation of medicines at Cincinnati, he enjoys the most favorable opportunities for obtaining that kind of practical information which is of the first importance to be laid before the mind of every medical student.

A CORRECTION.

The author of a Review of the article, by J. F. Peebles, M. D., on "The Rise and Progress of Thomsonism," published in our last number, has pointed out to us an important error or two, which unfortunately crept into that Review.

On page 91, "Bunyan's Ghost" should have read *Banquo's Ghost*. We hardly know how this mistake escaped our observation; but, in the hurry of professional engagements, we sometimes overlook such things, greatly to our mortification afterwards.

On page 90, the phrase, "*Crude and unphilosophical*" should have been *crude and unsophisticated*. This error was naturally enough fallen into, as we supposed Medicus to refer to the *imperfections* of Dr. Thomson's system, which, of course, were unphilosophical, as all errors in science must be. His language was, "That Dr. Thomson's theory of disease was, in many respects, crude and unsophisticated, not even his most ardent admirers will deny." We think this mistake the more pardonable in us, as really we can gain no sense from the word *unsophisticated* in such a connexion. Its only authorized import, as far as we know, is *pure, unadulterated*; but that, it seems to us, could not have been intended by Medicus. We, however, cheerfully give place to the correction.

NEW ENGLAND
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CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

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WORCESTER, MASS., MAY 1, 1851.

NO. 5.

Communications.

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MEDICAL REFORM IN NEW ENGLAND.

PROF. NEWTON ;—

On the receipt of your November No., I prepared an article on fever and inflammation, in answer to what I considered a call made on me, in your remarks to J. E. Todd. It being too late for the 12th No., I waited for the first of vol. fifth, hoping to find in that something on the subject from your own pen. Instead of this, I find sundry mistakes of *Galei* and yourself, in relation to me, which affect, injuriously, the cause of truth and of medical reform, and the character of many of its best

friends in New England; on which account, (not my own,) you will, I doubt not, allow me space for sundry corrections.

It would have been quite as well, I think, if "Galei" had been sufficiently confident of the truth of his statements and surmises, to have justified him in giving us his real name. But, as these statements, charges, and surmises have been and still are sanctioned by yourself, I may pass over him and address my remarks to you.

I am glad that it is considered "due to us," pioneers, "that our efforts in advocating the reform principle* in the early days of the cause, entitle us to respect." (page 11.) But what is the inference we are to draw from this condemnatory praise? We think we understand it. I shall be silent in regard to the efforts of Prof. Newton and his co-laborers, where they do not involve me in their operations, except to say here, that "*their* efforts" to reform the *practice* of medicine, *even now*, "entitle *them* to respect."

Galei says, (page 10., 11.,) "There shall be no intentional error in regard to the facts presented," &c. Well, then, we shall expect him to acknowledge his errors when they are pointed out to him. He remarks, (page 11.,) "Though Dr. Thomson failed to present a perfect system, [Has Dr. Newton supplied the defect?] yet his mode of treatment, the use of simple remedies, and the idea of no poison, gained popular favor." Has your use of complicated, severe, and often poisonous remedies, (opium., nit. of silver, &c.,) secured and increased the favor that Dr. T's. system gained? To what other "reform principle" do you now pretend, while, instead of adopting his other reform principles, the true doctrines of fever and inflammation, and the unity of disease, you have reformed backwards into Allopathy in these more prominent and *essential principles*, the only rules and guides to simple, safe, innocent, and powerful medication? Thomson reformed the whole foundation of medical errors; you only a portion of its superstructure, the *materia medica*,—a portion which the Allopathists have always tried in vain to reform, and for the same reason that you will fail to reform it;—they attempted to do it *without a principle to guide* them! Thomson laid down that principle in the physiological

* Can Galei tell us what is "the reform principle." I doubt it, and call on him for the "effort."

character of fever and inflammation, without the admission of which, and a strict adherence to which, no true medical practice can ever be established.

On page 16, you say, that "the Faculty of the Cincinnati School issued a circular informing the world (!) that they, the body of the Professors with the Chancellor at their head, (?) would appear, *en masse*, and give a Course of medical Lectures in Boston simultaneously with the Course at Worcester. This naturally excited the inquiry, Why are the Cincinnati gentlemen coming east?" Had you referred to my letter to Professor Newton, published in his vol. for 1848, you would have seen the answer to this question.

You can state the *fact* of my going east, as well as I. You have no right to give my *motive*. But you have perverted the facts, as well as given the wrong motives. I will, therefore, now give more facts respecting my "eastern operations," and the motives that directed and controlled them.

FACTS.—Early in the Session of 1847-8, Dr. B. Keith, of Dover, N. H., then a member of our Class, and Prof. H. F. Johnson of Worcester, Mass., informed the members of our Faculty, that there was a division of sentiment in New England in regard to the character and merits of the Worcester School,—that more than half of the friends of the cause would not patronize it, and that there were from 30 to 50 practitioners in New England, who would be glad to attend College, but who never would go to Worcester, and who could not come west;—that, if our Professors would go to Boston, they would attend and graduate (nearly all being old practitioners), and then there would be a good opportunity to unite the two Schools in '49. I opposed this scheme, as apparently hostile to the Worcester School, which I wished rather to encourage and support. Very little more was said about it (to me at least), till Mr. Wilson, father of B. O. and G. C. Wilson, came among us. He joined Dr. K. and Professor J. in giving us the condition and wants of New England, the standing, &c., of the Worcester School, &c., and they all agreed, that they knew so well the feelings of Prof. Newton, that they had no doubt, that the union could be agreed upon before the day of commencement, and effected immediately on our arrival; and all the Lectures would be given either

in Boston or Worcester;—that you had (I think) but four Professors, one of whom was rather anxious to leave; if three of us would go, there would be just enough, and, in that event, all who wished to attend Lectures would be present. I replied, that, if this arrangement could be made with the Worcester gentlemen before the distribution of the notices, I would go. Messrs. Johnson and Wilson agreed to meet in Worcester early in February, and make the arrangements (,which they were confident they could), by the time that the notices should be printed and sent to their destination; and, on this assurance, the Faculty were called on to say whether they would go. I, being in the chair, put the vote, and all said Yes. To the question whether I would go, I replied, that I would not be obstinate. I would go, though I doubted the propriety, and feared that the results would not be the best. Dr. K. left, charged with the privilege of informing the gentlemen in New Hampshire, who wanted us to go to Boston, of our agreement to go; and Prof. Johnson and Mr. Wilson, with the important office of informing the Worcester gentlemen, that we were coming on a friendly mission, and persuading them to unite with us. The expectation of this union was the reason why only two of us started at first. Thus you see, that our object was to aid the Worcester doctors, in conciliating and securing the whole strength of New England to their Institution, (which those gentlemen assured us we could do,) instead of doubling their “troubles” and adding “obstacle to obstacle, as Galei would have it to have been. We *did* know that the Worcester Institution had “struggled,” and we desired and intended to assist it.

But, when we arrived in New England, we found that, either there had been no desire there for union, or the negotiation had been badly conducted. We, therefore, quietly delivered our Lectures, resolving not to return, and, of course, scarcely told any body what we were about.

I must now say, for reasons which will yet appear strong enough to justify it, that I was offered, when in Boston, if I would return and locate there, a large house and lot, and the loan of as much money as long as I pleased, as would completely fit the whole for our purposes; and, further, by the same gentleman who was a

prominent and influential member of the legislature, that I should have a good charter the next Session. Why did I not accept this offer? *Chiefly*, because I would not be the instrument of dividing the reform forces of New England.

In a personal interview and by letters, I afterwards satisfied you (Prof. N.) of the purity of my intentions, at least so far that you offered me the chair of Theory and Practice in the Worcester Institution, and even the whole control of its affairs. The latter I, at once, declined. I might have accepted the former: but, in the course of a correspondence with you and sundry friends of the cause in New England, who were opposed to some of your movements, it leaked out that I was not considered by you of much account "as a Lecturer." I was wanted, to secure my little popularity, and then I might go. I found, too, that it was doubtful whether my "already waning popularity" was strong enough to draw the disaffected to the Worcester School, if I should go, and I declined. How do these facts accord with the statement of Galei, that "the doctrines taught in Worcester were satisfactory to the Reformers in New England, except that they were thought to be a little too strongly Thomsonian," especially when it was believed that I was still more strongly Thomsonian than they? But the Worcester men did, and still do use some poisons, as opium, nit. of silver, cantharides, &c. Galei says, "No poison was the motto, nature the guide, and reason the rule. What more could be expected of Prof. Curtis?" I answer, something efficient to cure, and correct principles to guide us in its selection and application—an accurate definition of fever, inflammation, and disease, with a clear exhibition of their characters and tendencies. These must come from him, if any body; for they are not found in the Journal, and I can not learn that they are given in the Lectures. But this aside. He quotes a passage from my communication to the B. M. S. S. Journal which tells what I am not, but does not tell what I am. He says it "agrees with his views."—*What* views? None are there expressed. Of course, *he* has none!

The second paragraph, on page 17th, exhibits Galei in a quandary again, about "the object" of "my eastern visit." He gives me more credit (perhaps by way of contrast to intended censure)—“a

well earned crown of glory—the honor of having faithfully served in the councils and on the field, *in the early contests of the cause.*” “Many a victory he has won, doing honor both to his ability and his benevolence.”—“*But*, we must say it,—the only motive *we* can find for his invasions of the rights of others, as we regard his movements in Boston to be, was an unholy and overweening desire of self aggrandizement. He durst not leave his fame and fortune with his friends,—it seeming, that he would rather reign in hell than serve in heaven.” Why cannot Galei see in my conduct, any thing but selfishness? Has he found me “able and benevolent” in all acts but one; and, because he cannot discover my motive in that, “must he say” that it is a bad one? Is he like those dogmatic theologians who always find in their researches into the Bible, the interpretations that best accord with their own feelings and characters? I will not say so; but, is there not something wrong in that judgment which makes what is only *supposed* to be a single error, to outweigh the good acts of a whole life? Could I not have “ruled” in Boston, if I pleased? If I was as smart as Prof. N. represented me to be, when he thought I was going to Worcester, could I not have “ruled” *there*? I was not bound to “*serve*” even in that little “*heaven*,” unless it can be shown that some one there would prove to be *my master*. Where was the “*hell*” in which I chose to “*rule*,” instead of serving in the little heaven at W.? I was never a slave or a tyrant any where. I pity the one and despise the other. “Prof. Curtis finished his labors in Boston, abandoned the field, pocketed the loss sustained [a rather singular idea], and doubtless learned a lesson which he will never forget.” (page 18.)

Yes, I shall never forget the pleasures of my trip, nor the fact that I acquired in New England, in those few months, a reputation that induced Dr. Newton, to “forget” or lay aside his personal objections, and invite me to the “ruling” chair, in the delectable little “heaven” at Worcester, for the next spring Session. I also earned money enough to pay my expenses and to bring home several hundred dollars worth of books and apparatus for our College. I was called in different directions for Lectures and advice, fifty miles from Boston, and paid good fees for my services. I have still some

patients not a thousand miles from the little "heaven" at W. But, to pass on, I have nothing to do with the quarrels among the humble servants of that little terrene cœlum, but to deplore them. After they were over, and the most strenuous advocate of "innocent medication" was cast out, notwithstanding it is asked, "what more could be expected of Prof. Curtis,"—"from considerations of *interest*, but more for the sake of harmony and humanity," (page 20.) [Do you mean, to catch the students and harmonize them in the College, and to prevent the Professors from quarrelling and treating each other inhumanly ?] the board offered the vacant chair to Prof. Curtis,"—though they knew, by a letter from me, in answer to one insisting on my acceptance, that I was not willing to go, because I did not believe that my presence and services would effect the object. "This generous act of the Trustees [I thank them] was very coolly noticed, and the honor declined, by the man whom we must now consider an enemy to the progress of reform in New England."

He then gives an account of a meeting of the Connecticut Society and his own interpretation of it, to which I refer. (page 20.) Now what are the facts of the case? After refusing, in June, to be a candidate, as I was requested by a letter from Worcester, I saw, in August, with some surprise, my name announced in the Journal as a head servant in that little "heaven." I told Dr. Gardner of Springfield, who showed me the circular, that I would immediately decline. "No," said he, "the Connecticut and New York Societies will soon have a meeting to see about getting up a Course of Lectures; but, I think, if you will accept that chair, they will give it up and all go to Worcester. Cannot you attend the meeting? I answered that, as I should return from the north about that time, I would not resign then, but wait for more light. I left for Lancaster, N. H. I wrote to you (Prof. N.), informing you of this meeting and requesting you to meet me there; and I thought we could have the whole matter amicably arranged. To this I soon received a long reply, fraught with misstatements of facts, perversion of motives, and a tirade of personal abuse, which I could not overlook and still go to Worcester with any self respect. I, therefore, immediately sent you my resignation, with my opinion

of your conduct towards me. The resignation was at least as respectful as the publication of my name after I had positively refused to accept the appointment. I attended the meeting of the Connecticut Society, and the delegates from the New York Society, and "addressed that meeting." The substance of that address was, to advise to harmonize all the contending interests of the eastern States and concentrate their forces in the Worcester Institution; if any Professor was not acceptable, to remove him. The reply was, we will patronize that College, if you will accept the offered chair. I told them, that the treatment I had received from the powers already there forbade it.

Thus you see, "that Society *did* wish a Course of Lectures," and were willing to go to Worcester for them, "if they could secure Prof. Curtis's aid." They were not afraid, that he would "sanction a measure opposed to the developement of science. They knew he would not; and it was *because* they knew he would develop the *true* science, that they wanted him. He could not go, and retain his self respect,—and he advised them not to attempt to build up a College in opposition to Worcester, but rather to aid it. This was the "aid and comfort" he gave them;—how much "influence" "his presence and the little popularity he had left" will have upon them remains to be seen.

It is not surprising that Galei is sorely puzzled with the strange contradictions he has exhibited in his last sentence on page 21. He that is resolved to wear black goggles, should not complain, if he does not clearly see the sun. But I cannot so readily excuse you, (Prof. N.,) who understand the whole matter, for sanctioning such an outrageous article. You well know, and all the friends of reform in the east who care a fig about it *should* know, that the only reason why I have not been a Professor at Worcester for two years past, or the spring to come, is the evidence afforded me, chiefly by yourself, that the whole object in getting me there was to promote your own interests, at the expense of my "already waning popularity,"—"the little I had left,"—there. I have refused to go there, because, though I am willing to do all I can to promote the cause of truth and science and to relieve suffering humanity, I am not willing to be used as an instrument to deceive and ensnare

the unwary. I am not willing that my friends in New England, after seeing me puffed in their Journal as a very great man, should find me, on trial, to be "less than the least of all the saints," in that little "heaven" at Worcester! My ambition to rule is not so high as many have supposed. Let them perform the good that I have *tried* to do, and they will find me very willing to retire.

Yours, very respectfully,

A. CURTIS.

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT.

DR. NEWTON;—

Sir,—I rejoice sincerely to find that, there are men amongst us of intrinsic worth and of high literary acquirements, who, for the sake of suffering humanity and from the most disinterested motives, have given their whole energies to the cause of reform in the practice of medicine. The intrepid souls, who commenced the battle and who steadily persevered in its front, under many unexpected and formidable difficulties, deserve a high and unaffected eulogium, from every true philanthropist.

First, because medicine, as a science, takes its first principles from the sympathy which we feel for the sufferings of others, by which we are, in a manner, forced, submerging every other human consideration, to have recourse to the most effectual means for their relief. Such was the opinion of the celebrated C. W. Hufeland, when he said, "An instinctive impulse to relieve a sufferer was the origin of the healing art. This pure and noble sentiment must always prevail, to make the practice of medicine answer its ideal, and render it a blessing to both physician and patient." Secondly, I believe no conclusive argument can be fairly opposed to the existing, and, indeed, to the crying necessity for a scientific reform in that department. Thirdly, because very many of the medicines indigenous to this country, whose properties have been sufficiently tested and pronounced amongst the most valuable and unexceptionable, have been, notwithstanding, altogether neglected, or turned into mere ridicule by professional men, the vanity of whose pretensions to superior science is sufficiently shown, by the unwelcome, yet daily success of the modern reformer.

From the above considerations, I feel sufficiently warranted in offering my meed of thanks and best acknowledgement to the gentlemen who commenced the reform in this section of the country,—particularly, to those who obtained for their youthful Institution the sanction of law, and are now, deservedly, about to receive the fruits of their labor and industry.

It may be conceded, that a science is the more appreciable, as it tends to concentrate the mental operations of man, in that focus of pure intelligence, by which we are enabled to examine and to discover, what, to the Greeks, seemed an impossibility, and caused them to inscribe on the Delphic shrine the famous, *Gnothi seauton*—know thyself;—that is, are enabled to know who and what we are ourselves, and thereby to answer the end for which we were created. The science of medicine has, undoubtedly, on that account, as well as on many others, more than an ordinary claim on our highest regard. It seems to be founded on divine principles. I believe, there is no human science or department of science, which does not, at some time or in some manner, become auxiliary to the medical department: because every human science is, in some manner, deducible, or has, for its object, the elementary principles—which, in order to be cognizable, must fall under our senses; and we find that our bodies are, in a great measure, composed of these very elementary principles, making the subjects of so many sciences. Man is a rational creature, composed of body and soul. Yet, for a true knowledge of this body, we have to take into consideration, its organization, vital functions, and intellectual faculties. Anatomy, which respects the first of these powers, is susceptible of mathematical precision and physical certainty, and, therefore, satisfies us on that head. Physiology reveals to us the action of the organized parts. It is the province of psychology and metaphysics to analyze the operations of the will and mind.

It is because these three above-mentioned departments of science have not been studied with that harmony of action which they bear to each other, or perhaps, by the same School of inquirers after truth, that a door has been left open to admit the winds of much unprofitable speculation and useless controversy, hurtful to the general science of medicine, of which the above particular departments, are but the mere elements. For a further knowledge of ourselves,

therefore, the mutual actions of the mind and body should be maturely weighed and wisely investigated; because he only gropes his way in the dark, who, after admitting the powers and properties of the five external senses, takes no account of the internal, viz., the common sense, the phantasy, the memorative, the intellectual, and appetitive. Although these latter are wont to act a very considerable part, as well in the formation of disease as in its true diagnosis, yet they are so seldom taken into account by our medical practitioners, that we are not to be surprised if they attribute the real phenomena, which they may encounter in different diseases, to foreign, false, and indescribable causes. Hence, it is evident, however much the adepts of the present day may plume themselves, for the late valuable discoveries in the *Materia Medica*, as well as in the treatment of different diseases, that there is ample room, for more correct, more satisfactory, and more certain medical information than we can yet boast of. I am of the opinion, that a closer attention to the study of the Greek language would be of much utility to the medical student; and also, that it would not be amiss or time misspent, if he should cast a glance on the rich labors and learned works of some of our predecessors in the art of healing, and should wisely accommodate what he can wisely glean, from their learning and experience, to the present improved system of the science of sciences, called the medical department. From the many excellent axioms, which could be adduced from these sages of antiquity, let us but consider, what a vast field the following passage, from the writings of Hermes Trismegistus, opens to the understanding of the erudite physiologist, viz.

“Purissima materiæ humanæ portio aer, aeris anima, animæ mens, mentis denique deus. Deus vero circa omnia, mens circa animam, anima circa aerem, aer circa materiam humanam.

Air is the most pure portion of human matter, of air the soul, or animal life, of the soul the mind, finally of the mind God. But God is around all things, the mind is around the soul, or encircles it, the soul around air, air around human matter or the matter of which we are composed.

Your very humble ser't,

JOHN B. McMAHON, M. D., Priest.

Boston, March 4th, 1851.

SANATIVE MEDICATION.

What is there, in all the range of medical science, that is worthy to be called a fundamental principle,—a principle of practical utility, that will admit of universal application? The various systems of medical practice, and the conflicting means employed to accomplish the same end, would lead us to conclude, that nature has various ways for accomplishing the same object. If God is perfect in all his ways and works, then where is the necessity of more than one perfect way? All other ways are the inventions of man.

But we have yet to learn that God ever designed, that the being created in his own image should ever be sick. We think this doctrine would be a libel upon his goodness. To go into a discussion of the moral, physical, and spiritual laws by which we should be governed would require too much space for our limits. Suffice it to say, that the human system is brought into an abnormal state by transgressing some one or more of these laws; and, if they were perfectly understood and obeyed, we have no reason to think, that any thing but health and happiness would be the result. When a man is in perfect health, every organ of the human body performs its function perfectly. It is then he may be said to be at the farthest remove possible, from death, there being no cause (other than the surrounding elements) to oppose the vital force. The moment the vital force is opposed, the system is brought into an abnormal state, and the individual takes a step towards death. Now this vital force is hedged around, and guarded on every side, by laws as immutable and unchangeable as their Author; and, when any of those laws are transgressed, the vital force is reduced in proportion to the transgression.

A sentiment seems to force itself upon my mind just here, that I recollect reading some years since, in the London Lancet, viz. that the direct tendency of all poisons, when introduced into the system, is to reduce vitality. This being the fact, in order to be consistent, it would be necessary to give poisonous medicines within the bounds of poisonous doses, as if the quantity changed the quality. How very consistent?

The prominent object in medication should be, not to depress, but to sustain the vital force. When an individual is attacked by disease, that disease is characterized by certain phenomena called symptoms. Now, if the physician direct his remedies to the symptoms which characterize the disease called fever, he will find those symptoms as deceitful as the echo of the distant hills. But, if he remove the cause of those symptoms, the human organism and the control of the vital force will verge to a healthy standard, like the magnet to the poles. Hence the necessity of well informed men and men of sound judgment for physicians, who are capable of adapting means to accomplish the end; in other words, who are capable of selecting such remedies as will fulfil the indications, according to the laws of our being, keeping in view the principle, that the normal state of the system is the highest position in regard to life and death that a man can occupy. We must, therefore, adopt the sentiment of the London Lancet, and, very unlike Allopathists, avoid poisons of every description; for, it is as true in physics as in morals, that whatever a man sows he shall reap. That every thing begets its own likeness, and like causes produce like effects throughout nature, are parallel expressions. In short, the motive that prompts every act of man is a desire to increase his happiness; and all may be summed up in the following sentiment or principle. We do not mean a general rule that will admit of an occasional exception; but we mean a rule or a fundamental principle, which should govern all our acts, under all circumstances and in all conditions of life. It is equally adapted to all conditions of men from the meanest beggar to the king on his throne; a principle adapted to all the sciences, and all the arts. It is this. Our happiness must necessarily be increased or diminished, according to the righteousness of the means employed to accomplish our ends;—we mean righteousness in the sight of God, in regard to the laws which he has ordained. We, therefore, see the necessity, in every case, of a course of medication consistent with the laws that govern the vital force.

I will introduce here two or three cases to illustrate the principle. I was called, on the 23rd of August, to see Mr. and Mrs. Potter of this place, who were laboring under an attack of chill fever.

They had, for a few days, regular exacerbations of the cold and hot stages, as these ordinarily occur in that disease. After three or four days, there was a very marked difference in their symptoms. When the hot stage came on, in the first case, the pulse was full, frequent, and strong, the skin dry and hot, and great pain in the back and head, respiration difficult with great anxiety. Instead of the hot stage, in the second case, the pulse was small, frequent, and tense, skin pale, extremities cold, frequent retching, occasional slight vomiting of bilious matter, with great distress at the pit of the stomach, respiration difficult bordering on suffocation. In the first case, there was great energy of the nervous system, the reaction was strong, and the case would bear a little depleting,—we mean a little infringement of organic law. In the second case, in all probability, the first attempt at depletion would have put the patient beyond the reach of medical aid. We gave both cases about the same treatment at first,—thoroughly cleansing the system, with tonics betwixt the paroxisms, and sponging and febrifuges during the hot stage. When the sinking stage commenced, in the second case, the first case was convalescent; and the only important change we made, in treating the second case, was to continue the tonic and stimulating course throughout the whole paroxism, and the patient immediately recovered. This change was obviously indicated by the fact, that the nervous system was so completely prostrated, that reaction could not take place without assistance. Hence the touch of the lancet or a depletive dose of medicine would have been a fatal mistake.

The third case was a Mrs. McCollins, a lady who was taken sick while on board a canal boat, passing from Syracuse to Fulton. The boat tied up about three miles below this place (Liverpool). I was summoned to attend. On my arrival I found a young married lady and an infant but a few minutes old. The lady appeared uncommonly smart and nearly free of pain. I found, to my surprise, instead of a placenta, another fœtus. I prepared and gave her some medicine with a view of arousing labor pains; but it was *no go*. On inquiring into her history, I was informed, that, a day or two previous, the house in which she lived caught fire; and, in her fright and exertion to save some furniture, she over-did, and it

appeared evident, that the untimely birth of the child was the fruit or consequence of that transgression. Now the question arose, What shall be done? The boat was being detained at great expense, and those concerned had their fears about starting under the circumstances. I requested the woman to rise and walk, which she continued to do with great facility. Dame nature, ever true to the test, asked no aid, and I saw the fruit of one transgression attended with very favorable circumstances,—so much so, that it would perhaps have induced some accoucheurs to follow suit and commit a more desperate one, by effecting a forcible delivery. It was a trying point but the love of law and order finally prevailed, and I said, I will not do evil that good may come.

The lady passed on to Fulton, agreeing to send me the money for my services by the captain of the boat; who afterwards informed me, that he had seen the lady with a fine pair of twins about two weeks old. According to the information which I received from the captain of the boat, she was taken sick the third day after I saw her, and called in an Allopathist, who, on seeing an infant three days old, and the imminent symptoms of his patient, lost his self possession and sent for counsel. Whether nature waited, in this case, for counsel I was not informed; but the gentlemen finally came, and the two physicians after diagnosing, prognosing, and observing the indications, particularly of their own craft, came to the sage conclusion, that the woman might have been delivered when I was called, and they, in the spirit of Allopathy, which is synonymous with anti-progression or anti-reform, advised Mr. McCollins not to send me any money, but to send me a warrant for malpractice. I, however, have no fears of being waited on by any legal gentleman from that quarter.

E. T. CHEENEY, M. D.

Liverpool, Nov., 1850.

DR. COFFRAN'S TRIAL.

[We are happy to know what our friend Coffran has omitted to say, that, notwithstanding the prejudice against him as a Physo-medical practitioner, he was fully acquitted by the Court before

which he was arraigned. Our opponents of the Allopathic faith may cherish the spirit of revenge and murder in their hearts; but, fortunately, the laws of the country and the state of Society do not admit the *full acting-out* of this spirit. EDITOR.]

DR. NEWTON ;—

In the conclusion of your letter, the other day, acknowledging the receipt of the needful for the Journal, you ask why I cannot send you the report of a case, occasionally. On reading this, the thought flashed across my mind, that it might not be wholly uninteresting, if not quite so profitable to the readers of your paper as some other matter, to learn some of the circumstances connected with the fatal accident which happened in the very commencement of my practice in this place, together with some of the facts connected with my prosecutions for persecution's sake. It was a melancholy affair, and one which caused me more real *woe* than all that ever occurred to me, in my life before. Though it would seem that I have had persecution enough, and been put to expense and trouble enough to "harden my heart," yet I cannot call to mind the sad and solemn scene without feelings of the deepest regret.

It seems proper, that I should state, by way of explanation, in the commencement of what I shall say, that laudanum, (the article which caused the death of the patient,) I had used in some cases of dysentery and cholera, but I never carried it in my trunk with other medicines.

In packing my things to remove to this town, it had been put into my trunk, by my wife, in place of an empty bottle;—she not knowing what it was. I, not knowing that it was there, gave it for an emetic, supposing it to be tincture of lobelia, which is not a poison and which never produced death to my knowledge;—though I have often wondered that it should not do it, when I have heard persons, especially in this vicinity, tell of the enormous doses which they have taken, and which, moderately estimated, were certainly sufficient to puke a whole plantation.

But I am digressing. I was requested to visit the patient who took the laudanum, Mrs. Emily P. Sleeper, of South Thomaston,

on the ninth of July, 1850. I found her laboring under symptoms of an advanced stage of consumption, and declined undertaking her case. I was called again, however, in a few days. At this time, I was urged hard, by the patient, with tears in her eyes, to take her under my charge ; and I finally consented, much against my own inclination and the wish of my friends.

I had not the most distant idea, that I could cure her ; and I told her, that this was my impression. I, also, advised her to keep along with her former physician. She said, that he had attended her nearly three months, and had given her calomel, opium, morphine, and a cupful of blue pills. She judged, that she had been growing worse all that time, she had discharged him, and she would not employ him again. I left her some medicines, and told her I would call again, when I next came that way ; and I did so. She said the medicines I had left her had done her more good than all which she had taken from her physician, during the three months he had attended her. She believed a lobelia emetic, (which she had wanted from the commencement of her sickness,) would cure her. This I declined giving, stating my opinion, that she would get along quite as well without one.

On the 17th day I called again, and again she commenced importuning me for an emetic. I, finally, told her to get ready and I would call after I had made another visit, and give her a light one. This, I knew, could be done with perfect safety. On my return, I took about two thirds of a cupful of luke-warm skunk cabbage and hazle tea, put into it four teaspoonfuls of laudanum, supposing it to be tincture of lobelia, and gave it at three doses, at intervals of fifteen or twenty minutes. Nothing occurred in the case, till some time after the last dose had been swallowed, different from what every physician has, no doubt, witnessed, under the operation of lobelia, in patients whose systems have been literally filled with opium and other narcotics.

The prostration, however, soon became alarming ; and, supposing it to be the effect of lobelia, upon a system more enfeebled by disease and poisons for medicines than I was aware of, I commenced the usual stimulating treatment, such as enemas, friction, &c.,—all to no purpose. Two neighboring ladies were present ;

but, I being an entire stranger to them, and not knowing whether they were friends or not to the Botanic practice, no words passed between us as to the cause of the singular symptoms, till about thirty minutes before the patient's death, when one of them ventured to ask me what I thought of her case. I replied, that I did not know what to think. I have administered lobelia, said I, for years, and in almost all forms and stages of disease; but I have never witnessed such symptoms as are present in this case. She said she had heard that lobelia had sometimes caused death, but never knew the instance. I replied, that I had heard such reports but never had believed them. I, however, feared I should be compelled to after this.

Having failed to rally the patient, and perceiving, that she was rapidly sinking, I was instinctively led to my trunk to see if there could be any trouble there; and, on smelling the phial from which I had taken the medicine, I found it was laudanum. I cannot describe my feelings at this awful discovery, and will not, therefore, attempt it. Suffice it to say, that her friends were called, strong coffee, the antidote universally acknowledged to be the best, when the patient is too low for an emetic, was given; but the fatal mistake was discovered too late for any earthly remedy to counteract the deadly effects of the drug, and the patient's life was shortened a few short weeks. Thus ended this melancholy scene.

I will now relate very briefly some facts of which this was the forerunner. Dr. Frye of Rockland had attended Mrs. S. from the commencement of her illness. He had told several individuals, that she was beyond the reach of any medical aid, that she could not live many weeks, and that he would give his horse and carriage, if the patient were off his hands. No sooner, however, was she dead, than he said, that he left her doing well and that she was fast recovering, when I was called to visit her. No one supposed that this man, under the solemnity of an oath, before Heaven, and in the face and eyes of the witnesses there present, to testify to what he had before said and to the true condition of the patient, would dare to say, that she was rapidly regaining her health. But they were *all* disappointed. Madly did he declare this to be the fact. When asked what he had given the patient, he seemed very

loth to tell ; but finally said he had given her mercury, blue pills, morphine, hyocyamus, belladonna, &c. Here let me ask, Why did he give these drugs, if he did not consider his patient in consumption ? Are they not the consumptive's remedies, according to his books ? He and his remedies, in this case, tell *three* stories. The father had no hopes of his daughter's recovery, and stated, on the day of the funeral, that, had not the accident occurred, she could have lived but a short time. He also stated this to me, when I called upon him a few days after, to endeavor to soothe his feelings and to sympathize with him in this affliction. He said, he had been advised to prosecute but had told those who advised him, that it would not bring his daughter back, if he should, and, if it would, he did not know as he could desire her to return to linger out a few short weeks under the ravages of that fell disease, consumption, which had made the companion of his bosom and several other members of his family, before this one, its prey. He professed to be a meek follower of the meek and lowly Jesus; and I thought him not only what he professed, but, also, a *reasonable* man. But, alas ! when stimulated by other motives, he forgot his religious principle and was not governed by reason. When asked why he wished to push the war of extermination and persecution further (,for he and the husband of the woman said, if I would leave the place, they would stop the action), and when reminded that, if he succeeded in obtaining a fatal verdict in the case, he could not bring his daughter back, but that the trouble would kill my wife, whose health was very poor, he replied, "I don't know as I could stop the action if I would, and I would not if I could ; for it is no worse to kill another man's daughter than it is for another man to kill mine."

This is philosophically true, I admit, the circumstances being the same ; but, in my case, it was what the law calls "*Homicide by misadventure*" ; in his, it was a manifestation of the spirit of wilful murder, or else out of the abundance of the heart the mouth doth not speak.

One word more in relation to the most prominent actress in this melancholy drama, Mrs. Lucy Emery, a distant relative,—and I shall have done. She came to the bedside, on the night of Mrs.

Sleeper's death, just before she expired, and said to me, "*What does all this mean?*" Though I made no reply, she continued, "I knew she could not have lived long; but little did I think, that she was coming to this end."

Learning the cause of her death, at this time, she requested me to let her see the bottle from which the laudanum had been used. I passed it to her. She smelled it, and said it is laudanum. I know the article, for I liked to have killed my sister with it once. Before my trial, she said, she knew it was lobelia I gave, and not laudanum. In evidence, however, she said it was laudanum; and any one would have supposed, by the manner in which she spoke of my medicine *chest* and the *bottle*, that some *two or three* quarts had been given. She and all the other government evidences followed in the footsteps of their illustrious predecessor, in saying that Mrs. S. had been sick but was fast recovering. When asked, if she thought she was sufficiently acquainted with medicines to detect laudanum; she replied, "I should think I ought to understand medicines. I have sailed two or three voyages (to Boston of course,—her husband was only a coaster), with my husband and had the care of his medicine chest."

The people of this place and South Thomaston, after the declaration of the father and husband (the husband was absent at her decease), that they would stop the action, if I would leave the place, saw that the action was not commenced against me alone; but against the whole Botanic Fraternity, and they rallied around the standard of medical reform. About thirty, after raising one hundred and fifty dollars to assist me in defraying the expenses, followed me, voluntarily, to the Court House at Wiscassett, a distance of forty miles. They were not the rabble, but the most wealthy and influential citizens.

Drs. Dadd, Jackson, Mitchell, and my steady friend Wilson of Boston will ever be held in grateful remembrance by me, for the prompt and efficient manner in which they acted in my behalf. To them, and to the *cloud of witnesses* from among my old friends and patrons at South Weymouth and vicinity, in Massachusetts, who were prevented from being present by a Telegraphic dispatch, I owe a debt of gratitude which must ever remain on charge, unless

some one of the number should be so unfortunate, in the discharge of his various duties, as to require equal promptness and efficiency of action on my part. I hope I shall never have occasion to pay this debt; but, should circumstances demand it, I will *try* to assist them, most cheerfully.

C. COFFRAN, M. D.

Rockland, Me., Mar., 1851.

CASE REPORTED.

On Friday night, at 12 o'clock, February 28th, 1851, I was called up to visit, in great haste, a sick man, by the name of Aaron Ladew, aged about 30, and living 7 or 8 miles from this place. The messenger informed me, that the man, it was thought, would not live until I could get to his residence. I went, and found him with flushed countenance, redness of the eyes, intolerance of light and sound, headache, watchfulness and delirium, fullness of the head, with a throbbing of the temporal arteries, restlessness, his sleep having wholly forsaken him, a constant pain in the right side, and frequent attacks of severe coughing, while all which he raised appeared to be pure blood.

I found, on inquiry, that he had been sick six days and under the care of Dr. L. G. Haskins, an Allopathic physician of this place. He was taken, in the first place, with every symptom of a cold. The doctor had bled him twice copiously, blistered, and, I presume, calomelized him. The friends informed me, that he had grown worse ever since he was taken; and, if I saw any chance to relieve him, they wished me to do so. I told them, in reply, that I considered his case inflammation of the brain and lungs, and his chance for recovery very small. I was, however, willing to do all I could for him.

I commenced my treatment by giving a weak tea of lobelia and *asclepias tuberosa*. The first I gave him strangled him, and I thought, for a few moments, that he would suffocate. I attributed it to his not having swallowed, for some time before. I made the tea weaker, and gave a little more of it; but with the same effect,

and so I desisted. I then gave him a preparation of ipecacuanha and glycyrrhiza glabra. I took five grs. of pulverized ipecac to 20 grs. of glycyrrhiza. I added of hot water one gill, and gave a teaspoonful at a time. This sat very well. I increased the dose to a large spoonful, every half hour. I told the attendants to give this dose, through the day. I ordered sinapisms to the feet and back of the neck, I also directed his head to be wet with cold water; and cloths, wet in cold water, to be applied to the side, which was raw from the effects of the blister. I insisted that the room should be kept still and well ventilated, and I allowed the man cold water to drink when he wished. Having given these directions, I left.

On Saturday eve, March 1st, I returned and found the man quite comfortable, with a gentle perspiration throughout the system; but he had not slept at all. I made no alteration in the treatment, except leaving him a powder of scutellaria and lupulin, ten grs. of each, to induce sleep.

Sunday morn, March 2nd, I visited him again, and found him much better. He had slept quite well through the night, and his cough and the pain in the head were much lessened. He was quite rational,—was not as thirsty; but the pain in the side still continued, about the same. I applied to his side a poultice of *ulmus fulva*, *lobelia inflata* and *zingiber album*. I gave him one large spoonful of castor oil, and directed a pill, formed of *lobelia inflata* with the extracts of *leontodon taraxacum* and *apocynum canabinum*, to be given once in three hours.

On Monday morning, I visited him again and found him doing finely. He had rested very well, through the night,—the oil had operated freely,—the pain in the side had pretty much left. I ordered the pill to be given once in six hours, and a preparation of *eupatorium perfoliatum* and *chelone glabra* to be given, in ten grain doses, once in six hours.

On Tuesday, March 4th, in the afternoon, I visited him again. I found him improving and very hungry, with bowels regular. I discontinued the pills, and continued the tonic, with the addition of two grs. of *podophyllum peltatum*, to a dose. He was able to sit up an hour at a time.

On Thursday, March 6th, I found him still improving. He sat

up two hours at a time,—his food sat well,—his bowels were regular. I continued the treatment about the same.

On Sunday, March 9th, I visited him again. I found him up and moving about the room. I left him a preparation of *hydrastis canadensis*, *chelone glabra*, and *populus tremuloides*, in equal parts, to be taken in ten grain doses, three times a day ; and I dismissed him convalescent.

Very respectfully,

A. B. WESCOTT, M. D.

Salisbury Centre, March 12th, 1851.

PHYSO-MEDICAL PRACTICE.

PROF. NEWTON :—

DEAR SIR,—In a note recently received from you, I remember you wrote as follows :—“Write for me when you can ;” agreeably to which, I sit down to pen a few remarks to the readers of the Journal, as to the true *position* of the reformed, or Physo-medical, practice ;—*its scientific relation* to the Allopathic and the Homœopathic system, as well as to the more modern yet ultra system, known as water-cure.

To illustrate this properly, it will first be necessary to learn the *origin* and *distinctive features* of the other systems, and then to show *wherein* the Physo-medical practice differs from them.

1st. All those well acquainted with the progress of medical science know full well, that Hippocrates was, in reality, the founder of both the Allopathic and Homœopathic systems of practice. It is a matter of familiar knowledge, that he entertained two notions of the theory of the cure of disease. This *dual theory*, so to speak, has been rendered in Latin variously, yet is, in substance, as follows :

First. “*Contraria, contrariis, curantur ;*” which may be rendered in English—*Contraries, or opposites are the remedies for their opposites*. This theory constitutes the distinctive features of Allopathy. Second. “*Similia, Similibus, Curantur ;*” which in English may be rendered—Any agent which, in a state of health, will produce a class of symptoms, will cure those symptoms when they exist as

disease. This theory constitutes the essential peculiarity of the Homœopathic practice.

2nd. Until about the time of the revival of learning in the fifteenth century, these maxims had never been separated, so as to become distinct systems of practice. Paracelsus then arose, and asserted the superiority of the Hippocratic law, “*Similia, similibus, curantur* ;—that it is the foundation of practical medicine ;—that health and disease are processes of a similar nature, though of opposite characters ;—and that, to give health, the same power as disease, the former must be aroused by some *specific excitant* ; and that, to do this, the physician must find an “*arcanum*” or specific medicine ; and this “*arcanum*” must always be a “*simplex*.”—*Neque enim unquam ullus morbus calidus per frigida sanatus fuit, nec frigidus per calida ; simile autem suum simile FREQUENTER curavit.*”

Van Helmont, a follower of Paracelsus, says of him ;—“*At length, in the fervor of contradiction, he placed all cure in the similitude of both the nature, and the causes of disease to the remedy itself.*” Many other writers since his day have advocated the same theory, among whom Stahl and Hahneman hold pre-eminence. This is purely Homœopathy.

The distinctive features of Allopathy are better known, commonly ;—the production of one *irritation* to cure another or the *creation* of a certain condition, by some foreign or medical agent, *contrary* or *opposed* in character, to the condition constituting the disease ; as, by way of illustration, the application of a plaster of cantharides (a blister) to the chest, to cure an irritation of the viscera beneath ; or, venesection, to cure a preternatural fullness or rapidity of the pulse. This is purely Allopathy.

I have thus shown the origin and peculiarities of both the old systems of medical practice. The third position remains, viz : Wherein does the Physo-medical practice differ from these old systems ?

To answer this question more forcibly, I will briefly recapitulate the necessary practical results of the Allopathic and Homœopathic theories ; the former of which would *contra-indicate all* the symptoms of disease, while the latter would *enhance or increase all the symptoms*.

Disease, practically, is known by the symptoms or *signs* which it occasions in the animal system. These symptoms, being absent in a state of health, are necessarily related to the *cause* which produced them, *which cause is really the disease*, while the symptoms are simply the media by which we learn the nature of that cause.

Now those *symptoms* are, some of them at least, *efforts of nature to remove the cause*; others of them are the *morbid results of that cause*.

This being plain, we see:—First, that Allopathy, in contra-indicating *all the symptoms*, must necessarily be active *against some healthful tendencies* of nature; and, hence, it so far must, of course, retard the progress of cure:—Secondly, that Homœopathy, in *enhancing or increasing all the symptoms*, must of necessity *enhance some morbid tendencies*; and, hence, it so far must proportionately retard the progress of cure:—Thirdly, that the Physo-medical practice, in selecting or making a distinction between the *curative* and *morbid symptoms*, (which two classes of signs are always present in disease,) ever aims at *enhancing the curative tendencies*, while it endeavors to remove the morbid ones. Thus, in respect to the preternatural pulse, existing in case of fever, *it would not remove that condition by bleeding or depletion*, but would assist it by excitants or stimulants, though *aconite*, perhaps, would not be THE stimulant chosen, but *vapor* and *sudorifics*, or something of the kind, according to the circumstances or peculiarities of the case. But the Physo-medical practice *would act in opposition to morbid symptoms*,—symptoms, which, if perfected, would occasion death, but not a removal of the disease.

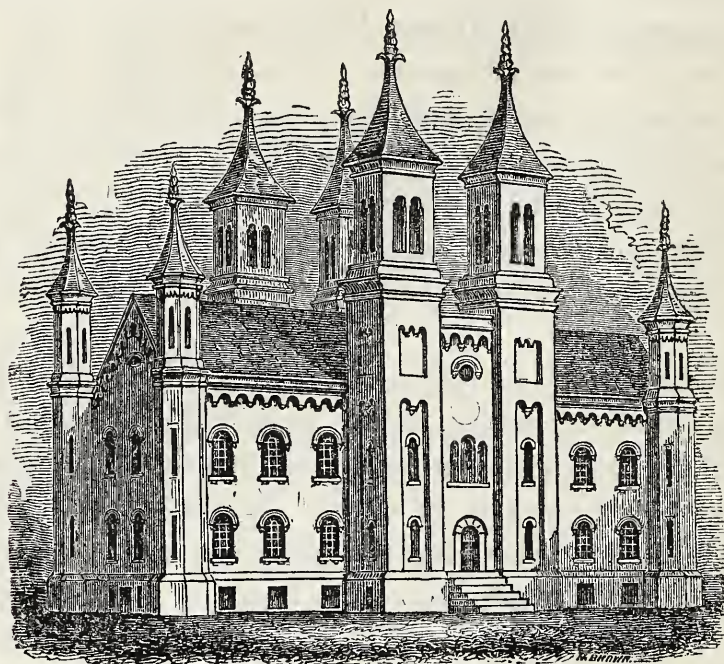
These are the principles of our practice, as I understand and practice them, in contra-distinction from the Allopathic and Homœopathic theories.

As to its remedies, *water* and *vegetable simples* constitute its *Materia Medica*. Hydropathy is a part, and an important part of this practice, but not its whole. Hence, really it has no separate existence, as a system of medical practice.

Yours for medical reform,

GEO. W. SKINNER.

West Newbury, Mass., April 15, 1851.



[Worcester Medical Institution.]

Editorial.

..—

DR. CURTIS ON MEDICAL REFORM.

As Dr. Curtis thinks himself "injuriously affected" by some remarks of Galei and ourselves, in the January number of the Journal, we cheerfully give him the opportunity to speak for himself, in our columns at the present time. We are not sensible of the slightest desire to detract one particle from his true merits. We only wish him, ourselves, others, and the position of all, to be fairly understood. If, as in a late number of the Physo-medical and Surgical Journal, our language is wantonly misapplied and we are falsely charged, we shall repel the abuse with becoming indignation; but, when facts are candidly presented, we are willing that their interpretation shall be left to the judgment of a discerning public.

We have inserted the doctor's article entire and unmutated,—with the exceptions, that we have, in several instances, corrected the punctuation, and have removed a few of the grossest grammatical errors; as we hate prodigiously to publish, from any corres-

pendent, language which does not conform, in a good measure, to the requirements of syntax. For any remaining offences, therefore, against grammatical rules and the rules of good taste, our readers will consider, that the writer, and not the editor, is responsible.

In regard to the matter of the communication and its bearing on ourselves, we will trouble our readers with only a few remarks. In the first place, Prof. C.'s new version of the circumstances of his "eastern operations" and of the influences to which they are due, implicates individuals who are "of age" and can speak in defence of themselves, if they choose. So far as we are concerned, we regret that disposition, constantly manifested, on the part of the Professor, to misconstrue some acts of forbearance and kindness on our part, and to represent them as the result of motives the most diverse from those which actually existed. He complains of our perverting facts and giving wrong motives. If we have done so, we have not yet been able to see it.

As to Prof. C.'s account of the deliberations at Cincinnati, it, for aught we know, may be substantially correct. When, however, he represents, that the arrangement was for three of the Cincinnati gentlemen to unite with three of the Worcester School in conducting the Course of Lectures either in Boston or Worcester, his language is adapted greatly to mislead the uninformed reader. The truth is, the Circular, which was issued from Cincinnati and carefully sent all over New England where it could be introduced, attended with numerous private letters from Prof. C.,—while we were studiously kept uninformed, no Circular nor letter having been sent us by those concerned,—proposed, that *more than three* of their number should come East, while it left *one* Professorship only vacant, and assured the public that *that* would, in due time, be filled by an able gentleman. It was not, in the slightest degree, intimated, who that *able gentleman* should be. It is true, that, when the time for commencing the Lectures had nearly arrived and the delegated member of the Western Faculty had reached this place, it was *graciously* proposed to us, that *we* might fill that vacancy, *on the specific condition*, that the Worcester Faculty should disband, and that the Lectures of the new Faculty should be given in Boston. We thought then and we think still, that this was not a proposition for *union*, but *emphatically one for annexation*.

Now, who is entitled to the credit of having devised this apparently artful scheme, or who was specially in fault in the conduct of the negotiation we will not attempt to decide. Comparatively, we care not. Suffice it to say, that the thing at the time *looked bad*. After it had gone by, however, and we were assured, by one of Prof. C's associates and others, that he had expressed the deepest regret for the measure,—that he had been heard to say, that he would give a thousand dollars if things could be placed back where they were before he left Ohio, &c., our views of what would be his policy in future were so far modified, that we were willing for him to be associated with us in carrying forward the interests of our School. Our motives, we did not deny, were drawn from his popularity with the more strictly Thomsonian portion of our friends. As a scientific Lecturer, on any branch of medicine, we did not consider him “of much account;” and the more substantial portion of our friends, we knew, did not want him.

Here we may properly enough allude to a remark of Galei, to which Dr. C. takes exceptions. Galei speaks of the “doctrines taught in Worcester” as having been “satisfactory to the reformers in New England, except that they were thought to be a little too strongly Thomsonian.” The truth is (and we have no wish to conceal it), that from the first there has been, among the friends of the Worcester Institution, some diversity of medical opinion. Individuals have declared themselves in our favor, who yet have entertained no more adequate notions of medical science than are involved in any acquaintance with a mere routine method of practice. To retain such friends, we, of course, have been willing to use all honorable means; but we have, at the same time, endeavored to convince them of the importance of our School's inculcating a more elevated system of medicine. By far the greater portion, however, of those who have fostered the Institution to the present time, have given their undivided influence in favor of enlightened instructions, according to our views of a sanative medication. It was this class, doubtless which Galei had specially in mind, when he penned his remark; and, of this class, it is strictly true. Just here, it may be proper for us to say, that the conjecture, we understand, has been started, either that Galei is identical with ourselves, or

that he wrote at our suggestion. Neither of these conditions is true. The writer prepared his article, without any prompting from us, or even our knowing that he was about it, till immediately before it was received for publication.

As to what Dr. C. says, boastfully, about "the true doctrines of fever and inflammation, and the unity of disease",—about "an accurate definition of fever, inflammation, and disease, with a clear exhibition of their characters and tendencies", as necessarily coming "*from him*" if "from any body", they not being "found in the Journal," nor "given in the Lectures" at Worcester,—we admit that *his* doctrines of fever and inflammation are not disseminated in the Journal nor taught in our School; and we pray God they never may be. We regard them as superlative nonsense and absurdity; and we hope it is, indeed, true, that they can be gathered from no other source than the doctor himself,—for then they will, at longest, live only during his stay on earth. That "disease is," in some sense, "a unit," we believe; but, we ask, of what practical importance is this abstract truth? Suppose we say, that the christian religion is a unit, the science of music is a unit, the art of drawing is a unit;—we may utter truths in these expressions, but who is the wiser for them? We confess, that, years since, we became perfectly disgusted with that *Thomsonian cant*, everlastingly subjected to our hearing, but conveying no definite instruction.

As to the charge of our using poisons, as remedial agents,—if the term poison is employed, in its proper signification with proper qualifications, we deny it. It would extend this article too much here to enter into a full discussion of the matter. Suffice it to say, that, if, in some cases, we have recommended nitrate of silver as a caustic, Dr. Curtis, we believe, uses the caustic potash; and what, we ask, is the difference? If the object is, for a specific purpose, to cauterize or destroy living tissue, what does it matter, whether it is done by one agent or another—even by the knife itself,—so that the purpose is effected, without constitutional injury? Surely, it is not in past centuries only, that men have strained out gnats and swallowed camels. In this connexion, we can hardly forbear an allusion to the vanity of Prof. C., in styling himself "the most strenuous advocate of innocent medication," and in asserting, that

our friends can obtain *from him only* "something efficient to cure, and correct principles to guide in its selection and application." How supremely ridiculous!

Here we must be indulged in saying one word respecting the doctor's account of the circumstances under which he retired from his "eastern operations" in 1848. He says, "We quietly delivered our Lectures, resolving not to return, and, of course, scarcely told any body what we were about." Now we simply ask, how this statement accords with the well known fact, that every effort was made to *drum up*, students, so that, at least, a small Class might be gathered to listen to the Lectures, which Class finally numbered *seventeen*, though, at the opening of the Lectures, they were delivered to a popular audience, there not being a single student in regular attendance. Again, the doctor speaks of having declined liberal offers in Boston, on condition of his "returning and locating there." We will only say, that this statement does not, at all, accord with *credible information* given us, in regard to his *pushing* his efforts to the utmost, and finally failing to secure a location and sufficient evidence of patronage. As to his being "offered by a gentlemen who was a prominent and influential member of the Legislature; that" he "should have a good charter the next Session," any body can see, that this statement is incorrect. That "gentleman" did not know, that he should have a place in the next Legislature; and, if he should, he could not promise personally to control the whole body. Notwithstanding Prof. C's assertions to the contrary, many in New England will always believe, that he retired from his "operations" among us, because he was, in an important sense, *compelled* to do so.

As to his being "called in different directions for Lectures and advice, fifty miles from Boston, paid good fees," &c.,—it may have been so. It may have been, that he carried "home several hundred dollars worth of books and apparatus for the College" at Cincinnati; but we would respectfully inquire whether that College ever received *one cent's* worth of what the doctor transported "*home.*"

As to any correspondence between the doctor and ourselves, while he was at Lancaster, N. H.,—our "long reply" (to a letter

of his), "fraught with misstatements of facts, perversion of motives, and a tirade of personal abuse," we would be very glad to have the whole affair presented before the public mind, that every one may judge for himself on which side the wrong existed. But we fear, that our game, when secured, will not pay for the ammunition expended; and we will, therefore, for the present, consume no more powder. Indeed, unless some future call shall be *impe-rious*, we shall not again allude to this unwelcome subject.

EDITORIAL BENIGNITY.

Dr. J. T. Coxe, who has recently become editor of the Southern Medical Reformer, published at Macon, Georgia, after exhorting the friends of the paper to sustain it "by writing able essays," thus modestly speaks of his individual ability. "As for ourself, we are in good harness for the trip through the present and next volume." Well, we are glad to be informed beforehand, that the cause of medical reform has so able an advocate,—one whose mind is already so exuberantly stored, that it will take two years to come to spread out the whole contents before the public.

We are, however, more especially delighted, that *we* are to receive some direct favors, the value of which, we trust, we shall not overlook. The lessons of instruction, we perceive, are to relate principally to matters of personal appearance and social etiquette. We shall prize these lessons the more, inasmuch as we are fully aware of a liability, on our part, to transgress, a little, the rules of propriety. We are a plain man, and have never enjoyed the advantages of some of our editorial brethren.

Nor is this all. We feel constrained, even now, to return our warmest thanks to Dr. Coxe for that practical illustration of the rules of rhetoric and good taste, which the following two sentences contain. "We shall pay our respects, occasionally, to some of our mushroom neighbors, who have, of late, become a little *too big for their breeches*. We have a thumping big Yankee in our mind's eye, that deserves a glorious raking, and he shall have it in due season."

Aside, however, from the rhetorical instruction which we gain from this quotation, we will just say, in regard to our prospects for decency of mien in future, that our tailor has recently manufactured for us a very large and strong pair of *doe-skin pants*; out of which, we are in hope we shall not grow, to our mortification, till we shall receive the full benefit of that reducing process which the doctor's benevolence is prompting him soon to apply.

HILL'S SURGERY.

We have on hand a few copies of this valuable work, and will send it to any practitioner, in this vicinity, who may choose to forward us the requisite amount of the needful, \$3,50. This is only \$0,50 in advance of the publisher's price at Cincinnati, and is as low as it can be afforded here.

To say the least, this work contains many important suggestions, in regard to the treatment of surgical diseases, not elsewhere to be found. No practising physician should be without it.

BUCKTHORN A REMEDY FOR CANCERS.

In the 4th volume of our Journal, page 195, we designed to publish a remedy for cancers, recommended by Dr. David Forshee of Warwick, N. Y. He has since informed us, that, instead of the *berries*, he intended to recommend the *bark* of the buckthorn [*rhamnus catharticus*]. He does not know, whether the berries possess the same efficacy as the bark. The presumption, on our part, is, that they do. At any rate, we have used them with very satisfactory effect.

Another friend recommends the use of the buckthorn and common sarsaparilla [*aralia nudicaulis*], in equal parts, to be taken internally and persevered in, for a long time. He says, that this compound will effect a cure. We think, that it is advantageously employed, both internally as a drink and locally as a wash.

NEW ENGLAND
BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL
JOURNAL.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

VOL. V.

WORCESTER, MASS., JUNE 1, 1851.

NO. 6.

Communications.

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PROFESSOR BURNHAM'S ADDRESS,

Introductory to his Course of Lectures on Surgery, in the Worcester Medical Institution, in 1851.

—
PRELIMINARY CORRESPONDENCE.

PROF. BURNHAM;—

Dear Sir,—The members of the Class of the Worcester Medical Institution to whom you yesterday delivered your Introductory Lecture,—unwilling to trust, to memory or their notes, its valuable suggestions, and being desirous of communicating to our friends, the opinions which you (in common with the rest of our Faculty) entertain, in regard to progress in medicine, and the position of our own and other Schools in relation to it,—have voted to request a copy of the Lecture for publication in the New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal.

The undersigned, a Committee appointed for that purpose, in preferring their request, earnestly hope you will not allow any scruples about offering to the community at large the remarks prepared for and adapted to a Class of students in medicine, to prevent you from granting it.

Very respectfully yours,

WM. L. DUNTON,
N. L. TRUE,
N. R. MARTIN.

PROF. W. BURNHAM, M. D.

Worcester, Mass., April 16th, 1851.

GENTLEMEN ;—

Permit me to express my thanks to you, and the Class whom you represent, for the honor implied in your complimentary request, for a copy of my Introductory Address for publication. It was not written with the expectation of its being published. I, however, cheerfully comply with your request.

Yours, very respectfully,

WALTER BURNHAM.

To MESSRS.

WM. L. DUNTON, }
N. L. TRUE, } *Committee.*
N. R. MARTIN, }

Worcester, April 21st, 1851.

A D D R E S S .

The importance of the medical profession has been felt and its dignity acknowledged, in all ages and in every country ; because the severity of pain and the dread of death have been coeval and co-extensive with the human race.

The members of the profession have been, in all ages, devoted to the best interests of their fellow men ; for their object has ever been that of preserving the health, and of alleviating the sufferings of mankind. Not confining themselves to the limits of the medical sciences alone, they have, by enlarging the whole circle of *arts* and sciences, contributed their full share to the elevation of the human race. Professor Haddock said very truly, that "letters and taste have found many of their brightest ornaments among the members of a profession distinguished above the rest, for activity by day and vigilance by night. But unfortunately for us, the perfection of the science of medicine and surgery is in proportion neither to the energy and talents with which it has been prosecuted ; nor to its age ; nor even to the revolutions it has undergone. By

the study of nature's own laws and operations, as applicable to the science of medicine, it is to be hoped and confidently expected, that there will be fewer changes both in doctrines and in practice. If all who engage in the cultivation of the science of medicine be properly zealous in their exertions, and true to the trust they assume, the period is not far distant, when the charge of our profession's being a conjectural art will cease to be applicable.

And permit me here to remark, that it is of vast importance that those, who are about to commence the study and practice of medicine, should begin with correct ideas of the most advantageous course to be pursued in search of professional distinction; since the value of medical talent is becoming more generally understood and the claims of Eclectic medicine are now acknowledged and appreciated by all the thinking and investigating part of the community.

“To lose time by misdirected application is an evil, but to acquire deep-rooted and injurious prejudices relative to the science of medicine is an almost irretrievable misfortune, of the magnitude of which we can scarcely form an adequate idea.”

I trust, gentlemen, that ere long some man, from our own ranks, strong, deep, truthful and clear, may be found, who will be able to present before us a complete and full work on the adaptation of Eclectic medicine, with all its advantages and resources in its application,—that he will be able to present, earnestly and faithfully, whatever is necessary for the accomplishment of a complete medical and surgical education.

For more than twenty years, I have watched with careful observation the progress of medical heresy and delusions, in connection with the state of medical science, and also the condition of the medical profession; and I am fully of the opinion, that, in a very great degree, the cause of so much empiricism and quackery in our country, must be attributed, not so much to a diseased public mind, as to the mistaken course of the profession generally. For, had medical men kept pace with the improvements which have been made in the other arts and sciences, during this period, the profession would never have fallen from the high estimation in which it was once held. If we trace back the history of medicine,

we shall find, that, when the profession as a body, have been thoroughly educated in all known improvements, and ready to contribute their efforts to elevate the scale of medical literature, and especially when they have been united in demanding of their associates a high standard of medical information, *empiricism*, at no period, has been able to advance, or, in any degree, to embarrass the progress of medical science. But, when there is a disposition among the greater proportion of medical men, to neglect that further acquirement of knowledge, which would enable them to keep pace with the improvements that have been made in medical science, and to be satisfied with mediocrity of attainments in their profession, nothing less can be expected, than the encouragement and fostering of empiricism; for the legitimate tendency of such a state of the profession is to lower the standard of medical science in the estimation of the intelligent non-professional world. Relying on my own observations and judgment, I am clearly of the opinion, that the greatest influence which has favored empiricism in our State, and consequently has operated to hinder the progress of medical science, has been the united movement of the Massachusetts Medical Society, who have not been actuated by the noble desire of elevating their art, but have put their faces against all improvements; either because any advancement in the science would expose their own deficiencies, or because, perchance, they were not the first to introduce them, and were consequently robbed of the honors. "It is however a gratifying reflection, for those of our ranks, who believe that medical science is progressive and who are honestly laboring in the cause of its advancement, that the number of *that class of practitioners,—men who are bound to the dogmas of the profession, who are too indolent to read, and too obstinate to improve, is rapidly decreasing.*"

The science of medicine is vast, almost beyond the first conception of any man. It comprises nearly all the branches of natural science, directly or collaterally; and he who writes himself *doctor in medicine* tells us by implication, that he at least possesses the general principles of many sciences, each of which is individually comprehensive enough to require more than the life-time of one man to grasp its particulars. But the great object of our prepara-

tory studies is to acquire a sufficient stock of knowledge to make it safe for us to study in the great school of experience; in other words, the object of your course is to gain such an acquaintance with the facts and principles on which our art is founded, as will justify the proper tribunals in placing your names on the roll of those, who may, without injury to society, become responsible for the lives and health of our fellow creatures.

The motto of the Worcester Medical Institution is *progression*. That *new temple of science* yonder, is soon to be dedicated—to what?—*to truth!* Every new truth will be hailed, by its Faculty, with sincere welcome, from whatever source it may originate. Your Professors have pledged themselves to cultivate every improvement in medical science, with a *zealous devotion*; but they will not exert any influence to crush men, who promise superior attainments or develop original powers. It is not necessary to recall how often the labors of the greatest benefactors of mankind have been rewarded by the persecutions of the envious—the bitter hostility of those malignant spirits that can endure no rivalry, while they are incapable themselves of supplying any thing original, valuable, or new, to the general stock of professional knowledge.

“One of the greatest ornaments, and, at the same time, greatest safeguards to society is an Institution of learning, distinguished for soundness of doctrine, and yet characterized by a spirit of liberality and kindness towards worth and genius.” And such, gentlemen, it is designed shall the Worcester Medical Institution be. Here the *known errors in medicine*, however *popular*, will be rigidly rejected; and a liberality, and charitableness will be extended to those who *attempt* any improvement in the science. The object of the profession will be to teach *truth*, to encourage *worth*, and to stimulate *genius*. We do not expect to teach students all that is known in all the branches of medical science. It is impossible in the very nature of things; but we propose to put you in possession of the elements or outlines of the science of medicine,—to put you in possession of the leading facts of each department,—and to instruct you to deduce, from these facts, the rules by which you shall govern your professional conduct, and qualify you to perform all the duties pertaining to the profession. The great object of a

student in medicine should not be merely to obtain a degree. Though that is evidence of previous industry and actual acquirements, yet the possession of a degree does not impart talent or genius. The great object of the student should be, strenuously to gain knowledge, to fill the mind with the treasures of the science, and to exert an industry in the way which will best fit him for the discharge of the high and responsible duties of the profession; and such opportunities as are presented to you, at this period of your lives, can rarely, if ever, be enjoyed a second time.

Little will it avail, either in relieving your patients or in consoling you for the loss of professional reputation, produced by the neglect of opportunities, that you are able to say, you have been honored with the degree of doctor in medicine, from the best Institution in the world. In becoming students of medicine, you have placed yourselves in a condition of much responsibility; and you have virtually pledged yourselves to make the most persevering exertions, to display all possible talent, and strive for a distinguished reputation. To redeem this pledge will show an honorable ambition, elevated feelings, and high moral worth.

Wealth and distinction are obtained, by the medical profession, only at the price of industry and merit, in the faithful discharge of all our duties. In the language of the distinguished Dr. Godman of Philadelphia, "really meritorious efforts cannot go altogether unrewarded, nor can the fire of genius be entirely smothered. The time must come when perseverance in the conscientious discharge of high duties will secure the remuneration and respect it is entitled to. The mind that has been wrought up by the study of proper objects, and is sustained by a determined enthusiasm to effect great purposes, may, for a time, weigh down by poverty or misfortune; but, like the giant of ancient fable, its struggles will convulse the superincumbent mass, and must eventually shake off every hindrance to perfect success."

In relation to the course of instruction which I design to present to you, and in compliance with the expectations of the officers of the College, I shall in the first place, endeavor to instruct you in those great principles which will enable you to anticipate, with accuracy, the result of the unassisted operations of nature, in all

the various circumstances attending injuries of the body by accident, or such diseases as come within the department of surgery ; and shall, also, show what general principles are brought to bear in the employment of the means of cure, the manner in which these means produce their results, and the nature and laws of each particular case of disease, accident, or injury, in the practice of surgery. I shall endeavor to furnish every facility for the acquisition of a perfect knowledge of all the various principles and laws, and the various articles of medicine incident to surgical practice ; so that you shall become familiar, at the onset, with every case, which may, at any time, come under your observation. I shall also present to you all the modern improvements and discoveries. I shall occasionally refer you to the abuse of many remedies in use in surgical practice, and thus forewarn you of errors which you will be able to avoid. It is important to become familiar with those general principles, from which natural rules, such as will be useful in almost every case of emergency or danger, will be spontaneously educed. It is not possible for any one to excel by a mere acquaintance with the dogmatic directions of others.

The knowledge of general principles and the nature of the cause of each particular case are necessary, that the surgeon should be capable of modifying and adapting rules to the ever varying circumstances and occurrences of disease and accident. "A profound knowledge of surgery is a matter of inestimable value in the practice of medicine. So, also, is a true and thorough acquaintance with the whole art of medicine an essential prerequisite to a skilful practice of surgery."

In every case of injury or accident, and in all cases of operative surgery, the different stages of the inflammatory process must prevail. It, therefore, becomes necessary, before engaging in the practice of surgery, in any of its bearings, to understand thoroughly all the changes which the system undergoes by the process of inflammation, and the use and operation of remedial agents. The man who operates or addresses himself to an important injury, without a full knowledge of the pathology of inflammation, and the various changes which different tissues undergo during the stages of the inflammatory process, will be about as successful

as would be a blacksmith in arranging and putting in order a broken watch, or a quadrant.

If you would succeed in operative surgery, an accurate knowledge of anatomy is necessary. It is not enough that you should be acquainted with the skeleton merely, nor with the muscles, nor with the arteries, or nerves; but you must be familiar with all these organizations, as they occur in their relations to each other. To do this, you have a rare opportunity and ample means under the instruction of your able and accomplished Professor of Anatomy. I am very happy to know, that, in his course thus far, he has given particular attention to surgical anatomy; as, in consequence, you are now prepared to receive demonstrations in operative surgery, without danger of confusion or sad mistakes. No one can make an accomplished operator, unless he looks at all the consequences, both good and bad, before he engages in the execution of his purpose. He should possess an accurate knowledge of the anatomy and character of the disease and of the relative position of every important organ or vessel which may have an influence, or be involved in the operation, or the progress of the future treatment. He should be able to lay his plans as far as possible, so as to avoid every circumstance which can, in any way, produce any unnecessary pain, or retard the ultimate recovery of the patient. In short, no pains should be spared, by the student who intends to practice surgery, to make himself master of whatever belongs to this branch of his profession. He should carefully study each individual operation, in its most minute circumstances. He should become familiar with all the anatomical relations, and learn also to be dexterous in the use of the knife, and all other instruments that may be required to complete the operation. Nor is this all that is necessary. To be successful as an operator, regard must be had to those habits of life which will preserve a steadiness of nerve, and by which every motion of the knife or other instrument may be directed with accuracy. A surgeon, too, should possess an active and energetic mind, and a readiness of tact, which will enable him to meet any unforeseen difficulties that may arise in the progress of an operation.

Before determining on even the smallest operation, you should

well consider all the accidents which may possibly follow, and consequently what danger may ensue. The patient, also, and his immediate friends should be made fully acquainted with all the dangers consequent upon the operation, as far as you can be able to judge. Among the accidents which may occur and which should always be borne in mind, perhaps hemorrhage is of the first importance. A patient may die instantly from a large flow of blood; or, with a moderate flow, he may continue to bleed until a degree of exhaustion is produced from which it is impossible for him to recover. To avoid every danger from this source, whatever may be your own skill, you should always be provided with a competent assistant.

It is recommended by some surgeons to perform amputations without a tourniquet, relying on the pressure of an assistant's thumb upon the principal artery. Now this may prevent a flow of blood from the femoral or humeral artery; but there are many smaller vessels which can be controlled only by the ligature; and, in many cases of enfeebled constitutions, the loss of blood, from these sources might prove fatal, or at least injurious. In connection with this subject, an inquiry should always be made, whether the patient has any constitutional or hereditary predisposition to hemorrhage, which it might require extraordinary measures to control, or which would demand the most careful watching to prevent its occurrence at a subsequent period.

Another cause of fatal results, at the time or immediately after an operation, is the severe shock, which, under certain circumstances, it may occasion to the nervous system. Much may be done, towards preventing any bad result from this cause, by thoroughly investigating the case first. It rarely happens, that you may not avoid an anticipate danger, by suitably supporting the patient's strength with the administration of proper stimulants. The anæsthetics, also, are powerful, and very valuable remedies to prevent the severe effects of an operation upon the nervous system. There are sources of danger which attend even the least important operations, which do not manifest themselves until a later period. These should not be forgotten or overlooked. The effect of any local injury depends, first, on the nature and extent of

the injury itself ; and, secondly, on the condition of the individual, at the time of the injury's being inflicted. In one state of the constitution, the slightest and simplest operation may produce ill consequences, which even the largest and most complicated operation would not produce, in another ; and the careful surgeon should look well into the causes of this difference, and make himself familiar with all the circumstances on which his success or failure may depend. Being able to anticipate an evil in any case, you may, by timely interference with proper treatment, often prevent it. Besides, if you consider well the evils which may possibly arise, you may better determine how far you may be justified in encountering them. An operation, however slight, may be followed by severe phlegmonous inflammation ; and, although you would not expect this to follow a majority of operations, yet you will be justified in expecting it to occur in many instances. You will most frequently meet with it in persons who have lived rather high, yet not, perhaps, very intemperately, and in those whose occupation has subjected them to frequent exposures to heat and cold. Where an inflammation of this character succeeds an operation, it not unfrequently happens, that, in spite of every effort, it terminates in extensive suppuration, destruction of the periosteum, and consequent death of the bone, to a greater or less extent.

But the most dangerous and by far the most perplexing inflammations which occur after surgical operations, are not of the phlegmonous character. They are of a low asthenic character, always connected with a depressed state of the general system, and requiring a very different course of treatment from those of which I have just spoken. The most common is exanthematous erysipelas, and there is no greater source of danger to patients than this ; nor is there a greater source of perplexity and mortification to a surgeon, after an operation, than arises from the occurrence of this disease, showing itself, as it does, not only after the most severe and complicated operations, but after those which are regarded as the most trifling. You may, perhaps, feel perfectly secure after an operation ; it may be, that the wound which you have made is healing favorably, and you suppose that your labors are nearly at a close ; when, on visiting your patient, for the last dressing,

you find him laboring under a degree of erysipelas which endangers his life, and keeps your mind in a state of anxiety and suspense for a long time.

Inflammations of this character are to be anticipated where there is previously a depressed and debilitated condition of the patient's constitution. And this depressed condition is frequently the result of a continued exposure to a cold damp atmosphere. It is, consequently, more frequently met with in spring and fall than in summer and winter; and in temperate climates more frequently than within the tropics. It is more likely to occur, also, in those who have lost an unusual quantity of blood, during an operation, or have been kept on a very low or unwholesome system of diet. When you are aware of the danger of erysipelas from these causes, you may succeed in preventing it, by the timely administration of such diet and stimulants as will be adapted to each particular case.

Allow me here, gentlemen, to forewarn you against keeping your patients on too low a diet, for a long time after operations, unless you wish to meet with frequent cases of erysipelas. Under the same condition of the system, you may sometimes meet, too, with inflammation of the veins, which is even a more formidable difficulty than erysipelas; inasmuch as, when once begun, it is very little, if at all, under the control of remedies.

Another source of mischief, after surgical operations, is what is called gangrenous inflammation; that is, an inflammation that proceeds, almost immediately, to a termination in gangrene and sloughing. This assumes a different character, in different cases, each of which will be pointed out to you in its proper place, hereafter. This, too, is always an indication of a low depressed state of the constitution, and seldom occurs, except in those who have been habitually intemperate in the use of distilled, or strong fermented liquors. In persons of such habits, I would always avoid operations, except from absolute necessity.

Besides the various sources of danger after operations connected with the different kinds of inflammation, others, not less important, are connected with derangement of the functions of the nervous system. Among these, I should mention tetanus. Though,

in this climate, we rarely meet with it, yet, at the south, and in the torrid zone, it is of frequent occurrence. You will sometimes meet with what is called traumatic mania, attending or following operations upon patients previously debilitated and rendered irritable by long continued and severe pain. Of this, a minute description will be given in its proper place. As a general rule, the existence of organic disease in any organ that is concerned with the vital functions, should be regarded as a great objection to a surgical operation of any considerable magnitude. Nothing but the most pressing necessity should induce you to operate under such circumstances. Still, when there is a justifiable necessity for it, you should never shrink from acting promptly, and doing what the nature of the case requires.

In conclusion, gentlemen, allow me to say, if you would be successful and distinguished in your profession, and if you wish to secure a permanent claim upon the respect and esteem of the public, generally, you must drink deep at the source of each branch of your profession. Every man who devotes himself sincerely to a laudable profession becomes a public benefactor; and much more so do they who acquire the greatest share of knowledge in all the known improvements in medicine and surgery. It is this which converts the physician into a minister of mercy, and enables the scientific surgeon to preserve, in life, health, and usefulness, valued members of society.

THE EXPANDING PRINCIPLE OF BODIES.

Why are bodies at the same temperature, sometimes solid, sometimes liquid, and sometimes gaseous?

The attraction existing between atoms of one kind is stronger than that existing between those of another. This may arise from the nature and constitution of the atoms themselves, or from their differences of magnitude; for, supposing what is highly probable, that the attraction of cohesion is the same as the attraction of gravitation, or, at most, is but a slight modification of it, the force with which these atoms cohere will depend upon the force with

which they are attracted towards the earth, and consequently upon the magnitude of the atoms themselves. Now the force which is to displace these atoms, and set them at a larger liberty, must be more than equal to the attractive force which binds them together.

Since the particles of caloric repel each other, its absorption must inevitably expand the body in which the absorption takes place, as a consequence of the indivisibility of atoms. The facility, therefore, with which bodies expand, depends on the strength of the attraction of its integrant particles for one another, as compared with the repelling force of the calorific particles. The infusion of caloric into a body sets into operation two antagonistic forces, one of which tends to neutralize the action of the expansive force of the caloric.

Let us make use of this principle in the solution of our problem. Let us suppose, that bodies were entirely destitute of heat; in other words, that the subtile ether which now pervades the universe, and which we call caloric, were annihilated. Let us suppose atoms to be still endowed, in a greater or less degree, with an attraction for one another. Solidity then, in a greater or less degree, might safely be predicated of every assemblage of atoms. Let us now suppose, that caloric were called into existence, and that it were everywhere equally diffused. Adopting the theory of undulations, the waves of caloric, striking against the perforated surfaces of bodies, would ooze through, and first fill up the interstices between the atoms; and the body would still retain its solid form. But the moment the interstices are filled up, a struggle commences between the binding force of cohesive attraction, and the loosening force of calorific repulsion. The weaker the attractive force, the sooner will the repelling force gain the victory, and the more rapidly will the body expand, and its particles be separated from one another, until the body passes from a solid into a liquid form, and, ultimately, if a sufficient amount of caloric be infused, into a gaseous. Thus we see, that of different bodies, containing the same amount of caloric, in consequence of the different degrees of attraction which their particles have for one another respectively, some are solid, others liquid, and others gaseous.

This principle is beautifully illustrated in the conduction of

bodies ; e. g. the extremity of an iron rod is thrust into the fire. The atmosphere of heat round the molecules of iron being deepened, the repelling force of the caloric must be expended somewhere. The calorific particles find it easier to be led along through the rod, than to overcome the power of cohesive attraction between the molecules of iron ; and thus, rather than exert their expansive power, they choose to follow the laws of conduction.

G. D. B.

THE POLARIZATION OF ATOMS.

Are the attractive forces of atoms equally diffused, or are they gathered into centres ?

Crystalization, or a tendency to crystalize may be predicated of every solid. Of course, circumstances affect the facility with which the crystalizing process takes place, in different instances. Certain heated bodies, if allowed to cool slowly and quietly, invariably take on a regular arrangement, in reference to their atoms. Of course, there must be a force somewhere which compels these atoms to assume this regular form. Evidently, this force is not the simple force of cohesive attraction. Whence then does this tendency to crystalize originate ?

Suppose a body to be governed by no law, save that of gravitation. Its atoms, in that case, would be heaped upon one another indiscriminately. Now, suppose the atoms to be endowed with attractions for one another, and for particles of caloric ; and suppose their attractive forces to be equally diffused throughout the atoms, caloric would be equally diffused throughout the body, so that all its atoms would be surrounded separately by calorific atmospheres of equal depths ; the body would undergo simple expansion ; the position of its atoms, considered in reference to one another, would remain unchanged ; and the body could be broken or divided, in one way as easily as in another. But, suppose the attractions of the atoms for caloric, instead of being equally diffused throughout the atoms, to be gathered into certain centres ; in other words, adopting the theory of polarization, suppose the

atoms to be crossed by polarized axes, it is evident, that more caloric would be condensed around the poles of these axes, than around the parts more remote from them. These atoms would be constantly seeking each other; and, if a sufficient quantity of caloric be infused into the body to allow of its atoms moving with any degree of mobility, crystalization would be the inevitable result. Of course, the angles and faces of the crystals will depend upon the number of the axes, and their peculiar relations to one another.

The fact, that certain bodies are divided more easily in one direction than in another, and the phenomena of double refraction, as shown in Iceland felspar, are explicable only on the theory of atomic polarization.

G. D. B.

CLERICAL ENCOURAGEMENT.

PROF. C. NEWTON:—

It is with great pleasure I am permitted to peruse, from time to time, your invaluable Journal. I wish, my dear sir, a copy could be placed in every family in this State. Why do not the people generally take such works? It is not because they are not useful; nor because no interest is felt in the subject of medicine. Perhaps one reason is, such works have been rather dry and uninteresting to the generality of persons, and have been thought to belong to physicians alone. It is not so. Medical works should be perused by the people; and, as to the dulness of them generally, I can say they are not all so. There are those now that are interesting to all. I refer especially to the New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal. The difficulty to which reference is made, was at first, no doubt, anticipated by the Editor; and it has been obviated, by giving to the people a Journal which is just what the physician needs, while the "common people" read it "gladly." This, I suppose, has ever been the character of the work. Thousands have read it with great pleasure. It seems to be placed on a permanent basis, and every number will be full of matter, rich and instructive,

As a minister, I feel the subject of health to be one of great importance. It concerns me and mine. Placed in the midst of a family and having charge of a parish, why should I not feel on this point? He, by whom I profess to have been called into the sacred office, felt an interest in suffering humanity. He opened the eyes of the blind and the ears of the deaf, as well as raised many of the dead to life. Much of his precious time was spent in curing disease. When standing by the dying couch, no one, but my Savior and myself, knows the emotions of my bosom. I feel for the sick. I long to have them recover. Before I am aware, I find myself suggesting the propriety of other remedies, than those which are used and which are not giving the least relief. Thus, Prof. Newton, I go from one sick room to another, gazing upon the sick and dying. Oh, when will this vast amount of suffering be lessened? When will nature's voice be heard, and that of art and deception silenced? But a change is taking place. The dawn of a glorious day has come,—

‘The darkness disappears.’

The sun of truth is rising, and millions are becoming redeemed. I bless God I live in this age. I wonder, that my life has been spared, while such darkness has held dominion over me. I would acknowledge, with profound reference, what God has done and is now doing, in showing many the true theory of nature.

April 14th, 1851.

A CLERGYMAN.

INTUS-SUSCEPTION.

PROF. NEWTON:—

Dear Sir,—I was called, Oct. 25th, 1850, to visit a lady 71 years of age. She had always enjoyed good health, not having had occasion to take a dose of medicine from a physician for many years. I found her laboring under the following symptoms. Her tongue was slightly coated; her pulse was quick and wiry; there was a pain over the left hip, of a most excruciating character, extending backward toward the left kidney; her urine passed off freely. Her bowels, that morning, had moved as usual; the pain referred to had come on very suddenly; and, after this

had continued for a few hours, the stomach became irritable, rejecting everything introduced.

I proposed to give an emetic to cleanse the stomach; but she was unwilling to take it, or to take anything more than mint teas. I then directed the side to be bathed with a stimulating liniment, and a hot brick to be placed in such a manner as would steam the side. A mild dose of anti-bilious pills was then given, which, after a few hours, produced an evacuation and partially relieved her.

Oct. 26th, I found, that the pain in the side had returned. I ordered warm fomentations to be employed, and an enema to be administered. Again, she was somewhat relieved.

Oct. 27th, she appeared not as well as hitherto. The pain was more intense, and the vomiting continued, with more febrile action. Enemas produced little or no evacuation. It was now very evident, that a stoppage of some character existed. I ordered the use of the vapor bath, which so far relieved her, as to lead us to hope, that the cause was removed. I also gave freely a diaphoretic tea, composed of *ictodes foetida*, *asclepias tuberosa*, and *cypripedium pubescens*. This was as far as I was permitted to go with my prescriptions.

Oct. 28th, she was evidently in a critical situation, and, to appearance, could not endure so much suffering very long. The bath and all other remedies failing to produce any relief, the lady and her friends became very much alarmed. I proposed the calling of counsel. A son, a Homœopathic physician from Brooklyn, N. Y., was sent for. I then ordered an enema of yeast, which was repeated after an hour or two. This so inflated the bowels, that it, to the joy of all, produced perfect relief. No fœcal matter passed with the enema,—indeed, nothing but a small quantity of mucus. The above tea was continued till the febrile action subsided, when simple tonics were given.

The next day, I found her quite comfortable and out of danger. When my Homœopathic friend arrived, he found his mother entirely relieved; and he was so well pleased with Botanic treatment, that he refused to change it. Though I was not permitted to treat this case as I should have done at the commencement, yet, by perseverance in the use of simple remedies, a cure was effected.

CENSORS' MEETING.

The Censors of the Massachusetts Physo-medical Society will hold their semi-annual meeting in one of the Lecture Rooms of the Worcester Medical Institution in Worcester, on Tuesday the 24th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M. Applicants for admission, at that time, into the Society will bear in mind the requirement of the 1st Section of the 2nd Article of the Constitution, which is as follows.

“Any person being an Alumnus of any regularly constituted Medical College or School; and being, at the time of application, not less than twenty-one years of age, of sound mind and of good moral character; and presenting to the President and Recording Secretary satisfactory testimonials of all the preceding qualifications, may become a member of this Society by signing the Constitution in the hands of the Recording Secretary. Or any person not a medical graduate but possessing the other qualifications above specified, may, in like manner, become a member of this Society, on condition of his obtaining, from the Censors of the Society, a certificate, that he has, before them, passed a satisfactory examination in all the branches usually taught in Medical Colleges.”

C. NEWTON, *Chairman.*

WORCESTER DISTRICT PHYSO-MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Those members of the Massachusetts Physo-medical Society now resident in the County of Worcester, are hereby requested to meet at the Worcester Medical Institution in Worcester, on Wednesday, July 2nd, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of organizing themselves into a District Society, as required by the Constitution of the present Society.

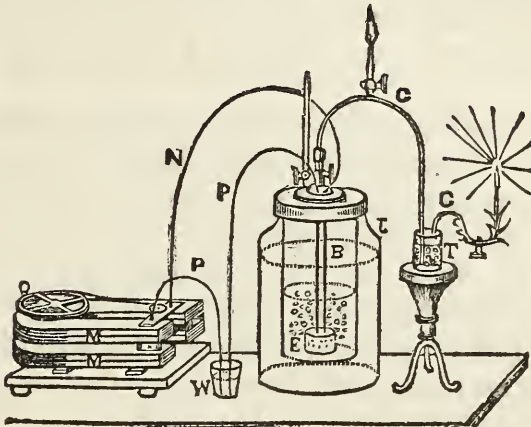
C. NEWTON, *per order.*

Selections.

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From the Boston Daily Evening Transcript.

PAINÉ'S HYDRO-ELECTRIC LIGHT.



H. M. PAINE'S APPARATUS, as described in the following communication:

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| M. M. Permanent Magnets. | H Revolving Helices. | N. Negative Wire. |
| P. P. Positive Wire. | J. Jar of Water. | B. Bell-Glass. |
| E. Electrodes. | T Jar of Turpentine. | W. Tumbler of Water. |
| G. G. Gas Pipes | | |

Mr. Editor: Having been favored—in company with Mr. Huse of this city, Mr. Ames of Springfield, and Mr. Merrick, President of the Gas Company of that city—with a view of Mr. Paine's apparatus for producing light from water, and of witnessing the whole machinery in operation, as well as operating it myself; I yield to the advice of friends in giving publicity to my observations. Although I have been more or less conversant with chemistry and chemical experiments, for the past eight years,—yet, let it not be supposed that I consider myself deeply learned in these matters, because I venture to write upon a subject so full of mysteries and apparent contradictions as Mr. Paine's light. This article is not intended exclusively for the scientific, but for the general reader; and I shall endeavor to give such explanations of the apparatus used by Mr. Paine, that all can understand it.

Mr. Paine claims, among other things, to have discovered a means of increasing the power of a magneto-electric machine, to such an extent that he can decompose water rapidly with it; that he can take a jar of water, and, by means of the electricity induced by this machine, can convert *the whole of it into hydrogen gas,*

without the production of any *oxygen gas*, whatever. He claims, also, that, by changing the electric poles, he can convert the whole of the jar of water into *oxygen gas*, without producing any hydrogen;—that, after producing the hydrogen, as above, and passing it through spirits of turpentine, it becomes *catalyzed*, and then will burn with a clear and brilliant flame—and this too without any loss to the turpentine by the passage of the gas through it. In regard to light, independent of the other applications of the power, Mr. Paine claims to have discovered a means of producing it from water, by electricity at a cost infinitely less than any mode now in operation.

The above are startling propositions,—*can Mr. Paine demonstrate them by practical experiments?* The object of this article is to describe the apparatus used, and the result of the experiments, as they appeared to *me*. I shall not advance or defend any theory.

Before giving the results of the experiments, let me describe the apparatus. This consists of four pieces, all placed upon a pine table or shelf, and in no ways connected with anything else.

FIRST—A common magneto-electric machine, consisting of two permanent horse-shoe magnets about *twelve inches* long. These were placed horizontally on a mahogany frame, about *four inches* apart, one being placed above the other. Between the ends of these magnets were a pair of *helices*, and these so attached to a wheel above, that they could be set into a rapid rotatory motion. The peculiar construction of these helices, from which the immensely increased power is said to be obtained, I will hereafter describe.

SECOND—A large open mouth glass jar, capable of holding twelve quarts. This was a little more than half filled with water. (We tasted the water to satisfy ourselves that it *was* water.) Within this jar was placed a common bell-glass, open at the bottom, and reaching within four inches of the bottom of the large jar. The top of the bell-glass was closed tightly with a brass cap, which extended over it, so as to rest upon the sides of the outer jar. Passing through the cap of the bell-glass, were two wires, which extended down nearly to the bottom of the bell-glass, and these terminated in a circular metallic box, one and a half inches long, and one inch in diameter. This box was hollow, and perforated with small holes in the upper part. The *electrodes*, or points of connection between the poles, were in this box. The water in the jar and bell-glass reached some six inches above the electrodes.

- THIRD—A quart glass jar, half filled with spirits of turpentine. A tube or gas-pipe passed from the top of the bell-glass (above mentioned), and into this jar of turpentine, terminating at the bot-

tom of the turpentine. From the cap which covered the jar of turpentine, another tube or gas-pipe passed to a jet or burner, about twelve inches from the jar.

FOURTH—A common glass tumbler half filled with water.

The above comprised all the apparatus used by Mr. Paine, with the exception of three wires, or rather flat strips of copper, by which he connected the magneto-electric machine with the jar of water. These wires were connected in the following peculiar manner :

The end of one wire was screwed to the *negative* pole of the magnetic machine ; and the other end, to the first of the wires coming up from the electrodes through the top of the bell-glass. A second wire was screwed to the *positive* pole of the magnetic machine, with the other end terminating in the glass of water above mentioned. The third wire was screwed to the bell-glass or rather the second wire which passes through it from the electrodes within, and terminating in the same glass of water, although the wires in the glass did not touch each other. I have spoken of these as wires—they were not wires, but merely thin strips of copper, having the appearance of being rolled out from wire.

Now for the operation of the machinery. Mr. Paine commenced turning the wheel in the magneto-electric machine, and we all looked to see the gas arise from the electrodes in the jar of water but no gas appeared. At length, Mr. Ames discovered that one of the wires, or copper ribands had been detached, or had not been screwed on to the wire at the top of the bell-glass. This being corrected, Mr. Paine again commenced turning the machine, and instantly large bubbles of gas arose from the electrodes, and *filled the jar in less than a minute!* After taking out a stopper from the bell-glass, and allowing several jars full of gas to escape, in order to expel the common air, and prevent an explosion, these were stopped, and the gas forced on through the gas-pipe into the turpentine ; and through this to the jet or burner. Between the jar of water where the gas was generated, and the jar of turpentine, a jet issued from the pipe. This was lighted, and proved to be hydrogen gas. The flame, in front of a window, was so pale that it could not be perceived. We could see it by putting a dark body behind it. While this was burning, the gas was forced along through the turpentine to the other burner. A flame was applied to this, *and a brilliant light was shown!*

Here were two flames, burning at the same time, from the same gas—the first, before passing through the turpentine, burning with a pale, almost imperceptible light,—the second, after passing through the turpentine, burning with a light superior to any gas that I ever

saw before. When the Magnetic Machine was stopped not a bubble of gas would appear in the jar, and the lights went out. This small machine generated gas enough to supply a dozen burners, any one of which I should think sufficient to light a room.

Now, it will naturally be asked, "Could not this tremendous electrical power which decomposed the water, be obtained from some other source, than the magnetic machine?" This question occurred to me before I saw the operation; and I determined, if possible, to satisfy myself upon the subject. I, therefore, with Mr. Paine's full permission, examined the table. I could easily see that no wires or pipes entered the glass jar of water, except the two connected with the magnetic machine. It was therefore to the magnetic machine, that my attention was mainly directed. This machine I took up, and lifted it entirely away from the table—saw that no wires, pipes, or metallic substances whatever had any connection with it from the table. I placed the machine again on the table, and turned the crank, and produced the gas in the jar, in the same manner and with the same success that Mr. Paine had done. Mr. Ames and Mr. Merrick did the same, and we were all satisfied—*perfectly satisfied, that the water was decomposed by the electricity from the magnetic machine, and no where else.* To deny this, we must deny the evidence of our own senses. The gas was also produced faster, by a thousand—yes, ten thousand times, than we had ever seen it before by a similar apparatus! We had also the most positive evidence, that the gas, after passing through turpentine, furnished a brilliant light. The gas produced *appeared* to be hydrogen—we judged by the smell, and the burning;—and yet, *Mr. Paine said, although he called it hydrogen gas, it differed from the ordinary hydrogen.* I asked Mr. Paine why he interrupted the *positive pole* by the glass of water,—why he cut this wire in two, and placed the ends in the glass of water? He said that, unless this was done, both *hydrogen and oxygen* would be generated in the bell-glass; but that, by this means, he only obtained the hydrogen. There appeared to be no oxygen generated by the operation.

As to the amount of turpentine consumed by passing the gas through it, it was impossible for us to determine in the short time—an hour—we were engaged in generating and burning the gas. Mr. Paine stated, that the gas was not *carbonized*, but was *catalyzed*, in passing through the turpentine, and there was no loss to the turpentine by the process. Several gentlemen of high standing in Worcester, a few days previous to our visit, purchased, at a store, a small quantity of turpentine, measuring it accurately; which they took to Mr. Paine's establishment, and passed the gas, produced

by three sets of magnets, through it for several hours, lighting the whole of Mr. Paine's house. The turpentine was again measured at the close, and found to have lost but a tea-spoonful,—only as much as would be lost by evaporation and by turning it from one vessel into another. A certificate was published to that effect.

THE HELICES. Mr. Paine claims, that, by an improved construction of the helices in the magneto-electric machine, he has increased the electrical power of that instrument infinitely—say, *ten thousand fold*—sufficient to produce the wonderful results above described. The peculiar construction of these helices was shown to us, and explained. Before describing them, I should make a remark respecting the *ordinary* helices of a magneto-electric machine. It is well known that the power of an electro-magnetic machine, with the ordinary helices, up to a certain point, depends upon the amount of surface of insulated copper wire in the helices. It is only upon the *surface* of this wire, that the electricity can be conducted.

Mr. Paine's helices differ from the above in this,—that the wire which forms the coil is *made hollow*, being formed by twisting or winding very thin strips of copper, *forming it into a tube*. This wire or tube is then covered with India rubber or gutta percha to insulate it; *and then filled with water*.—This water within the wire, forming the helices, is so arranged as to be brought in contact with the current of electricity induced from the magnets—in the same manner as the wire that surrounds it. Faraday has established the fact, that a very small quantity of water is capable of containing a vast amount of electricity—I think he says, that a single drop of water will contain as much electricity as a thunder cloud—sufficient to burst off the gable end of a house. Just in proportion as the power of the helices is increased to *induce* and *receive* the electric current, so is its power increased to give it off.

Now look at Mr. Paine's arrangement. In the first place, he has a double surface of wire exposed in the helices—an outer and an inner surface. In the next place, he has half a pint of water revolving in his helices, a substance *capable of containing a thousand—yes, ten thousand fold more electricity, than the same bulk of copper wire*. (The above description of Mr. Paine's helices, I have given with his full consent and approbation.)

To this improvement in the construction of the helices, Mr. Paine claims to have increased the power of the magneto-electric machine, so as to produce the wonderful results above described. The experiments which we saw, and in which I think we *could not* be mistaken, would go to show the claim of Mr. Paine to be well founded.

I have here given a plain statement of facts, as they were shown and explained to us, and I leave every one to draw his own conclusions. Whether Mr. Paine can apply his improvement practically on a large scale, sufficient to light a city,—whether he has discovered “*perpetual motion*,”—whether he has discovered a substitute for all other motive powers, and for all other heat; as well as many other things which are claimed by him,—are questions, involving more difficulties, than I feel, at present, competent to solve. I am far from denying, however, that he can do all these things.

Yours, respectfully, G. Q. COLTON.

SOMETHING NEW.

[Since we selected the preceding article for publication, the following has appeared in the Daily Spy of this city, illustrative of further results from Mr. Paine’s inventive genius.]

We had supposed that our fellow citizen, Henry M. Paine, Esq., had pushed invention in the matter of producing light from water, to the “*Ultima Thule*” of science; but it seems our supposition was not correct. Although the patent of the hydro-electric light has been secured, Mr. P. has not remitted his investigations for improvement; and, at last, as the result of these investigations, he has discovered a process of catalyzing the oxygen of the atmosphere and rendering it highly luminiferous at a mere nominal expense, without the cost of machinery, or any other apparatus than an air receiver, capable of holding common air. We saw it in operation last evening in our office, examined it minutely, catalyzed the oxygen ourself, and read by the light so produced, which is equal, if not superior, to the best gas burned in the cities. The flame is peculiarly white and brilliant, burns with a clear steady light, is entirely inodorous; and, during the half hour that we watched its operation, we could see no consumption of the catalyzing material. The whole apparatus which we saw could not have cost more than a couple of dollars, and it was capable of furnishing all the light needed for the illumination of an ordinary-sized room.

[From the Western Journal of Medicine and Surgery.]

A CASE OF TRAUMATIC TETANUS AND RECOVERY.

BY THEODORE S. BELL, M. D., LOUISVILLE, KY.

A young man named John Varali, aged twenty-two years, called at my office in the latter part of October, on account of a severe wound of the hand, which had been inflicted with a circular saw. The thumb was severely cut, the first bone being crushed into fine spiculæ; and two of the fingers were injured in a less degree. Feeling anxious to save the injured members, I dressed each one with the roller bandage. The hope of success did not rest upon a very firm foundation, for the young man had been unhealthy from infancy. He has, for many years, been subject to a singular species of chorea. But the wounds referred to seemed to do very well for some days, and the treatment—by the bandage—was continued for two weeks. About the end of that time, the thumb was threatened with gangrene, and, in spite of quinine, wine, and nutritious diet, the end of the thumb was destroyed by mortification. But, at the point of separation, healthy pus was found, and the condition of the granulations was promising. Fomentations were constantly applied to the thumb for several days, but trismus manifested itself in the third week of the wound. The fingers were entirely healed at the time the trismus commenced. The trismus was accompanied by all the symptoms that are usually present in such cases. The jaws were rigid; the tongue stiff; the deglutition of liquid, even, was a matter of great difficulty; and there was stricture of the chest.

After the spasmodic condition of the jaw was well established, emprosthotonos and opisthotonos manifested their presence by unmistakable signs; and, in a considerable experience with tetanus, I have never seen these convulsive actions as constant and severe, in any other case. There were times when the face of the patient was drawn nearly to his toes; at other times, the back of the head was thrown nearly to the heels. The convulsive action was so great, that a table, standing near the patient, was often thrown across the room, by the sudden accession of a spasm. The patient sometimes sat in a large rocking chair, and was held in it during the spasm; at other times he sat on a lounge, near the partition wall, and the opisthotonos was so violent that a hole was broken through the partition, on one occasion, by the backward movement of the head. The sufferings of the patient were beyond anything I have ever witnessed. He had no rest day or night; and, for weeks, neither the trismus, the opisthotonos, nor emprosthotonos seemed to yield in any degree.

In the early part of the tetanic features, my own sufferings with a carbuncle on the left hand were so great, that I was compelled to request Professor J. B. Flint to take charge of Varali for me. He very properly ordered a solution of the extract of the *cannabis indica*, in doses of two and a half grains of the extract, every two or three hours. Doctor Flint was impressed with the belief that this extract was of some service, and, when I resumed the treatment of the case, I continued it. But, for a considerable length of time, I saw but little, if any, mitigation. The spasms were as frequent, and seemed to be as violent, as at any time of their career while under my observation. Partial ease was obtained, for a short time, immediately after the action of purgatives. The constipation was unusually great, even for a case of tetanus. On this account I abandoned all the ordinary preparations of opium, and resorted to McMunn's elixir. At the same time, I doubled the dose of the *cannabis indica*. By purging the patient freely, in the afternoon of almost every day, and the use of the elixir at night, I was able to procure him some sleep, and he often slept several hours at a time. The spasms were less frequent, but were not mitigated in their violence, nor did the trismus abate in any degree. The *emprostotonos* was the first variety of the spasms that disappeared; and, at the end of four weeks from the commencement of the tetanic attack, the trismus and *opisthotonos* were considerably mitigated, and finally disappeared.

Throughout the whole of this attack, the patient was actively treated. The wound was regularly dressed with warm poultices—and sometimes with the addition of laudanum to the poultice. The patient was a member of the Washington Fire Company, and was, of course, well nursed. His family were unremitting in their attentions. All that could be done by medicine was done. All that faithful and judicious nursing could do was freely rendered. The strength was supported by nourishment adapted to the case—and wine of a superior quality formed a leading element of the nourishment. In the repeated efforts to give the sufferer sleep by the use of narcotics, the constipation that naturally belongs to tetanus was increased, and all the ordinary preparations of opium were abandoned on this account, and with the less regret from the fact that they seemed to render no service to the case. I am not prepared to say that much was done, in controlling the tetanus, by the *cannabis indica*, while in my charge—though I faithfully used it up to the termination of the case. There were times in which it was not given for twelve or sixteen hours, and the evils were not increased by the omission. But a neglect of purgatives invariably aggravated the spasms, and their action was always followed by decided mitigation for irregular intervals of time. The elixir of

opium, also, usually gave ease, and was generally followed by some sleep.

Throughout the whole of this tetanic attack, the wound of the thumb remained stationery. It seemed to grow neither better nor worse, during the existence of tetanus through its term of four weeks; and I continued to dress the wound for more than a month after the tetanus had disappeared. The thumb is now well, with the loss of the first joint.

I have called this a case of tetanus, because all the symptoms of that malady were present in a marked degree. But it is possible, that the attack may have been an aggravation of the long-standing chorea, and may have simulated tetanus, or the chorea may have exerted some influence on the tetanus. The trismus came on more sluggishly than usual, but I have seen considerable varieties in this feature. I have seen it come in all its fulness at the very onset of its appearance; and I have seen it develop itself gradually, but never so slowly as in the young man whose case is under consideration. The recovery of this patient surprised me very much—as it did every body who knew anything of the case.

In presenting a portraiture of this remarkable case, it is proper to mention, that, some five or six years since, I attended young Varali in a case something like the one recorded above. He was suffering then from a wound, and had well-marked tetanic symptoms, from which he recovered much sooner than from the recent attack. I entertained no doubt about the tetanic character of the first attack, nor do I know that there is much reason for a doubt about the second.

It is gratifying to add, that the health of the subject of these remarks is much better, since his recent recovery, than I have known it to be for ten years.

[From the American Medical and Surgical Journal.]

MEDICAL EDUCATION OF WOMEN.

PROF. POTTER:

Dear Sir :—It affords me much pleasure to avail myself of the proposal which you kindly tendered me while in Philadelphia, to address a number of letters through your valuable Journal to the public, and in particular to my sisters, upon the importance of the medical education of woman. As the ability of woman to acquire a knowledge of the various branches of the science of medicine is denied by many, it may not appear inappropriate, at the commencement of this series of letters, that we should inquire upon what grounds the objection has been made.

Fortunately for the cause of progress and moral improvement, for the welfare and happiness of the human race, the history of medicine in all ages affords numerous examples of the ability and benevolence of female physicians, in sustaining the afflicted, in binding up the wounds of the bruised and unfortunate, and in comforting the broken-hearted. It is in woman that we find strongly developed those affections and sympathies, that enduring patience and gentleness, which bestow such fascination upon *the beloved physician*. Who so ready to sympathise as woman? Who waits at the couch of the sick to administer the cooling draught while life lingers, or to perform the last act of kindness when death comes? Where shall we look but to her for those examples of friendship that most adorn our nature; that affection that trusts even when *betrayed*, and which survives all changes of fortune? Where else shall we behold the *devotion* of a timid and helpless woman, as she watches the decline of the unfortunate invalid, holding out with heroic fortitude, while she administers to his wants and sustains his tottering steps to the very border of the grave.

With such sympathies it will not seem strange, that woman, in all ages, has been regarded as "*the sick man's friend*," ready, at all times and in all seasons, to succor the helpless, and relieve the distressed. These interesting traits in her character are happily illustrated in the beautiful lines of the celebrated traveller, Ledyard, as follows:

"Through many a land and clime a ranger,
With toilsome steps I've held my way;
A lonely unprotected stranger,
To all the stranger's ills a prey.
While steering thus my course precarious,
It has been my fortune to ever find
Men's ways and dispositions various,
But gentle woman's ever kind:
Alive to every tender feeling,
To deeds of mercy always prone:
The self-same endearing nature,
From sultry India to the Pole."

For a period of 5000 years she was the only one to encourage and assist her suffering sisters in those pains and perils attendant upon the birth of man. The annals of sacred and profane history unite in recording her deeds and services in the Profession. If we appeal to the pages of sacred history, we shall there find recorded the names of Shiphra and Puah, who acted, in the opinion of some distinguished commentators, as teachers of their own sex in the science and practice of Obstetrics; and we learn, that "God dealt kindly with them, and their efforts were successful." Nowhere do the leaves of sacred history mention the name of a man midwife. They, as I shall show in the sequel, are of *modern* origin. No man midwife officiated at the birth of Christ, but nevertheless

his *modern* followers, who profess to take the Bible for a rule and guide, talk of innovation and the impropriety of educating women as physicians.

Examine the dusty parchments of ancient history, and you will there find recorded upon their time-sanctified leaves that Phanarete, the mother of Socrates, was a learned physician. The illustrious Plato defines their duties, and declares that so great was the delicacy of the Athenian women, that they would employ none others, and that the operation upon females for stone in the bladder was performed by surgeons of their own sex. Pliny, in his great work upon natural history, speaks of many female physicians of great repute, and declares that they were recognized by the Roman law, and enjoyed certain rights and privileges in common with the medical profession.

In addition to the testimony of the most enlightened and civilized nations of ancient times, testimony which proves conclusively the capacity of woman to learn the science of medicine and practice in all its various branches with success, we shall find still stronger evidence in modern works upon this subject. A most important branch of this science, namely, Obstetrics, is almost entirely, at this day, in the hands of females. We instance Sweden, Russia, Germany, Ireland, Portugal, Spain, and France; *England* and the *United States* forming the only exception. Institutions for their instruction are supported by several of the governments of Europe and those Institutions are approved of by the most learned writers of modern times.

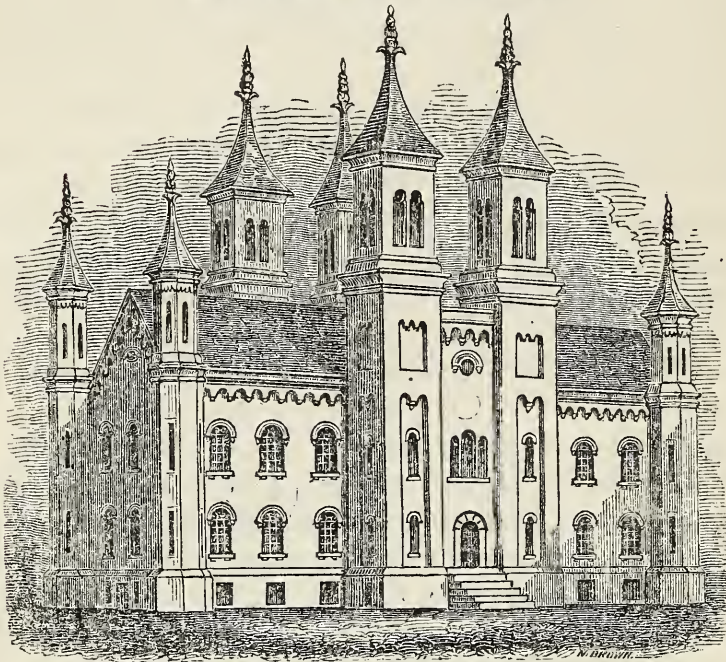
According to a late number of the *Revue Medicale* in Paris, there are 480 female physicians who have received diplomas, and who are engaged in an extensive and lucrative practice. Madame Boivin is quoted by almost all recent authors as the best authority of modern times, not only upon Obstetrics, but also upon the diseases of women. Dr. Meigs of this city, a gentleman of great learning, and one of the most distinguished teachers in the United States, in his recent work upon the diseases of females, in speaking of the difficulties which *male* physicians experience in obtaining the requisite information from females as to the nature of their complaints, remarks, "I am ready to pin my faith in this matter to the sleeve of a person better qualified to judge of it than you or I: I mean the late Madame Boivin, authoress of a work on Obstetrics, long *sage Female en Chef* of the Maison des Accouchement at Paris, and authoress of an admirable work upon the diseases of women. Her writings prove her to have been a most *learned physician*; and, as she enjoyed a very large practice, her science and her great clinical experience, as well as her own personal knowledge, are more to be relied upon than that of *all* the

male physicians together." Madam Lachapelle was another celebrated medical authoress, whose "vast experience," says Dr. Meigs, "gained while at the head of the Maternity Hospital at Paris, is valid claim to speak as from authority; and whose thorough knowledge upon the subject must confirm those claims as rights."

Over 22,000 patients were admitted into the Maternity Hospital, while under her charge, from 1812 to 1820. The extraordinary success of these illustrious female physicians, and the recommendations from so distinguished a source, leave nothing farther to be said as to the ability of women to learn and practice medicine with success. In my next, I shall consider the physical objections to the employment of female physicians.

MARGARETTA B. GLEASON, M. D.

Philadelphia, April 14, 1851.



[Worcester Medical Institution.]

Editorial.

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WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION. ITS SIXTH ANIVERSARY.

The sixth Aniversary of the Worcester Medical Institution will take place on Wednesday, the 25th inst. The public services will commence at 11 o'clock, A. M., and will consist of an Address by Prof. E. M. Parritt, together with the ceremony of conferring the degrees by the President.

The basis on which this Institution is established is somewhat peculiar. It, at first, adopted the position, that all medication should, as far as practicable, be both sanative and innocent; that is, the agents employed should, not only be adapted to remove the existing disease, but act, in every respect, without injury to the system. In this position it has remained unshaken. It has, however, most strenuously advocated the importance of high attainments in the medical profession; and it has peremptorily refused to graduate any of its students who could not pass the ordeal of a thorough examination. This fact has rendered its progress comparatively slow, indeed, but uniform. The advocates of a mere routine practice, embracing the strict disciples both of Thomson and of Beach, have been zealous in opposition: while intelligent and reflecting men have, one after another, acknowledged the correctness of its position, and have become its steady and unblenching adherents. Its prosperity is now established; and it is gaining, as we are happy to know, even in the distant South and West, that reputation which it has well merited.

The present Class numbers forty, and is greater by twelve than the Class of 1850. The Trustees of the Institution now feel, that they have the greatest reason for encouragement; and they are accordingly preparing greatly to increase the future facilities of students. The success of the Institution is no longer a problem. Its Faculty is full and eminently able; and it must hereafter be *the* resort of such students especially as desire to receive a thorough and scientific training for the medical profession.

CONNECTICUT PHYSO-MEDICAL SOCIETY.

We are happy to know, that our friends in Connecticut are, at length, doing the right thing. Until now, they have been embarrassed in their attempts to promote a genuine medical reform, by having to sustain a putrid mass of immorality and medical ignorance.

On Tuesday, May 13th, a Convention of Physopathic practitioners was held in the city of Hartford, and incipient measures

were taken, with reference to the formation of a State Physo-medical Society. Those present seemed ready for vigorous exertions; and we cannot doubt that hereafter they will come up, shoulder to shoulder, with the friends in the other New England States, in achieving the victories of medical truth.

Physopathy is the only system of medical practice which will bear the test of a careful examination. This is, indeed, in medicine, what the Copernican system is in astronomy. Its doctrines tally with the developments of facts. Its philosophy explains the pathology of every disease, and shows the *modus operandi* of appropriate remedies. In the light of its truth, every other system fades away, as the stars disappear on the rising of the sun. Not only Allopathy, Homœopathy, and Chrono-thermalism are now losing their hold on the confidence of the people; but Thomsonism and Beachism are shown to be very limited and imperfect theories. Even Hydropathy is seen to form but a part of the true system, and is, therefore, being merged in it.

Our Connecticut friends have our best wishes for their success; and, in their laudable efforts, they may rest assured, that they will have the sympathy and hearty co-operation of all those who love the cause of true medical science and who are aiming to fix high the standard of attainments in the medical profession.

CO-OPERATION.

We are obliged to correspondents for the numerous communications with which they have favored us of late. Sometimes, we have failed to receive such original articles as are necessary to give proper interest to the Journal. We hope, that, in future, our friends will always keep us well supplied; so that we may fill each number mainly with valuable matter, not before published. To practitioners we would especially say, Give us reports of interesting cases. No deficiency, so much as in this respect, is complained of by our readers.

NEW ENGLAND
BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL
JOURNAL.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

VOL. V.

WORCESTER, MASS., JULY 1, 1851.

NO. 7.

Communications.

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PLEURO-PNEUMONIA ALLOPATHICALLY TREATED.

On the 20th of February, 1849, the wife of Mr. Stephen D. Slayton of Lebanon, N. H., was violently seized with what was regarded as pleurisy. There being no Physopathic physician in the vicinity, and the family fearing to trust to their own skill in so grave disease, a young Allopathist was called, who treated her, in the usual orthodox manner, for about sixteen days. During this time the patient had been growing worse; and, at its expiration, as the case had assumed an alarming appearance, he wished for counsel.

Accordingly, at his suggestion, Prof. Peasley of the Medical Department of the College at Hanover was sent for; but, he not being at home, Prof. Crosby was invited to see the patient in his stead. Her disease was now, in the wisdom of these sages, decided to be a lung bilious fever.

Up to this time, the attending physician declared, that he had not employed that giant of remedies, which is commonly believed by the profession, to be equally potent in almost all diseases. Prof. Crosby, however, was of the opinion, that, at that stage of the malady, the case required an *alterative*; and, as the best with which he was acquainted he recommended *calomel*. Calomel was accordingly given; and how effectually it *altered* the condition of the patient, the sequel sufficiently shows. She soon became badly salivated. Her upper and lower limbs became œdematous. The blood was evidently much reduced in quality, the circulation was bad, and the extremities were cold. Dr. Crosby visited her, every other day, with the attending physician, for ten days,—at the expiration of which time her case was considered essentially hopeless.

Dark purple spots had made their appearance on different parts of the body. One in the centre of the forehead, about the size of a Spanish dollar, at length passed away. On three of the toes, however, the inflammation ended in sloughing, and, with two of them, one of the phalangeal bones in each eventually came away. On the back, near the terminus of the spine, two portions of the surface mortified. One of these, extending about six inches longitudinally and four transversely, at length sloughed to a considerable depth, and exposed the bone for the whole length. All this time, the dark appearance of the tongue and of a protruded anal portion of the intestines indicated what must be the condition of the mucous membrane of the alimentary canal throughout. The lungs were still highly inflamed. The respiration was hurried; and the pulse, sometimes intermitting, ranged from 120 to 150 beats per minute. The decubitus was constantly dorsal.

It is proper here to add, that though the patient has survived this barbarous treatment; yet the destruction of the teeth and of a portion of the septum between the nasal passages, in addition to

an osseous decay and the permanent effects of the sloughing already named, has left an irreparable injury.

Under the discouraging circumstances above detailed, Dr. A. Hammond, then residing at Woodstock, Vt., a distance of sixteen miles, was sent for, and commenced the adoption of the Physio-medical treatment. Three times, Prof. Crosby met Dr. Hammond in counsel; but, as they could not agree in regard to the treatment to be pursued,—particularly as Prof. C. insisted on the use of antimony which Dr. H. was unwilling to have employed,—the former resigned the case entirely into the hands of the latter;—not, however, without expressing an opinion that the chances were entirely against her recovery. Dr. H., now being unwilling to assume the whole responsibility of a case so critical, Prof. C. Newton, President of the Worcester Medical Institution, at Worcester, Mass., was called; and he visited the patient in connection with Dr. Hammond on the 2nd of April. He pronounced the doctor's treatment judicious, and he thought the symptoms of the patient assuming a somewhat more favorable aspect. With some slight modifications, he recommended the continuance of the treatment; and a variation in future, as improvement or any change in the symptoms should indicate.

Dr. H. conducted the case carefully, and, as we all thought, skilfully, for about two months,—when Mrs. S. was able to dispense with his services, though it was six months before she could even walk with crutches. The last two of these six months, when sitting in a chair that was placed on wheels, she was able to roll herself about the house.

In the conclusion of these remarks, a question arises, What produced so rapid a decomposition of the blood as must have taken place and have been the immediate cause of protracting and aggravating the disease? To an unprejudiced mind, however, the answer is easy. It was the *quacksalber* prescribed by the *quack*.

Probably no case of sickness, occurring in this county of late, has created so much excitement and sympathy among the people, as this. Had a skilful Botanic or Physopathic physician been ready, at this time, to have established himself in practice in this vicinity, I think he would have met with good success. I know

that the people generally are unacquainted with the laws of life and health, and are wedded to the old practice; but a change must take place. I am determined to devote what feeble powers I possess in disseminating the principles of reform in medicine. I am sure, that Mrs. S. has been saved from an untimely grave through the efficacy of nature's remedies.

I am happy to know that success attends the operations of your College, and that you have been able to erect a good College building. My prayer is, that the truths taught in your School may be disseminated throughout the length and breadth of our land.

Your obedient servant,

S. D. S.

Lebanon, N. H., May 1851.

SORE EYES.

PROF. NEWTON;—

Sir,—Should you discover anything, in the enclosed letter, which I received from Mr. Doyen which you think would be interesting to your readers, you are at liberty to publish it.

You have my best wishes for your prosperity.

WM. YOUNG, M. D.

Phillips, Maine, May, 16th, 1851.

Dr. Wm. Young;—

Dear Sir,—You well remember, I came into your office, in Phillips, the second day of last December, to get a prescription of you for my eyes.

At that time, they had been *very sore* during *fourteen years*, as well as weak for several years previous, so that I had been obliged to wear glasses during eighteen years. My eye-sight also was failing me at the same time. I am now in my sixty ninth year. I had, before I came to you, *expended a large amount* in trying to find something that would help them. I had had eye washes and

prescriptions of about all the Allopathic physicians among my acquaintance ; but none of them seemed to do my eyes any good.

Though I had never employed an Eclectic or Physopathic physician for myself or family, yet, as you had cured one of my neighbors, who had had very sore eyes, as he informed me, I concluded I would try you.

I called ; and, as you well remember, you put me up *one ounce*, of eye wash, which you told me to apply to the eyes, with the finger (washed clean previously), twice per day, and which you also said would cure me. You seemed to speak indifferently, just as though it was a very easy matter to effect a cure, though I thought it a thing about impossible to be done : but, to my utter astonishment, the remedy did cure, in a short time, just as you said it would.

But it is not to inform you that it *cured* the *sore eyes* that I write this letter ; but to inform you that it has done something more, which seems to me to be almost a miracle. It has restored my eye sight. “Whereas I was once blind, I now see.”

I had used the wash but a few times, when my *eye sight* began to improve ; and, as that improved, I could not see so well as before through the glasses. Indeed, in two weeks, I was obliged to lay the glasses by, and I cannot see at all in them now. When I called on you and for years previous, I could not distinguish one newspaper from another, without my glasses. Now, I can take a newspaper and read the fine print by candle light, just about as well as I could in my younger days.

At present, when those with whom I have been acquainted for a number of years, and who know, as they all do, that I have not been able to read or write, without my glasses, see me take the pen to acknowledge a deed or write a note, or take a paper and commence reading, they look astonished and begin to inquire, where my glasses are, and if it is possible that I can see to read and write without them ! Then I have to relate to them the facts which I have stated to you above, in this letter ; which seem to them, as they do to me, and will probably to you, almost too marvellous to be true. Nevertheless, every word is true, and I can rejoice and truly say, like one of old, “Whereas I was once blind I now see.”

I have related these facts to several of the Allopathic physicians, who had previously furnished me with eye waters, and they have asked me to let them see the wash. I have done so, and they have examined it, as closely as they could with the eye; but they say they cannot tell of what it is composed. You did not tell me all the particulars how it would operate, but only that it would make my eyes smart, and that it would *cure them*. That was true; but it had another operation which I will relate to you. After I applied the medicine, they smarted, as you said, a short time, and then were easy. But, in the morning, I would wipe from the eye, a thin skin, like the thin skin that lines the inside of an egg shell. That would seem to come off the eye every time I applied the wash, until my eyes got well, or considerably better.

Perhaps, Dr. Young, you may be glad to learn the facts (which I feel in duty bound to tell to all), that, not only have my *natural eyes been restored* to sight, but the *scales* have been taken off the "*mind's eye*."

I do now cheerfully recommend to all who may be afflicted with chronic sore eyes, to apply to Dr. Wm. Young, of Phillips, Me., who has never failed to help every case, so far as I have been able to learn. If you should desire, I could get hundreds who know me to testify to the above facts.

Receive with this my best wishes for your prosperity.

I am, most respectfully, yours, &c.

JOHN DOYEN, Esq.

Avon, Me., May 8th, 1851.

ELECTRICITY:

ITS OFFICE IN NATURE, AND ITS USES IN THE HANDS OF MAN.

The precise part which electricity plays in the universe is but very imperfectly understood. The phenomena connected with light and heat admit of much easier explanation. The reason of this may be, that, while these two agents, though not directly addressing the senses, are constantly producing changes in the ap-

pearance and condition of different kinds of matter, which are appreciable to the senses, electricity does this only under peculiar circumstances of excitation. That electricity does play an important part in nature is clearly indicated by its universal prevalence, and also by the occasional manifestation of its terrific power.

Electricity has been supposed to be one of the primary forces in the universe, and the idea has been broached that this subtile agent and the force of gravitation are of a kindred nature. This, however, is as yet but mere hypothesis. Whatever may be the part which electricity plays in regions beyond terrestrial influences, certain it is, that facts clearly demonstrate an intimate connection between electricity and terrestrial magnetism. The fact that the magnetic needle always takes a position perpendicular to isothermal lines seems to indicate that very close relations subsist between electricity and terrestrial heat. But the offices as well as very many of the phenomena of terrestrial magnetism are utterly inapplicable on any theory which the ingenuity of man has yet devised.

Whether electricity enters or not as a necessary element into the constitution of matter is still a debatable question. At any rate, all simple bodies are supposed to be constitutionally either electro-positive, or electro-negative. Since dissimilar electricities attract each other, and since, for instance, all electro-positive atoms are surrounded by atmospheres of negative electricity, it is evident, that, when the natural or constitutional state of a body is disturbed by any external cause, a constant force will be at work among the atoms of the body, tending to subject the atoms to new arrangements; and thus electricity may perhaps be said to be that agent which affects the decomposition and recomposition of molecules. Electricity has much to do with the crystalization of bodies, and undoubtedly with many other phenomena which are continually going on in nature.

Recent discoveries indicate, that electricity is especially concerned in the process of evaporation, and in the subsequent formation of clouds, and descent of rain, snow, hail, &c. It has been ascertained, that a cloud, does not consist of *vapor*, for it is not *transparent*, but of *water*. Vapor rising from the sea or elsewhere, on

coming in contact with the colder strata of the air is condensed. The moment it condenses, it begins to fall. The air around these condensed masses is more or less electrified, and, the moment they begin to fall, the electricity of the surrounding atmosphere collects around these particles of water. Since both the electricities are of the same kind, they mutually repel each other. When sufficient electricity is collected around a molecule of water, to make its *repulsive* power equal to the *pressure* of the atmosphere on all sides, the watery particles will remain stationery, or rather it will not fall. If the repulsive power of the electricity is equal to or greater than the atmospheric pressure on all sides, *vapor* will be formed, since removing pressure from water will always form vapor.

The constitution of a thundercloud appears to be this. The cloud is composed of hollow spheres of water, filled with vapor, and coated exteriorly with electricity. This is proved by a microscopic examination of a cloud made by some French aeronauts. When a bolt is discharged from a cloud, all these atmospheres of electricity, enveloping the hollow spheres of water, are diminished. The force of atmospheric pressure is rendered more effective, and the spheres are crushed and the rain descends. It may be asked how these vesicles of water can be attracted together in sufficient quantities to form a thundercloud, since they are surrounded by atmospheres of the same kind of electricity, which would make each vesicle repel those around it. The answer is, that the atmosphere pressing equally on all sides, confines the vesicles.

Electricity undoubtedly performs important functions in developing organic life. The growth of vegetables is greatly assisted by its presence, and that nervous agency, by which we are enabled to contract our muscles, and experience sensation, is now conceded by physiologists to be galvanic electricity. The discharge of thunderbolts, and the play of auroras are perhaps sources of atmospheric purification.

The practical purposes to which electricity may be applied, are numerous, and in some respects of the utmost importance. The discovery of the properties of the magnetized needle, and the invention of the magnetic telegraph, give to electricity, considered

as an instrument in the hands of man, an importance utterly incalculable. The electro-magnetic clock, besides being a perfect regulator of time, has already rendered valuable service in astronomical and meteorological investigations. Electricity has also been successfully applied to the processes of gilding, picture-taking, splitting rocks, and numberless other purposes of greater or less utility. It has also been successfully employed as a medicinal agent.

Whether this agent can ever be employed as a constant motive power in the working of machinery is yet problematical. Electrical engines thus far have subserved a valuable purpose only when *rapidity* of motion has been required, and yet it seems strange, that this wonderful agent, displaying as it sometimes does such terrific energy, should be so insignificant as a motive power in the hands of man.

Electricity is an invaluable agent in the hands of the chemist. Its *mechanical* effects, illustrated in the preparation of solids, and in the explosion and disposure of fluids,—its *calorific* effects, illustrated in the fusion and ignition of substances,—and its *chemical* effects, illustrated in the decomposition and recomposition of molecules, give to this imponderable agent an importance in the laboratory, inferior only to that of heat.

G. D. B.

June, 1851.

PERITONEAL INFLAMMATION, &C.

PROF. NEWTON;—

Dear Sir,—There existed, some time since, a case of disease in this place, which, from the peculiarities of both its characteristics and its treatment, may, with advantage, be reported for the Journal; as it will exhibit the lamentable inefficiency of the *Materia Medica* of the Allopathic practice, in controlling disease, as well as the poverty of its Etiology, Nosology, and Therapeutics, while, at the same time, it may illustrate the superiority of the principles and *Materia Medica* of the physo-medical practice.

I am prompted to note this case, aside from its peculiarities, by the advice of Prof. Burnham, who assisted at the post mortem examination, and by a word of yours in the last Journal: "Give us reports of interesting cases."

The case was one of peritoneal inflammation, attended with chronic disease of the liver, and a low state of the nervous energy. The commencement of the disease was peculiar, suggesting a lesson to every careful physician. The patient was taken with a severe pain in the *left hypochondrium*, (*not deep seated, nor yet in the stomach or parietes*,) accompanied with chills, and nervous depression. The question arose in my mind, On what organ can the disease giving such pain be located—especially, in that region? The sequel will illustrate this point, and show that my doubts were well founded.

As the case was first treated by an Allopathist (Dr. Appleton), and as I did not see the patient for a number of days after the commencement of the disease, I shall first proceed to give a detail of his treatment. Here the question may arise, How did you secure a detail of *his* treatment?—as that class of physicians *cannot consult with one of the reformed school, without danger of expulsion*. To avoid a transgression of the bye-laws of his Society, he (Dr. A.) gave *in writing a detail of his treatment to a brother of the patient*, who then gave it to me, as I refused to take the case, without a knowledge of his treatment, for reasons obvious to every physician.

In this particular, Dr. A. proved himself a MAN, despite the egotistic and paralyzing laws of the Massachusetts Medical Society,—which fact is a sad reflection on the influence of that Association;—its members being obliged to escape its restrictions by a resort to a species of collusion. I copy from my diary the account he gave in writing:—

"When first called to the patient, on the afternoon of Tuesday (this week), I gave an anodyne: the following—

| | | | |
|----|----------------|----------|----|
| R. | Ext. Hyoscyam. | grs. ij. | |
| | Tinct. Opii | grs. vj. | |
| | Aqua | lb. j. | M. |

This she has taken three times; twice on the day of the attack, and once the next day. She also took, on the same evening,

Hyoscyamus grs. ij.

in the form of a pill. She was afterward ordered

Hydrarg. Submuri. grs. ij.

Pul. ipecac. et opii grs. iv.

one powder once in six hours. Of these powders, she only took three: one of which was expelled by emesis. Last evening she took

Hydrarg. submuri. grs. iij.

Rhei grs. xv.

To day she took two pills each containing

Hydrarg. submuri. grs. ij.

Fomentations to the abdomen, with enemas, have constituted the remainder of the treatment."

It will be readily seen, that his treatment was eminently *soporific*; and, when first called, I could scarcely distinguish whether her symptoms were the narcotism of henbane and opium, or the sleep of death. But, from the small, spiteful, rapid pulse, the coma, and cold state of the exremities, attended with viscid perspiration, I concluded that the state was not that of death itself, but one of a narcotized cerebral system,—and I acted accordingly.

I will now detail my treatment from memory.

I first ordered a warm pediluvium, then a hand bath with friction; and, during the treatment, I caused the surface, especially of the extremities, to be bathed, with friction, in a steep of lupulus and capsicum, which removed chilliness, and restored capillary circulation. A *compress*, dipped in this steep was also laid over the abdomen. I then ordered mild enemas of a laxative character, as the bowels were very much swollen and tympanitic. Next was given a mild but effectual laxative, composed of ext. eupatorium perfoliatum, do. juglans cinerea, dissolved, with sulph. magnesia, and tinct. capsicum, q. s., to make slightly stimulant. This was made strong, and a spoonful, of ordinary size, was given once in an hour or thereabouts, till there was passed, from the bowels, an enormous quantity of unnatural semi-liquid fœcal matter, so as to alarm the attendants. There was then ordered a tea made of asclepias tuberosa, cyripedium pubescens, each four parts, to one part lobelia.

Of this *one tea-spoonful* was given every four hours. A diaphoretic powder, similar to Beach's, minus the opium, every six hours, constituted the remainder of the treatment.

Under this treatment, she rapidly improved. The friends, as well as myself, were much encouraged. But there were still unfavorable symptoms. The pulse fell, from one hundred and thirty beats per minute, to about eighty. She was normal in her mental functions; was able to be raised up in bed; and seemed much better every way. *But sordes still remained on the teeth*, and, on the fourth day of my treatment, the pulse began to rise again. I warned the friends of danger;—told them to send for me, on the *first appearance of fainting*. She still seemed improving, with those two exceptions. After a night of apparently quiet sleep, she awoke about four o'clock, and, on being raised to take some drink, fainted. I was sent for in haste, but the patient was a corpse, before my arrival.

I will now give the appearances on the post mortem examination, which appearances will explain previously noticed peculiarities.

The liver was greatly enlarged, from chronic disease;—*the left lobe extending far into the left hypochondriac region*. The stomach was attached to the surrounding parts,—the result of chronic inflammatory disease,—so that it could not perform the office of digestion normally. Its inner surface was completely ulcerated;—she had long suffered from dyspepsia.

The peritoneal membrane was severely diseased from an acute inflammation;—some parts being gangrenous, especially that portion covering the *left lobe* of the liver, and at the place of union of the omentum and duodenum. The bowels were in a high state of congestion, and quite a quantity of coagulable lymph was in the abdominal cavity. A large quantity of sanguineous fluid was found in the cavity of the abdomen; also, in the pericardium. The heart was severely inflamed, as well as its covering membrane. These constituted all the pathological appearances examined,—they being deemed amply sufficient to have produced, and to explain all the indications of disease, noticed previous to the decease, as well as of the disease which was the immediate cause of death.

The peculiarities of this case are,—

1st, A typhoid tendency, seen in the sordes on the teeth,—a small, rapid, spiteful, irregular pulse ;—a class of symptoms not often attending peritoneal inflammation, though generally accompanying all varieties of typhoid fever.

2nd, The commencement of the inflammatory disease being in the peritoneal covering to the left lobe of the liver, which was enlarged from peritoneal disease. Had there been no post mortem examination, it would have taxed any anatomist to determine on what visceral organ the affection was seated.

3rd, That the treatment, in the first instance, was wrong, in narcotizing the cerebral system, thus making the patient insensible to the pain, without in the least removing the disease itself.

4th, That, had the treatment instituted by the writer been brought to bear in the commencement of the attack, in all probability, the patient would have survived.

Yours for medical reform,

GEO. W. SKINNER.

West Newbury, Mass., June 6th, 1851.

RELIGION AND MEDICINE.

DR. NEWTON ;—

Dear Sir,—I believe, it will not be fairly contended, that I argue in a vicious circle, if I assert that God is the inexhaustible source from which we receive whatever is appreciable in medicine. And, as the virtue of medicine comes from God, the physician, in order to be successful, should believe in his omnific power, and call upon him with becoming piety and confidence.

The truth of the above proposition was universally admitted by the heathens, according to their conceptions of omnipotence, and never called in question by the truly philosophical physician, as the following will show. “*In nulla re,*” said Cicero, “*homines propius ad deos appropinquant, quam salutem hominibus dando.*” Men assimilate themselves to the gods in nothing so much, as in restoring health to others. “*Quædam pluris essent quam emuntur. Emis a medico rem inestimabilem, vitam ac valetudinem bonam.*” Certain

things are of more value than that for which they are purchased. You buy from the physician that on which you can set no equal value, viz, life and good health. (*Seneca.*) Napoleon used to say, that “the first duty of a medical man is to his God, the second to his country, and the third to his patients.” “Such is the connection between the deity, religion, and the physician, that without God and religion no physician can be successful.” (*Macoppe.*) “*Medicus sit christianus,*” said Hoffman;—the physician should be a christian. “All medicine is derived from God; and, having descended from above, cannot exist or be practiced, without his divine will. Hence, our art without religion is either impious or nothing.” (*Macoppe.*) “There is no possible way by which men could be possessed of the healing art, except from God.” (*Aug. de civ. dei.*) But the healing art was rendered pre-eminent, by the divine Redeemer’s having practiced it, while he avoided all other pursuits.

From the forementioned opinions of the heathen, as well as the christian philosophers, we can conclude,—first, that God alone is the author of the healing art;—secondly, that he has given peculiar properties to certain things of the earth answerable to that purpose;—thirdly, that the ultimate success of the practising physician, does mainly depend on the power, will, and goodness of the Creator of all, of whom and in whose hands he is but the mere instrument;—fourthly, that the office of the true and zealous physician is one of the most justly exalted amongst men, having attached to it a peculiar and religious dignity, commensurate with his scientific acquirements, his necessary patience and forbearance, his many sacrifices, and his universal philanthropy.

A physician of genius, said Monfalcon, is the most magnificent present that nature can make the world. We read that medicine was, not only encouraged, but also cultivated, by the highest, the wisest, and the best of men, amongst whom are numbered, kings, princes, and pontiffs. Hence I conclude, that the incomprehensible power, who has ordered all things in measure, and number, and weight, in whom we live, and move, and have our being, who said, I will kill and I will make to live, I will strike and I will heal, and there is none that can deliver out of my hand,—he it is, who gives

sanative efficacy to the things of the earth, and virtue and intelligence to the physician, for their due and proper administration. A religious physician will not, therefore, arrogate to himself an absolute empire over the lives and health of men. He will not pretend to govern the progress of diseases. He will not consider himself the God of nature. It is from him he derives his light. It is on him he calls for succor. Indeed, the most deservedly eminent of the medical Faculty take their ethics from the holy scriptures, of which they can safely say, what Cicero was wont to say of the twelve tables containing the Roman law, viz., that it is a little book, which alone excels the libraries of all the philosophers in the weight of its authority, and in the extent of its utility; because in it they find the only complete history of the universe, the divine precepts of religion, which refer all honor and glory to the author of all things, and good will to mankind; wherein also is found the immutable foundation of all our most refined ethics, viz., *Do unto others as you would they should do unto you. Alteri ne feceris quod tibi fieri non vis.* Indeed, the stigma of immorality or irreligion is, unquestionably, the most opprobrious, which even calumny can affix on the members of the medical Faculty; because the practice of medicine, in a proper sense, requires the exercise of all the virtues. And it has been truly asserted, that a scientific anatomist cannot be an atheist in principle or practice, as nothing more clearly demonstrates the existence of the Deity, than the phenomena of our organization and its functions. I believe, therefore, that it is a popular error to assert, that many of our most eminent medical men, are either atheists or materialists. I admit, that of late, (and it is a painful acknowledgement,) an abortive attempt has been made by materialists and phrenologists, which, in truth, goes far to justify the accusation. The attempt, however, was as impotent as it was wicked. It was attacking youth on the weak side; and it was extinguished by the universal voice of the most eminent members of the Faculty; for it was observed to have untied all the bonds of society in a neighboring nation, and to have produced a degree of anarchy, confusion, and atrocity unparalleled in the annals of mankind. It contained, (continues the celebrated Dr. Ryan,) not a single argument that had not been refuted a thou-

and times before ; and, after all the schemes of a reluctant and erring philosophy, the indispensable resort must be to the Deity and his ordinances. The doctrine is repudiated by the medical profession throughout the civilized world ; and, out of the whole, amounting to many thousands, there are not ten men of eminence,—either phrenologists or materialists.

That philosophy which assails the attributes of the Supreme Being is fallacious. That wild hypothesis which is in direct opposition to the principles of revealed religion, can have but few, if any, disciples, in this age. The really learned, in the medical profession, have never been infected by the poison of infidelity. The doctrine of the materiality and the mortality of the soul, which is that of materialism and phrenology, should forever be exploded, as totally false and unworthy of all regard, as subversive of the principles of all religion, as introducing civil anarchy into the political economy of legislation, as substituting disorder for harmony, despair for hope. “That life,” say the materialists, “or the assemblage of the functions, is immediately dependent on organization, appears, physiologically speaking, as clear, as that the presence of the sun above the horizon causes the light of the day. Mind is the functional power of the living brain. As I cannot conceive of life any more than the power of attraction, unless possessed by matter ; so I cannot conceive of mind, unless possessed by a brain, or by some nervous organ, whatever name we may choose to give it, endowed with life.” Such is the illogical and unphilosophical conclusion of some materialists and phrenologists. The pseudo-science of phrenology and materialism has thus led to the too prevalent opinion of the materiality of the mind, contrary to the principles of sound christian philosophy.

In denying the immortality of the soul, they degrade human nature, and confound men with the vile and perishable insect, and overturn the whole system of religion, whether natural or revealed. In denying religion, they deprive the poor of the only comfort which supports them under their distresses and afflictions, and wrest from the hands of the powerful and rich, the only bridle to their injustice and passions, and pluck from the hearts of the guilty the greatest curb to their crimes, that remorse of conscience which

could never be the result of a handful of organized matter. According to them, life and mind are distinct; as the living infant, before or at its birth, has no mind. But the materialist has not proved that the living brain of the infant in the womb is unconnected with the soul. We have but his mere and vague assertion. But, if their conclusion were admitted, it would be no crime to destroy the *fœtus* in the womb, or even at birth, any more than the young of any other animal, and fœticide or infanticide might be expunged from the catalogue of crimes!!! In vain have materialists examined dead bodies to explain the most important phenomena of life. In vain have they mutilated the brain in a hundred different ways to discover the seat of intellectual faculties. The most vain and absurd hypothesises are the result of their researches. What do they know about life,—about the astonishing phenomena ascribed to generation? God reserves these secrets to himself.

Facts are observed every instant in practice which science does not explain, and it was this that made the father of medicine declare, that there was something divine in diseases, that is to say, incomprehensible to man. This renders the following admonition from Pope applicable to such vain philosophers.

Know then thyself, presume not God to scan,
 The proper study of mankind is man.
 Placed on this isthmus of a middle state,
 A being darkly wise, and rudely great :
 With too much knowledge for the skeptic's side,
 With too much weakness for the stoic's pride,
 He hangs between ; in doubt to act or rest ;
 In doubt to deem himself a God, or beast ;
 In doubt his mind or body to prefer ;
 Born but to die and reasoning but to err ;
 Alike in ignorance, his reason such,
 Whether he thinks too little or too much ;
 Chaos of thought and passion, all confused ;
 Still by himself abused or disabused ;
 Created half to rise or half to fall ;
 Great lord of all things yet a prey to all ;
 Sole judge of truth in endless error hurl'd,
 The glory, jest, and riddle of the world.—POPE.

J. B. M., M. D.

Boston, May 14th, 1851.

CASE REPORTED.

PROF. NEWTON:—

Dear Sir,—I was called some weeks ago, in great haste, to visit a young lady. I found her suffering from a very severe spasm. She lived out at service, and had just returned home, about half an hour previous to being taken with the illness. Consequently, her friends were unable to assign any cause for her sickness, but supposed she had been as well as usual. Her paroxysms were, at times, very severe, requiring three or four persons to keep her on the bed. The muscles were rigidly contracted, her teeth firmly shut, her eyes closed; her pulse was quick and fluctuating, her respiration difficult and laborious, with profuse frothing at the mouth. I immediately prepared an enema of brown lobelia and the third preparation, which was given. This, in a few minutes, relaxed the whole system, and free emesis followed. Consciousness then returned, but her vision was very imperfect. I prepared a powder, from *asclepias tuberosa* *cypridium pubescens*, *ictodes foetida*, and composition, to be given in doses of 30 grs., once in four hours; also, directed thirty drops of the third preparation, in elm tea, once in four hours. She appeared to be doing well for some twelve hours, when I was again sent for. She had suddenly become very delirious,—looking about the room with a wild expression, frequently uttering some broken sentence, and starting up in bed at the least noise. Considering this the sequela of the previous spasm I administered freely the third preparation to produce emesis. It did so, and relieved the delirium. She was then kept quiet, and allowed to see no one except her nurses. Her head was bathed with cold water; drafts were applied to the feet; the bowels were kept open; and, in addition to the previous prescription, a tea of *scutellaria lateriflora* was ordered to be drunk freely. In a few days, she was able to return to her accustomed labor. It was about two weeks, before she could see objects clearly at a short distance.

On inquiry after the cause, of this sickness, I learned that she had taken about half an ounce of laudanum.

G. ANDREWS.

Guilford, Dec. 12 th, 1850.

NEW SCHOOLS.

FRIEND NEWTON ;—

Without doubt, you will agree with me, that, in order to sustain a reformatory enterprise of the magnitude of that in which you are engaged, it requires *all* the strength and influence of those whose opinions and principles it represents. In this portion of the State of New York, it is understood that the Worcester Medical Institution is strictly a Physopathic School, strenuous, yea, uncompromising in its advocacy of safe and salutary medication. With that understanding, the Professors of Central Medical College enrolled it upon their list of Reformed Colleges, and have been pleased to see the *sure* though somewhat slow progress which it has continued to make from year to year.

I venture a truthful remark, when I say, that, in our opinion, it has done more to give character, stability, and respect to the cause in New England, than any other agency with which we are cognizant.

Through the columns of your Journal, I wish to say a word or two to the faithful friends of the practice. I believe there is but one way that Reformers in New England can advance the true interests of medical science, and that is by UNITY of PURPOSE and COMBINATION of EFFORT. A good cause is more liable to be injured from want of unanimity and concert of action on the part of its supporters, than from the opposition of its enemies. Its greatest dangers arise from factional feelings and schismatic movements ;— a disposition to divide interests or to promote sectional welfare. If our Physo-Medical friends ever expect to secure professional advancement in the cause of medical reform, they can effect it only by ONENESS and STRENGTH of PURPOSE.

On the 10th of June I enjoyed the privilege of meeting the members of the Physo-Medical Society of the State of New York, in Albany. I had previously understood that they contemplated making an effort, for the establishing of a “School” or Course of Lectures in New York city. I was desirous of learning their views and wished to estimate their resources ; also, if possible, to center

them in Central Medical College, at Rochester, N. Y. The professed principles of a large majority of that Society are identical with those espoused by Central Medical College. Why then could there not be a union? Judge of my surprise, when I learned, that this College movement was organizing rather in opposition to, and from those who had been made disaffected with, the Worcester School! Also, it seemed to me to be an effort to draw off what support it could from Central Medical College, by insinuating that we were unsound in doctrine; in other words, we were Anti-Physopathic. Dr. Friend stated to me, however, that he did not allude to the Rochester School in his remarks in the American Journal of Medical Reform; but, in that Journal, and perhaps more particularly during the convention, allusion, by an insinuation of the lack of soundness in the medical faith of Eclectics, was made. In this remark I think the good sense of the members of that Society will fully sustain me. A member remarked to me his regret that it was done, and one such allusion in his report was erased by the convention. Then, if these statements are facts, is not the move for a College in New York city, so far as the *disaffected* are concerned, to be viewed in the light of a *conspiracy* against existing Colleges? Is it not to be supported greatly and perhaps chiefly by drawing from Worcester and Rochester? Do not its hopes rest on the strength of disaffection, and its success depend greatly on the amount it can create? I ask not these questions for opposition or for warfare, but to elicit the TRUTH. My opinion, that it was a factional and opposition move, was strengthened, when I learned who some of the candidates for chairs in that School were.

It is an important matter with a College enterprise to obtain the best men for members of the Faculty. It is not known, of course, who will be elected to hold that station; but I heard a member express a strong preference for A. Curtis, M. D., ex-Professor in the Physo-Medical School in Cincinnati, Ohio. Another, proposed for a chair, was C. J. Kenworthy, M. D., ex-Professor in Central Medical College, Rochester, New York. Another, I. M. Comings, M. D., ex-Professor in the Worcester School, &c. Ex-Professors may be very available for such a movement, but what does their nomination or selection look most like;—a “called for movement”—or

a "got up affair"? Dr. Curtis remained in the School at Cincinnati, as long as he was permitted, and then he or other members of the Faculty must leave. Does that fit him for a teacher elsewhere? And what are the facts in relation to the other candidates. Let every man be satisfied. Horatio Marsh M. D. was spoken of, and his Lectures upon Pathology have won him the highest meed of praise. But he has said he will not join a move, unless it is a fair one, in his opinion warranted by the facts in the case.

The objection urged against the doctrinal soundness of the Worcester College was, that the *Professor of Surgery* recommended bleeding in inflammation. Whether general or topical, whether seldom or frequently, was not stated. I can very easily conceive, that one Professor might drop a remark or hold an opinion of this kind; but that this should be sufficient reason for treason, secession, revolution, or that it should "*corrupt*" an Institution is preposterous. If these gentlemen are so intolerant as not to allow the vibration of a private opinion differing from theirs, then they are warranted ONLY in taking those necessary steps for removing it, by recommending some man who is *suitable every way*.

It may be urged that Rochester and Worcester would at all events oppose the establishment of new reformed Colleges. This is not so. But, as a man and a medical reformer, I am called upon by every consideration of duty, to promote the general welfare and the greatest good of the whole in this matter. My opinion should be heard, and I pledge myself, that my intent is true, to be candid in what I write, and courteous in what I say, but to speak plainly and write facts. When the School at Worcester becomes recreant to her professed principles, then start another; but, if she has remained true, and stands firm on physopathic principles, to establish another at the present time, to divide her strength, and thus make a direct or indirect war and sow the seeds of dissension, is a *suicidal policy for New England*. And, if all the Reformers of New York will unite and sustain the College enterprise, which has already made a fair beginning and which represents all genuine physopathic Eclectics, she can boast of that progress which should distinguish the era of Liberal Medicine. But, when our forces are disunited, when our numbers are comparatively few, our organiza-

tions weak, our enemies will laugh to see the work of disunion go on, point exultingly to those enterprises which must prove ephemeral and soon die out ;—they will mock at our calamity, and reproach us for our errors. Will not the true friends of Medical Reform, before they determine their course of action, determine well in their own minds what is true policy.

In haste and with respect yours,

O. DAVIS.

INSTRUMENT FOR CURVATURE.

TO DR. NEWTON ;—

Dear Sir,—I wish to introduce to your notice an apparatus invented and applied by me for the last two years ; it is the result of the investigation and treatment of diseases of the spinal column for fourteen years past.

It has been my aim to contrive an instrument that could be worn comfortably, and unperceived,—that could be easily adjusted, borne without intermission,—constant and unremitting in its action upon the contracted muscles and ligaments, yet admitting of free and unrestrained motion of all the parts ;—an instrument so constructed, that, when applied, it not only would retain all that had been gained but would be continually fatiguing the contracted muscles until they would yield to its power ; and, not only this, but its action is in unison with the weaker muscles, thereby giving the patient a voluntary power of reforming the curve.

This instrument is so perfectly adapted to restore a case of *lateral curvature* of the spine, that, when applied to the perfect figure, it will produce a curvature perfect in all its parts, even to the irregularity in the walk.

It has restored the figure, in some very bad cases of long standing, that had been under other modes of treatment for years, and in cases not so bad, cases of not more than two and one half inches deviation, it not only has restored the form upon its application, but has effected a permanent cure, so that their figure is perfect without the apparatus.

It has been used in the *various forms of disease of the Spinal column requiring mechanical support*, with most satisfactory success. I have applied it to the patients of Drs. Homans, Perry, and Gould of Boston, Drs. Green and Heywood of Worcester, Mass., Drs. Smith and Miller of Providence, R. I., Dr. Knight, N. Haven, Conn., Dr. Twitchell, Keene, N. H., and to the patients of many other physicians.

Several gentlemen, distinguished in the profession, have remarked to me, that it was the only instrument they had ever seen adapted to the treatment and cure of a case of curvature.

Several of my medical friends advised this mode of introducing it to the notice of the profession, and through them to the public; they also advised my securing letters patent for it. By so doing, I am enabled to convey the instrument through the hands of the family physician to the patient.

My desire is to bring the treatment of all of this class of diseases back into the hands of the profession, not only for their interest, but for their honor;—they are now turned over to the instrument makers, thereby virtually acknowledging, that there are cases that the profession cannot treat as well as non-professional men; in this way they directly encourage Quackery.

Your attention, so far as an investigation of its merits is concerned, is solicited. It can be furnished to order, by sending the measure between the top of the pubis and the top of the sternum, and the circumference of the pelvis at the pubis, also some account of the case, whether lateral, posterior, &c.

HENRY G. DAVIS.

Millbury, Worcester Co., Mass.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

[The following extract is from a private letter received from a friend to the Physo-medical cause, now residing in Delaware County, N. Y. It exhibits the sentiments of a large portion of our corres-

pondents, in regard both to the subject of medicine generally and to the character which a medical paper must sustain to interest readers who are not of the profession. EDITOR.]

I am a Botanic, soul and body, all over ; and I trust I shall live to see the day, when that curse and destroyer of the human race, calomel, will only be used to kill rats and vermin. Oh ! when will the day come in which mankind will learn to use vegetable remedies instead of poisons ! I can assure you, I feel deeply interested in this glorious object,—because I know something about the different systems of medical practice,—having studied, as well as engaged somewhat in the practice myself ; and, were I in possession of good health, my whole time should be employed in administering, to the afflicted, pure and life-restoring medicines.

As to your Manual or Journal, we shall not like it as well as we did the Poughkeepsie paper ; because, as yet, you report so few cases of treatment. Perhaps, the forth-coming numbers will be more suitable for our family perusal. At any rate, success to Physo-medical principles.

Respectfully yours,

PHYSICIAN WANTED.

DR. NEWTON ;—

We absolutely need a Botanic physician to settle at Old Town, to supply that place and the towns up the river. One, who is duly educated and sufficiently firm to withstand Allopathy, will find a plenty of practice, as the people are becoming more enlightened and more favorable to the Botanic cause. Will one of the graduates of your School, the present Term, take a trip by steamboat and rail-road to Old Town, and see the prospect.

Yours, &c.

G. J. N.

Argyle, May 7th, 1851.

Selections.

—:—

PURE COD LIVER OIL.

Carefully prepared only from fresh and healthy Livers, by Joseph Burnett, Apothecary, No. 33, Tremont Row, Boston, Mass.

This Oil, which has long been extensively used with great success by medical practitioners in England and on the Continent of Europe, and more recently in this country, is now, by common consent of the Faculty, classed among the most efficacious remedies in the treatment of rickets, softening or decay of the bones, rheumatic affections, especially those of a chronic type, scrofulous abscesses, glandular enlargements, chronic diseases of the skin, and relaxed, torpid, or phlegmatic conditions of the system generally.

In pulmonary complaints it has been proved to exert a curative influence truly wonderful, even in the advanced stages of disease.

Dr. J. C. B. Williams, an eminent English Physician, after prescribing it in 400 cases of Consumption, (in 234 of which he preserved full notes,) states in the London Journal of Medicine:—
“As the result of experience, confirmed by a rational consideration of its mode of action, the *pure fresh* oil from the liver of the Cod, is more beneficial in the treatment of Pulmonary Consumption, than any other agent, medicinal, dietetic, or regimenal, that has yet been employed.”

Several distinguished medical gentlemen in this country have lately published papers, showing the great efficacy of this simple remedy in removing Coughs, Influenza, Bronchitis, and other irritating diseases of the throat and lungs.

Unlike other oils and fats, it does not derange the stomach and bowels, or disturb the biliary functions; but, on the contrary, improves all the digestive powers, promotes a healthy action of the liver, and restores the appetite, in all cases where it is used with fidelity and perseverance.

The physiological action of this Oil, consists in stimulating the lymphatic and capillary systems and the functions of secretion and excretion, and in improving nutrition. It also replenishes the blood with an energetic and rich plasma, and promotes a speedy absorption of scrofulous humors. It will be found a highly nutrient substance, and is admitted by all who have taken it for any considerable time, to possess the property of fattening, in a remarkable degree. Its nutritive influence, however, extends beyond the mere

disposition of fat in the adipose tissues. The muscular power and activity are materially and often rapidly increased under its use, while the improved color of the lips and cheeks manifests a filling of the veins with more and better blood.

As this remedy, when *pure*, is the most valuable ever discovered for the disorders indicated, so when it is *impure*, it is not merely worthless, but highly injurious, by troubling the digestive organs, and deranging the whole vital economy. A careful examination of a very great number of samples of Cod Liver Oil, so called, has proved that not more than 10 per cent. of the article sold under that name is genuine. Of the other 90 per cent., a very large proportion is nothing more than Seal or Whale Oil, bleached to resemble in appearance the Cod Liver Oil, and the balance is prepared from the livers of other fishes, or, what is yet more criminal and dangerous, from stale, putrid, and sometimes diseased cod livers, the use of which is productive of the most serious consequences to the deceived patient; causing, in addition to an aggravation of his disease, and the derangement of the digestive economy already spoken of, cutaneous eruptions of a very troublesome and obstinate character. It is, therefore, of vital importance, not only that the oil should be genuine, but that it be prepared from none but perfectly fresh and healthy livers. The sole method of ensuring this primary quality, and, by consequence, success from its use, is to procure it only from establishments whose ability and reputation are sufficient to guarantee its purity beyond a question. The pure article is destitute of any nauseous taste or odor, but slightly colored, bland, and scarcely distasteful, even to the most delicate palate; and it is remarkable that all who make use of it for any reasonable time, not only become reconciled to its peculiar flavor, but acquire a decided predilection for it.

The usual dose for an adult is half an ounce or a table-spoonful, twice or thrice every twenty-four hours, for the first few days; but, after the system is accustomed to its use, the quantity may be increased to two or three, and even four table-spoonfuls at a time; and this should be continued for months, especially in Consumption, in which its effects are not permanent, unless its use be continued for some time after an apparent cure is effected.

For children, the dose is from half to a whole teaspoonful, according to the age, twice or thrice daily. It may be taken either pure, floating on water, tea, coffee, milk, wine and water, weak spirit and water, water with a few drops of vinegar or essence of peppermint added, or in any other medium agreeable to the patient. Most persons, however, after a short time, prefer taking the oil in its simple form, to the admixture of any foreign substance.

☞ Physicians and Dealers supplied on liberal terms.

JOSEPH BURNETT would inform gentlemen of the *Medical Profession* that he is prepared to furnish every important article used by Physicians and Surgeons, of the best quality at fair prices; including, Surgical Instruments, Pure Sulphuric Ether, Chloroform, and a full assortment of Genuine Drugs, Select Powders, and Pharmaceutical Preparations.

‡ [From the Boston Daily Journal.]

WORCESTER ENTERPRISE.

But few people, who do not take the trouble to examine personally, know the healthful spirit of enterprise and energy which characterize the city of Worcester. The converging point of the net-work of railroads that reticulate Massachusetts, she must of necessity be continually receiving additions to her population, and be constantly increasing her aggregate of wealth. And, in keeping with this prosperity, it is pleasant to notice the increase of that which beautifies and adorns a city. For beautiful private residences, Worcester is unsurpassed by any inland town in the State; and elegant and costly structures are constantly being erected. For fine public buildings, too, Worcester bids fair to equal if not to surpass any other city in the State.

The Worcester Medical College is in a forward state, and presents a very imposing appearance. It is located on a beautiful eminence about a mile east of the City Hall, and commands a magnificent view of the city and the surrounding scenery on the north and west. Looking to the north, the eye rests on Wachusett, backed by the hoary Monadnock. This building, when completed, will form a great point of attraction to the visitor, and be a source of pride and satisfaction to the inhabitants of our sister city. We find the following description of the structure in the *Worcester Ægis* :

“ The building is of brick, 100 feet long and 40 feet wide, with eight lofty towers, one on each corner, and one on each side of the front entrance, and two opposite on the back side of the building. The centre towers are 100 feet high, those on the corner are smaller. The basement is intended for a chemical laboratory, and conveniencies for the Janitor and family; the first floor above the basement is to be occupied in the north end by the Janitor’s family, and on the south as Dean’s and Professor’s rooms, library, anatom-

ical museum, &c. On the second floor are two spacious Lecture halls, 40 feet square, each. The towers are also designed for rooms to be occupied on each floor, they being large and convenient. The windows and doors are surmounted by ornamented stone arches, tastefully worked. The elevated location of the pile, the lovely scenery which surrounds it, the lofty towers, the general design, unique and attractive, altogether, present a striking appearance, and render it an improvement to the city. The building will probably be completed this summer."

A joint stock association has been formed in that city, for the purpose of erecting a machine shop of the most extensive and convenient character. It will be located in the eastern part of the city, near the Western Railroad depot, and the freight depot of the Boston and Worcester road. The building is to be constructed of stone, 500 feet in length, 50 feet in width, three stories high, with ample ground room to enlarge its dimensions to 1000 feet in length, when required. The owners give the spot for the purpose, which will of course make the rents cheap.

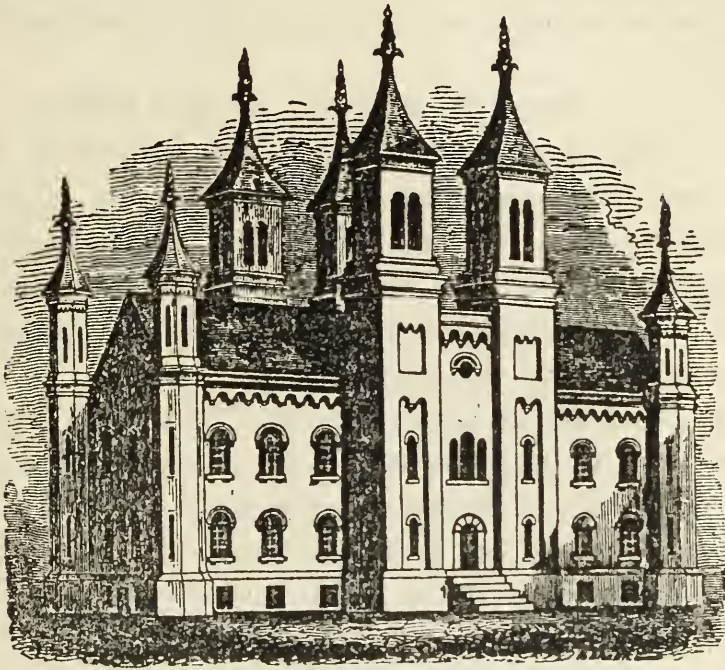
The vacant spot of land owned by the Worcester Railroad Company, situated between their depot and Main street, is now being improved by the erection of a building by the Worcester Bank. It is to be built of brick, with a heavy stone front, and will be occupied in part by the bank, for the transaction of its business. This vacant lot has long been an eyesore to all strangers visiting that city, and a positive loss to the business part of its population.

A visit to green-hilled Worcester, with its long, wide, shady, breezy streets, its palatial dwellings, its fine old rural estates of the Lincoln's, Salisbury's, Waldo's, Davis's, Paine's, and others; its thronged Asylum for the Insane; its deeply embowered Antiquarian Hall; its Catholic College; its silent yet enchanting monumental Cemetery; its busy workshops, and a thousand other attractions, is one of the most attractive that can be imagined. The spirit, energy, and enterprise of Worcester are constantly seen in her continually extending borders, her numberless workshops, and in the wealth of her inhabitants.

HOW TO CURE A COLD.

Of all means of killing colds, fasting is the most effectual. Let whoever has a cold, eat nothing whatever for two days, and the cold will be gone, provided he is not confined in bed—because, by taking no carbon into the system by food, but consuming that surplus

which caused his disease by breath, he soon carries off his disease by removing the cause. This will be found more effectual, if he adds copious water drinking to protracted fasting. By the time a person has fasted one day and night, he will experience a freedom from pain caused by colds. And how infinitely better is this method of breaking up colds, than medicines, especially than violent poisons !



[Worcester Medical Institution.]

Editorial.

WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION.

The sixth Anniversary of this Institution was held June 25th. The public services, commencing at 11 o'clock, A. M., consisted of the reading and defence of Theses by a portion of the candidates for graduation ; an Address by Prof. E. M. Parritt ; and the ceremony of conferring the degree of Doctor in Medicine on such members of the Class as had completed the requisite time of study and were found to possess the proper qualifications.

The Address, which was universally admitted to have been an able production, set forth, together with many interesting collateral matters, three cardinal principles, on which the teachings of the Institution are based ;—

First, that nature alone cures disease ;—

Secondly, that medicines act only indirectly by stimulating nature to the removal of obstructions and the performance of healthy functions ;—

Thirdly, that, consequently, only such remedies ought to be elected as are innocent and co-operative in their character. Subordinate to these three principles we are *Eclectics*. Our Eclecticism is controlled and homogeneous, not indiscriminate and heterogeneous.

The Professor reviewed the generally received notions of Allopathy, in a strain of brilliant criticism, and contended that the science of medicine is governed, like all other true sciences, by fixed and precise laws. Indeed, both Allopathy and Homœopathy, if they may be called systems, are merely systems of experimentalism. Ours is a system based on laws immutably established ;—it corresponds with facts and common sense.

The Class which has been in attendance during the Term now closed, instead of numbering *less than nine*, as oracular wisdom a year since presaged, has really numbered *forty*, the most of whom have been uninterupted in their attendance and have made the most praiseworthy improvement. The requisites for graduation in this College are, at least, as great as in any other College in the country ; and yet the candidates for the honors of the Institution acquitted themselves in a manner highly creditable to all concerned. Of those who had completed, in medical study, the prescribed period of three years, and had attended two or more Courses of Lectures in established medical Institutions, fourteen passed the ordeal of a rigid examination, and received the degree of Doctor in Medicine. Their names, residences, instructors, &c., are as follows.

| Names. | Residences. | Instructors. |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Alger Isaac S., | Williston, Vt., | S. C. Witherby, M. D. |
| Andrews E. O. G., M. D., | Fernando, Miss. | |
| Armstrong David F., | Lawrence Co., Ind., | G. W. Morrow, M. D.. |
| Blakemore Thomas M., | Memphis, Tenn., | M. Gabbert, M. D. |
| Elliot Stephen C., | Corinna, Maine, | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Heywood Avery H., | Peterboro', N. H., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Jewell Oliver H., | Farmington, Maine, | B. Morton, M. D. |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Kelley Frank H., M. D., | Lawrence, Mass. | |
| Lockling Nathan P., | Smithfield, R. I., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Martin Noah R., | Saco, Maine, | N. Brooks, M. D. |
| Nichols George M., | Worcester, Mass., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Stotesbury George W., | Macon, Ga., | P. Stotesbury, M. D. |
| True N. Lawrence, | Meredith, N. H., | W. Leach, M. D. |
| Wilmarth Albert T., | Mason, N. H., | C. Newton, M. D. |

Mr. George W. King of Wilton, N. Y., having nearly completed his time of study and having now sustained a satisfactory examination, received the approval of the Faculty and Trustees; and a diploma is to be awarded him on his hereafter presenting testimonials, that he has faithfully employed in professional study, the remaining time necessary to complete a three-years course.

Two of the above-named graduates, it will be seen, were already graduates of other medical Colleges. We acknowledge ourselves gratified, that, not only students who have attended one Course of Lectures or more elsewhere, find, in the privilege of graduating here, sufficient inducement to attend a final Course with us, but that even those who have graduated elsewhere, prize our honors and our Institution enough to induce them to spend an additional Term with us. The Class of the present year has been gathered from eleven different States; and several of its members had attended a previous Course at some of the most eminent Allopathic Colleges in the country, while others came to us from Physopathic Institutions.

The honorary degree of Doctor in Medicine was conferred on Rev. John B. McMahon, of Boston, Mass.; also, on Dr. L. W. Jenness, of Lowell, Mass.

The question respecting the prosperity of the Worcester Medical Institution is no longer a problem. Its reputation has been gradually but steadily increasing, until, at length, its advantages are beginning to be appreciated in the remotest sections of the Union.

A year since, though we had no apprehension that the demon of opposition would get the ascendancy, yet we did fear, that the cloven foot might stamp and kick somewhat to our injury. At present, the evidence is indubitably clear, that his *infernal Majesty*

is effectually bound in "chains of darkness," and "reserved unto the judgment" of a day in which an enlightened and disabused public shall make a truthful discrimination.

In the Board of Trustees important measures were adopted with remarkable unanimity; and, on the whole, the day was one of unusual interest to the citizens of Worcester, and, generally, to the friends of the Physo-medical cause.

AMERICAN REFORMED CATTLE-DOCTOR;

By G. H. Dadd, M. D., &c. Boston, J. G. Tilton and Company, 1851. 8vo., pp. 359.

Dr. Dadd is already favorably known as a writer on veterinary science, having recently issued a deservedly popular work on this useful branch of the healing art. It is exceedingly grateful to notice the extensive and well directed efforts which are constantly put forth to ameliorate the sufferings, not only of the human family, but of the lower animals. Improvement is not confined to the study of the physician and surgeon, but seems to have made its way into the office of the veterinary practitioner,—thus dispensing its blessings to the domestic animals, on which so many of our comforts depend, and in which so much wealth is invested. Our author seems to have come to his work, not only with the skill of the expert, but with the feelings of the philanthropist. Hence, there is a kindliness of tone mingling in every suggestion, which does honor to the heart that conceived it; and, from our knowledge of the remedies mentioned, we cannot help feeling, that their administration must be attended with more than ordinary success.

We should be pleased to enter into details, and present what we conceive to be the important improvements it professes to introduce; but a press of engagements renders this, at present, quite impossible. We cannot, however, close this hasty article, without remarking, that we consider the work before us a valuable acquisition to our library, and that, by its aid, a year since, we might have had, continued to us, the services of a valuable horse, then lost by foundering.

NEW ENGLAND
BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL
JOURNAL.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

VOL. V.

WORCESTER, MASS., AUGUST 1, 1851.

NO. 8.

Communications.

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VALEDICTORY ADDRESS,
DELIVERED, IN THE WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION, BEFORE
THE CLASS OF 1851, BY T. M. BLAKEMORE.

GENTLEMEN:—

As a penalty annexed to disobedience of law and the fall from the primeval state, is disease of almost an unlimited variety, the ravages and severity of which have baffled the physician's skill, experience, and most potent remedies; and, indeed, these have failed to mitigate it, except to a limited extent, through the alternate dark and golden ages of the world, to the present day of universal erudition. Notwithstanding he has thus far been unsuccessful and his most sanguine hopes have been disappointed,

while he has sought for the true panacea, yet, with a perseverance and an energy worthy of better success, and with an ardent desire to alleviate the sufferings of his race, he has continued to seek for light.

The accumulation of knowledge has been, by degrees, each successive generation, adding something to the one that preceded it,—overthrowing and exposing opinions and theories which experience and reason prove to be false, and substituting in their place what has more the semblance of truth. Thus have we received the great stock of human knowledge. There is a fact in connection with this, that is worthy of remark. Those who have contributed most to advance society, have not been found only in the towering temples of the rich, and with those specially favored by fortune; but they have more often risen from an humble birth, by their continued and unceasing personal exertion.

Such is the nature of man,—that “this harp of a thousand strings”, under the great power of sympathy, is influenced, to a great extent, by all the elements around, and by hopes, fears, anxieties, and the powerful passions within, so that there is a constant and gradual tendency and liability to disease. To relieve these sufferings and heal disease, has become a study of the most vital importance,—second to none, save that of religion.

The ancients labored long and most assiduously to promote health of body and tranquility of mind; and, to lessen the sorrows of the heart and restore elasticity and vigor to the drooping spirits, they exhausted the powers of art and reason.

No science, perhaps, has given rise to a greater number and variety of theories and hypotheses, than has that of medicine. Every age, since the days of Hippocrates, has been distinguished, by the introduction of some new theory and change of practice, followed by the overthrow and extermination of all that had preceded. One system, having arisen and received the approval of the most learned and distinguished, has soon passed away, and another, based upon reasons equally false and untenable, has followed,—which, in its turn, has, like the rest, had its day of popularity and then been numbered with the errors of the past.

Since the first records of medical science, either the profession

have slumbered under the shadow of a popular name, which they did not deserve, or they have been warring with each other, from prejudice, interest, or jealousy, which, to no small extent, has obstructed the simple progress of medical knowledge. A profession, in its infancy characterized by the greatest simplicity and safety, in the lapse of a few brief years soon changed its robe of innocence for one made black and dreadful by the use of agents which had full power to injure health and destroy life. It is strange and lamentable, that a system of medicine, so false in theory, so destructive in practice, should have received the countenance and support of great and learned men in every age, and that mankind at large should have calmly received treatment so destructive to health and happiness. But it is no new truth, nor does it require proof to substantiate it, that it is man's nature to cling, with the greatest tenacity, to long established habits and customs, and to place an unduly high estimate upon established and antiquated dogmas. Even though facts and reasons the most convincing are presented before him, he will turn from these with an air of pride and presumption, and will pronounce, as a delusion, every thing which militates against his views and opinions.

Men are too proud of their own opinions to admit, that they have been deceived, and that the views of men of acknowledged ability can be false. That principles so long established and universally believed should be assailed, fills them with madness. Reform by them is more dreaded than the sting of the serpent, and is to them more loathsome than the Bohon Upas. Pride and presumption lay at the foundation of all this hostility. We must presume them to have come to the conclusion, that they know all which can be known, or that it is not right for their fame to be tarnished by the superior pretensions of those differing from them. We need not, then, seek for farther light, to account for the opposition and hostility, which all reformers have met. If we examine the volumes of time, we shall be made to blush at every page, to see how the good, the wise, and the friends of mankind have ever been persecuted as quacks and madmen.

It is not strange, then, that reformers of the present day should be placed in the same class and viewed in the same light with

those of other days. Those who oppose reform and still cling with stubborn firmness to antiquated theories and speculations, receive them as a glorious inheritance from the old world, and as constituting a system full, perfect, and amply sufficient to relieve every pang and heal every disease. Though they are wedded to their antiquated doctrines, and though the public have placed the utmost confidence in their principles, yet their system has been proved to be full of error and danger.

I need not here consume a moment's time, in pointing out these errors and their results;—all are familiar with them. Horrible deformities, ulcerated throats, rotten jaws, pestiferous breaths, forlorn and dejected countenances, and shattered constitutions are every where of too frequent occurrence and of too deplorable a nature, to escape your observation. The present system of reform professes to treat disease, in all its various modifications, without the bad results of the old practice. We are proud to know, that the present system had its origin in, and is diffusing its blessings upon, our own country; for, previously to this, we had received most of our knowledge of the science of medicine from the eastern continent,—which was wounding to our pride as a nation.

The hope is flattering and the belief is firm, that we are engaged in, and have the pleasure of presenting to the world, a system more full, extensive, efficacious, and innocent, than has ever been offered before. We are not so tenacious of our own views, or so wedded to our principles as to say, that we have a perfect system, or that it has arrived at the acme of its advancement. Very far from it. The light of reform is like that of the breaking morn, which is to be followed by a radiant noon. This is an age of progress, not only in the science of medicine, but in every thing. The nineteenth century will be distinguished in history for revolutionizing religion, science, and the arts. The general dissemination of correct knowledge has awakened a spirit of investigation, greater in extent and more pleasing in result, than that of any previous age. The whole world has been made to tremble, as by a mighty earthquake, within the last few years, by this spirit of reform.

It has insinuated itself among the long oppressed subjects of the old world. Kings and monarchs have been made to tremble

at its power, and seek security by flight. Nations and kingdoms have been put in universal commotion, and they are only to be quieted by a removal of oppressive laws, and by the progress of knowledge.

No longer is freedom of thought and action hushed into silence, by the frowns of power; for it is given to man, and is the highest distinction of his mental abilities, to explore the extensive circle of human science. Even more than this. By siezing upon the torch of intellect, he can pass these earthly limits, enter alone the wilderness untrodden by human feet, where no eye, but that of the omniscient God has ever gazed. We conclude, from every thing drawn from the nature, structure, and operations of man, that wisdom is progressive and eternal.

Though every other science and art has been steadily and rapidly progressing, approaching nearer and nearer perfection with each succeeding generation, yet that of medicine has remained comparatively stationary, and has become, by the repeated destruction of theory and hypothesis, loathsome and disgusting. The uncertain, unphilosophic, and dangerous mode of practice, has caused some of the profession to declare it speculation, and the people have lost their confidence.

Amid this conflict and variance of opinion, a system has originated, so plain and comprehensive in its principles, that we look upon its discovery as paramount to every other of the nineteenth century; and to insure its universal adoption and the diffusion of its innumerable blessings upon all classes, it needs only to be presented by competent and educated physicians. These, we are proud to say, are daily swelling the ranks of its advocates, and are entering into its advocacy with a zeal and determination worthy of such a cause.

Until within a very short period, there have been but few inducements for competent young men to engage in the practice. But the period wanting in inducement has now passed. We argue this from the preparations that are being made in the North, the South, the East, and the West, for the thorough and complete education of those who only will be known as its defenders. Further, from what we have seen and from what it has been our

high privilege to hear, during the present Course of Lectures, we predict, for the Worcester Medical Institution, a name equal, if not superior, to that of any Institution of a similar character in the country. We see no just reason why it should not become thus eminent. If men of undoubted ability, extensive popularity, and entire devotion can secure an end so noble, then do we not predict falsely. The accomplishment of an object so much to be desired, and one from which so much good is to result, depends much upon the present Class. Permit me to say, that the Institution richly deserves, and I entertain the fondest hopes that it will receive, the firm, united, and zealous support of this Class and of friends of reform every where. My warmest prayer is and shall ever be for its continuance and prosperity, so long as suffering humanity shall have a disease to cure, or a wound to heal. In speaking thus, I feel that I speak the sentiment of the Class.

Our association here for the last four months has been one peculiarly pleasing and interesting. The most perfect harmony has existed, and a friendship has been formed of the most lasting nature. At no time in my life, have all the circumstances of an association combined to render it so pleasant, interesting, and profitable. A deep interest has been manifested thoroughly to investigate and perfectly to understand all the laws, which govern the complicated structure of man, both in health and in disease. In a word, we have felt the most ardent and laudible desire to receive and treasure up the golden truths which have been so ably offered and which few besides this Class have ever been so fortunate as to hear.

Let these truths sink deep in our hearts. Let them lie engraved as with a diamond pen, on memory's tablet. Let them remain as the corner stone upon which we are about to erect our edifice. These, once understood and remembered, will be a sure passport to success and to greatness. Once familiarized and at our command, we have in them the key by which we can open the door of mystery, and with ease pull aside the curtain which has so long darkened the mental eye of man. With extatic pleasure we can be permitted to gaze, as if by a vision of prophesy, upon the unbounded and to us at present inexplicable truths of nature. This is no

immaginary veiw nor idle dream. It can be realized. It, however requires unceasing labor and unwearied devotion to secure it.

We have no means of judging of the future except by the past ; and, reasoning thus, we conclude, that the progress yet to be made is beyond the conception of uninspired minds. The slumbering fires of human reason are bursting forth and encircling the world, in a light more brilliant and dazling than the noonday sun.

In the light of the nineteenth century, we find ourselves surrounded by prospects flattering in the extreme. Let us be up, then, and at the work in earnest. The day is fair. Only here and there a few clouds of opposition are to be seen ; and they are gradually fading from our veiw. The world is before us, with its thousands rendered horrible by disease and deformity. Look around our own happy homes ; and, with anguish, behold the awful havoc and dessolation made by disease.

Ours is a task that involves responsibility of no ordinary import. The anxious friend, the devoted wife, and the tender mother rest all their hopes on our skill. To us the afflicted and helpless will cast an anxious look, and cling for relief in affliction's darkest hour.

In view, then, of all these facts, should we not arouse from our slumbers, lay aside the unbecoming garments of indolence, and, with ready hands and firmly resolved minds, enter the field ? In the language of another I would say, "The cause in which you are engaged is a laudable one. It is one before which opposition becomes dumb, and it is one which will shed a lustre of no common brilliancy upon those who fight its battles, and share its dangers." If we would accomplish the end of our being, let us remember that we have but a brief span allotted us here. The sun tarries not in his course. Each breaking morn, each radiant noon, and each shadowy eve, hurrying on, admonishes us, that time knows no delay. The merry spring, the glowing summer, the golden autumn, and chilly hoary winter, all tell us, that time is rapidly passing by, and that we too shall soon pass away. We look around, and decay meets our view on every side. The monuments of the dead are on every hand. But enough. I feel that the work has fallen into faithful and competent hands.

The present Course has terminated, and we must take the parting hand. Some of you, I hope, will have the pleasure of again meeting under similar circumstances; while others of us must necessarily be denied the high privilege. Some of our lots have been cast in a different clime; but that does not lessen, in the slightest degree, the feelings of friendship nor the hope of success which we entertain for you. It is our desire to bury, in the waves of forgetfulness, every feeling of a local or political nature, and to part and remain, united in interest and feeling. It will ever fill my bosom with a thrill of joy, to hear of your success; and, in after life, amid the perplexity of business and increasing cares, we can turn with feelings of delight to this Association, and linger around so bright a spot—the oasis of memory's waste—and exclaim, in the language of the Poet,—

Oh, friends regreted, scenes forever dear!
 Remembrance hails you with her warmest tear.
 Drooping, she bends o'er pensive Fancy's urn
 To trace the hours that never can return;
 Yet with the retrospection loves to dwell,
 And soothe the sorrows of her last FAREWELL.

PROLAPSUS VAGINÆ.

BY DR. P. JOHN OF MILLVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

Prolapse of the vagina is, by no means, an uncommon occurrence. It may take place at any period of female life after puberty, but is seen more generally, as far as my observation and reading extend, in those who have passed the middle age, and who have borne a number of children. It is frequently mistaken by the patient for prolapsus uteri, nor are there cases wanting where it has been diagnosed and treated as such by the practitioner.

Three varieties of displacement of the vagina have come within my cognizance, nor am I aware of the authorities enumerating any other, viz., prolapse of the anterior or fore part of its walls, technically called *prolapsus vesicæ*—*vaginal cystocele*; prolapse of the

posterior or back part of its walls, styled *prolapsus vesicæ*—*vaginal rectocele*; and prolapse of its entire circumference, or *prolapsus vaginæ simplex*. The first two are in some wise connected with the displacement or protrusion of adjacent organs, while the last is of independent occurrence.

I shall speak of and endeavor to enumerate the character, symptoms, marks of diagnosis, etc., of each variety separately; but, as the treatment is not essentially different, the medical management, remedial means, etc., of the three modifications, will be given conjointly under one head.

1. VAGINAL CYSTOCELE. *Character*:—This is a prolapse or displacement of the anterior parietes of the vagina, followed by a like displacement of the bladder. To those acquainted with the anatomical structure of the parts, the mechanism of this descent is very plain. The inner membrane of the vagina becomes relaxed, from some cause or combination of causes; and the secretion of urine having been allowed to accumulate, it distends the bladder and forces it downwards, protruding before it the yielding organ beneath. Every time that this accumulation is suffered to take place, the bladder becomes distended to a still greater degree, until a complete displacement of the vagina occurs, even, at times, in extent to a protrusion through the external parts.

Symptoms:—Among the more prominent are a feeling of heaviness or weight in the vagina, disagreeable bearing down sensations, a peculiar emptiness and dragging in the lower part of the abdomen, unpleasantness, with more or less difficulty, in locomotion. There is likewise considerable difficulty in evacuating the bladder;—which, from over extension, having partially lost the power of contraction, does not expel its contents with ease. Indeed, there are cases where this evacuation cannot be completed without replacing and supporting the bladder in its natural position.

Still other symptoms of a more distinct and decisive character are furnished on making a personal examination. A round, elastic, fluctuating tumor, of a bluish color tinged with red, may be seen in the orifice of the vagina, varying in size at different periods. The size of this tumor may be greatly lessened by catheterism. The introduction of the finger into the vagina can be accomplished

below the tumor ; but, immediately beneath the arch of the pubis, the mucous membrane terminates in what is styled a "cul de sac," from whence it is reflected over the part protruding. The os uteri can be felt, both behind and above the tumor, in its natural position. "The surface of the tumor, when large, is smooth, moist, and shining ; but, when nearly empty, it is thrown into transverse folds." I might add, that in all cases of this character there is a considerable discharge of vaginal mucus, which tends, of course, to still more relax and weaken the tonicity of the parietes of that organ, and thus to facilitate the enlargement of the cystocele.

Diagnosis :—Prolapse of the anterior wall of the vagina may, by the inexperienced, be confounded with and mistaken for three varieties of prolapse of the pelvic viscera, viz., *prolapse of the posterior wall*, *prolapsus uteri*, and *inversion of the uterus*. It may be distinguished from the first, by the softness of the tumor, and the ability to introduce the finger *posteriorly* only, while in prolapse of the posterior wall the finger can only be passed into the vagina *anteriorly* : from the second, by the softness and globular form of the tumor, communicating a sense of fluctuation to the finger, which may be passed up the vagina, so as to detect the os uteri in its normal situation ; while, in prolapsus uteri, "the tumor is firm, resisting, and of a pyriform shape, with the os uteri at the lowest part : " and, lastly, from inversion of the uterus, by the tumor's being considerably diminished by the application of the catheter, and by its softness, smoothness, and fluctuation ; whereas, in inversion, it is firm and rough, and the reflected mucous membrane resists the passage of the finger into the vagina.

2. VAGINAL RECTOCELE. *Character* :—This is understood to be a prolapsed condition of the *posterior* wall of the vagina and rectum. The difference between the mechanism producing this displacement and that of vaginal cystocele, consists in the distending force being derived from the rectum instead of the bladder.

Doubtless, this difficulty is brought about by habitual and prolonged constipation ; the accumulated fœces distend the rectum to an inordinate size, and, as the vagina, being loose and relaxed, offers no resistance, a very little effort protrudes the tumor through the external orifice. A prolongation of the distending causes still in-

creases the difficulty, producing a loose and flabby condition of the posterior walls of the vagina, and hence not only a readiness, but a strong predisposition to prolapse, on the least expulsive effort made at any period in time to come.

Symptoms :—The symptoms, as felt and complained of by the patient, are not dissimilar to those attending the former species, such as weight, uneasiness, distress in walking, discharge of mucus, etc. But the *internal* symptoms, or those detected by examination, are essentially different. On pressing apart the labia pudendi, a globular sac or tumor will be seen, occupying the opening of the vagina, yielding but not fluctuating, through the walls of which hardened fœcal matter may be distinctly felt.

The finger passes without difficulty anteriorly to the protruding sac, while posteriorly it is arrested by the mucous membrane and cannot be introduced. “When the prolapsed vagina is distended, the surface of the mucous membrane is smooth; but, when the rectum has been emptied, it is thrown into rugæ.”

Diagnosis :—This species may be distinguished from *prolapse of the anterior parietes* of the vagina, by its posterior situation at the orifice of that canal and by its permitting the passage of the finger anteriorly; also, from its being compressible and not fluctuating as in vaginal cystocele, and its diminishing after fœcal evacuations: from *prolapsus uteri*, by the finger detecting the os uteri about the usual height in the pelvis, instead of the lowest part of the tumor: and from *inversion of the uterus* from the fact of this tumor's being softer, and admitting the passage of the finger anteriorly, so as to reach the os uteri within the pelvis; while, in inversion, the “cul de sac” of the inverted vagina obstructs the introduction of the finger.

3. PROLAPSUS VAGINÆ SIMPLEX. *Character* :—This is simply a displacement of the vaginal canal itself without the protrusion of either the bladder or the rectum. I think that prolapse of the *entire* circumference of the vaginal mucous membrane is very rare. At any rate, I have seen no instance of the kind, nor are there many cases of this character recorded in the various authorities that I have had the privilege of examining.

The mechanism by which the displacement in this species occurs

is not so easily understood as in the others. "It appears," says a certain author, "to be a loose state of the vaginal parietes, owing sometimes to distension, sometimes independently of it and to the exertion of expulsive force."

Symptoms :—The symptoms attendant on this variety of vaginal prolapse very much resemble those already enumerated, except that the bladder and rectum remain in their natural situations and the evacuation of their contents does not diminish the size of the tumor. The mucous membrane projects in a fold anteriorly or posteriorly. The above has reference only, of course, to those cases where the prolapse is but partial.

"When the entire circle of the vagina is prolapsed, on examination, the projecting tumor is seen to spring from the whole circumference of the vaginal orifice, and an opening is found at its lower part leading up to the os uteri, which, in severe cases, is found more or less dragged down from its natural situation." The extent of this species of prolapse is by no means uniform;—it may be slight, or it may protrude very much. One case is recorded in the 51st vol. p. 60, of the "Journal de Medecine," where the prolapse reached down to the patient's knees!

Diagnosis :—The only difficulty in diagnosing this species is, that it may be sometimes mistaken for *prolapsus uteri*; but, by properly introducing the finger and discovering the os uteri, this error may easily be avoided.

Treatment :—The first and most important points to be observed, in the treatment of particularly the first and second species of prolapse just described, is to prevent any accumulation of urine in the bladder, or fœces in the rectum, either by frequent natural evacuations, or, if necessary, by catheterism and enemata. Attention to these alone will often cause the prolapse to speedily diminish and recede. This, in conjunction with douche baths to the hips, astringent injections thrown into the vagina three or four times a day, and proper rest, will often prove sufficient for the cure of either of the species of vaginal displacement; but, in those of long standing, where the prolapse is more complete, other means, such as mechanical support, etc., will be found requisite. This should consist in the use of an appropriate vaginal pessary so shaped and

contrived, that its concave surface, when introduced, is towards the bladder, and its greatest diameter corresponds with the transverse diameter of the lower outlet. It should be large enough to keep the parietes of the vagina so much upon the stretch as to prevent its prolapse, and yet so flattened as to allow no inconvenient pressure to be made on the bladder or rectum. It should likewise be hollow and open at both ends, to allow the free escape of whatever fluid may be secreted. Injections of a decoction of *geranium* and *hamamelis*, with the addition of *tinct. myrrh*, should be thrown into the vagina, by means of an appropriate syringe, at least three or four times in every twenty-four hours; and you should administer an occasional injection composed of a solution of castile soap, for the purpose of *cleansing* the whole canal. In cases of much tenderness, the addition of a few drops of creasote to the injections will prove beneficial. As the walls of the vagina become strengthened, smaller-sized pessaries should be worn, which should be gradually diminished until their use is no longer required. I am aware, there are those who strenuously object to the using of pessaries of any kind, because of their liability to irritate. Well they may do so in cases of prolapsus uteri, and the *only* mechanical support I use in that form of uterine difficulty, is "uterine supporters" applied and worn externally. But, in cases of prolapsus vaginæ, I recommend vaginal pessaries, because I have never known them, when properly manufactured and frequently removed and cleansed, to excite irritation, and because they are efficient in affording relief. In cases where there is swelling, etc., of the vulva, they are inadmissible at first, it is true; so are the astringent injections; but, after the swelling and inflammation have been reduced by fomentations of ulmus, the injections should be persevered in, and the pessary worn as long as indicated.

Whatever indications of a constitutional character—and they are various—may present themselves at any period during the continuance of either of these vaginal difficulties, they should, of course, be promptly fulfilled.

Consequences:—These forms of vaginal disease, if not early remedied, are very difficult to radically cure; and, if continued, are liable to give rise to very unpleasant consequences,—such as diffi-

culty in evacuating the bladder and rectum, inflammation, swelling, varicose veins, excoriation of the vagina, excessive menstruation, leucorrhœa, and prolapsus uteri.

THE CONNECTICUT SECESSION.

DR. NEWTON;—

Dear Sir,—At the annual meeting of the Connecticut Botanico-Medical Society, in May last, the following *Protest* or Memorial was signed by fifteen members, read before the Society, and ordered to be spread upon the Journal of Proceedings.

PROTEST. “The undersigned, members of the Connecticut Botanico-Medical Society, beg leave to enter their *solemn protest* against the proceedings of the President of said Society in Convention, in his decision, not to entertain an appeal from his decision, when fairly presented and called for: and the undersigned, feeling deeply aggrieved at said decision, and not willing to countenance, by their presence and membership in said Connecticut Botanico-Medical Society, such proceedings, and others which your memorialists do not deem proper here to specify, take this opportunity to express their disapprobation of the illegal course pursued, and refuse to cooperate, in any further business connected with said Society, until said illegality is corrected, by an abandonment of the above specified act, and all proceedings subsequent.

Dated, at Hartford, the 13th day of May, 1851.”

Signed by fifteen members.

The undersigned, appointed a Committee on the part of those who *seceded*, or signed the above *protest*, to present an exposition, of the matter, or assign reasons for the course adopted, beg leave, through the columns of your Journal, to set forth, briefly, some of the many reasons or causes, which, either directly or indirectly, produced such a result.

The Committee deem it due to those whom they represent, in this place, to state and challenge contradiction, that, in all their intercourse with said Society and in all their actions therewith,

their aim and sole object has been its elevation, prosperity, and success. The Committee deem it, therefore, due to themselves, to those whom they represent, and to the public, who, to a certain extent, are presumed to have knowledge of the protest and secession, to set forth the reasons which actuated them in the course which they thought proper to pursue. The Committee would here state, that they believe they but express the general sentiment and feelings of those whom they represent, when they say, that, towards a very large majority of the present members of said Society, no other than the most amicable relations exist. But, with regard to certain transactions in said Society, we wish to speak. We do not design to indulge in personal remarks, towards any one, nor to impugn the motives of any one; but only to state some actions, in said Society, which the undersigned regret, and which were the chief and immediate cause of the presentation of the above *protest*.

It should here be remembered, that the Society is working under a charter granted by the Legislature of the State; and hence will be seen the necessity of dignified proceedings, actions, and decisions.

The Committee do not deem it necessary to review and make public certain serious grievances, which existed, in the Society and its management, previously to its present chartered organization; but they will confine themselves to certain doings under its present legal existence.

In all deliberative bodies, or associations, whatever may be the object, whether religious, political, or medical, whether for benevolent or literary purposes, it may be presumed, that certain members will be ambitious of distinction, promotion, or emolument; and, many times, perhaps, the most unfair and unjust measures are resorted to, to attain such ends. We believe, that such influences, and such actions have well nigh proved the bane of our Medical Association and the overthrow of our Society.

To justify the above position, we wish to allude to the course of action pursued at the annual meeting, in May, 1850, at New Haven. In the election of officers of the Society, large printed ballots, containing the names of all the executive officers to be chosen,

were, upon one piece of paper, as by magic, at the instant of proceeding to the election, thrust upon the members, very few of whom, except the clique from which they emanated, had seen them previously. There were also presented, upon another piece of paper, *printed* ballots containing the names of all the *Censors* to be chosen. It appeared evidently wrong to many members present; and strong objections were urged, as it was considered, unfair, unjust, and anti-democratic. Yet, notwithstanding the objections, this wholesale balloting, concocted by a clique, prevailed.

At the same session, the existing Board of Censors were denied the privilege of fulfilling their accustomed duties of examining applicants for license to practice, and consequently performed no duties during the year; while the Censors appointed during that session have performed double duty, by examining the students who applied at that meeting, and likewise those who have since presented themselves at the subsequent annual meeting, in May last.

We might go into detail, and present other and stronger reasons which urged upon the memorialists the necessity of the course which they took. But we shall only speak of one other action of said body, and that which was the immediate cause of the protest. At the meeting in May last, the Society was again disgraced and humiliated, by thrusting, upon the members of the Society, at the moment of the call for votes for the executive officers, *printed ballots*, containing, as before, the names of all the proposed executive officers, upon one piece of paper; which ballots had evidently been designedly secreted till the moment of the call for votes, when they were immediately circulated; and a hurried preparation was made, for balloting for all the officers at once as before, while probably not half of the members present had even seen the tickets up to that moment. Objection was raised to the manner of voting, and a motion was made to vote for the officers separately. This was carried by a bare majority; and the voting for the president commenced, but resulted in no choice. A second ballot was taken; and it was observed that one person voted at this time, as well as at the previous ballot, who was not a member of the Society. The result of the ballot was declared, which was the election of the then incumbent by a very close vote. A member here stated, that

there appeared to be more votes cast, than there were members present ; and he moved a count of the members ; which motion was seconded plainly by a member present. Said motion was not noticed by the President, (and, as he afterwards stated, was not heard,) and he soon called for the votes for Vice President. The member again renewed his motion, which was again seconded by the same member who had previously seconded it ; when the chair decided it out of order, and stated, that the business of the Society was the election of officers. An appeal was made from his decision and properly seconded, which appeal was also decided *out of order*. Thus a complete autocratical and despotic power was made of the chair of a Society, chartered for the benefit of all. In this state of affairs, the Society being evidently under the control of a *one man power*, the memorialists could, in justice to themselves, do no less, without doing violence to their better feelings and judgment, than enter their *solemn protest*, and refuse any further aid and co-operation, until the illegality and stain were removed.

Much as the members regretted the above course, as necessary, on their part,—unwilling as they were to dissolve a connection which had, with a large portion of the Society, been instructive, profitable, and agreeable, they, nevertheless, felt it their solemn duty so to do ; and, regretted that certain influences were exercised and urged, in the control of the business of the Society, which could never redound to its credit, prosperity, and desired elevation.

In conclusion, the memorialists, with pleasure, define their present position, and future course of action.

They are now, ever have been, and ever will be identified with the party of progress. They desire and labor for the elevation of the Botanic reformed practice, and will leave no means untried to advance the principles of *true Medical Science*. And they extend the right hand of fellowship to all who disdain a low, grovelling, sycophantic course, and cast away all obstacles to a dignified and elevated position in the reformed medical ranks.

H. R. BURR,
J. W. JOHNSON, } *Committee.*
E. BURR,

Hartford, Conn., July, 1851:

INVESTIGATIONS IN MATERIA MEDICA. PODOPHYLLUM
AND PODOPHYLLIN.

BY PROF. E. S. McCLELLAN.

Podophyllum.—"The rhizoma of *Podophyllum Peltatum*." U. S. Nat. Ord. Podophylleæ, Lindley. Sex. Syst. Polyandria Monogynia.

Gen. Char. Calix three sepalled. Corolla six to nine petalled. Stamens twelve to eighteen. Stigma large, sessile, crenate. Fruit fleshy, not dehiscent. Cell one. Seeds many.

Spec. Char. Rhizoma perennial, jointed, three or four lines in thickness, creeping, smooth, furnished at the joints with radicles, dark brown externally. Stem from ten to fifteen inches in height, erect, round, smooth, dividing at the top into two petioles about 4 or 5 inches in length; each supporting a large peltate palmate leaf, which is smooth above, slightly pubescent beneath, commonly divided deeply into six or seven lobes, which are two or three parted at the extremity.

The common names by which this plant is known are *May Apple*, *Mandrake*, &c. It grows in almost all parts of the United States, abounding in rich, moist, and shady soil.

The recently gathered root possesses a volatile poisonous principle, which drying dissipates; and hence it is used only in the dried state. The proper time for collecting it is in the Autumn, after the top dies; or, in the Spring, before it commences to grow.

The dried root, as found in the shops, is commonly in pieces several inches in length, of a dark brown or blackish color externally, and dingy white internally. It is very compact, and it fractures short. It has but a faint odor,—taste sweetish, bitter, and acrid.

The root of this plant has long been known as an active cathartic, and has had more or less empirical reputation, since the early settlement of our country. It is said that a knowledge of its virtues was first obtained from the Aborigines. Within the last thirty or forty years, it has gradually been introduced into regular practice.

The therapeutic properties of *Podophyllum* are dependant upon the presence of a resinoid principle, which, in a strictly scientific sense, might be called *Resina Podophylli*; but, for the sake of

convenience and simplicity, the name "*Podophyllin*" has, by common consent, been adopted.

Podophyllin may be obtained in the following manner. Take coarsely powdered podophyllum, in any quantity; alcohol 80 per cent. Obtain, by percolation, a saturated tincture, to which add cold distilled water, 25 per cent. Displace the alcohol with a suitable still,—heat being applied by means of a water or steam bath. The residue should be removed from the still, while yet hot, placed in a suitable vessel, and permitted to remain unmolested for eight or ten days; during which time the resinous matter precipitates to the bottom of the vessel in a solid mass. The oil, (of which there is always more or less present,) gradually rises to the top;—the water holding in solution most of the gum, extractive, and coloring matter. The oil, water, &c., should now be removed from the vessel, leaving only the resinous precipitate,—to which add cold distilled water, q. s. Allow it to remain several days,—washing it until it is perfectly granular. The water being removed by a suitable filter, it should be dried in the shade, the temperature not exceeding 100 degrees. When finely pulverized, it is fit for use.

Podophyllin thus prepared is of a pale, opaque, yellow color; insoluble in water; completely soluble in alcohol; has neither alkaline nor acid reaction, except that it forms saponaceous compounds with the alkalis; will not coalesce in the open air, unless heated, when it partially melts, loses its granular form and light color, and becomes a dark brown resinous mass.

Physiological effects and Therapeutic properties.—Podophyllin, taken in large and repeated doses, is a powerful emetico-cathartic, producing nausea, general relaxation, vomiting, and active purging of a hydro-chologogue character. In smaller doses, it is a mild but efficient cathartic, being very permanent in its operations, and leaving the bowels in a soluble condition. In quite small doses, it is gently aperient and efficiently alterative. To produce a powerful and lasting impression upon the glandular system and secretory organs generally, it certainly has no superior now known. While it combines certainty and permanency of action, its range of application is more extensive, and it is, at the same time, less liable to do harm, in the hands of injudicious practitioners, than any other known article of equal potency.

Its range of application is co-extensive with and applicable to the fulfilment of all the indications for which, according to the "authorities," the *mercurials* are used.

The following are some of the cases to which it has been found peculiarly applicable.

As an aperient, in cases of *dyspepsia*, with habitual constipation, especially when there is torpidity of the liver, it is invaluable. In such cases, it should be given in about one-fourth gr. doses, once a day, or enough to produce an aperient but not cathartic effect; and this should be continued for some weeks, or until the patient is relieved.

Bilious fever will often yield to a thorough operation of podophyllin, in the course of ten or fifteen hours. It may, also, be used in *remittents* and *intermittents* with the most happy results. To have its best effect, in these cases, it should be given in doses sufficient to produce an active catharsis or even emesis. As an alterative in *scrofula* and *syphilis*, it is particularly valuable.

It is much esteemed in the treatment of *jaundice*, *glandular enlargements*, *dropsies*, and *inflammatory affections* generally. For these diseases, it is best combined with cream of tartar, to render it more speedy in its action and hydragogue in its effects.

In *puerperal fever*, it may be given in half grain doses, every two or three hours, combined as above, until it operates freely. In most cases, the urgent symptoms will begin to subside, with the operation of the medicine.

In *dysentery* and *diarrhœa*, especially when connected with hepatic derangement, it may be relied upon with confidence.

Dose and mode of administration.—Podophyllin should always be triturated with some other substance, to prevent its local action upon the mucous membrane of the stomach, and to render it more soluble. The best article for this purpose, with which I am acquainted, is sugar of milk (lactin); but white sugar will answer as a substitute. Ten grains of podophyllin, and ninety grains of sugar of milk form a convenient combination. If an absorbent is indicated, as in dysentery and diarrhœa, vegetable charcoal or prepared chalk may be substituted. The dose, as an alterative and aperient, varies from one tenth to one fourth of a grain, repeated;—as an active cathartic, from one half grain to two grains.

COLIC.

A case recently came under my treatment, which may afford some instruction, if it can be rightly apprehended. It was a case of colic. A young man was taken very severely, and an Allopathic physician was immediately called. He labored incessantly to procure a passage of the bowels, but all in vain. On the third or fourth day, an experienced physician was called in counsel, who, after using all the means which could be thought of, decided, that it was a case not to be reached.

The attending physician continued his visits for nearly three days longer, before I was called,—declaring, both before and after I was in attendance, that the young man could not live.

Among other things, croton oil was administered, until the thirst of the patient was intolerable, and his sufferings were augmented so dreadfully, that large doses of opium became necessary, to keep the poor fellow in a condition which could reconcile him, for a moment, to life. The bowels were inflated, smooth, and as hard as it is possible to imagine. The eyes were sunken in the head,—the countenance was ghastly as death.

In this condition, I found the patient. The first thing I did was to administer an enema of about four drams of the pulverized seed of lobelia in decoction. After which, I applied my *blister substitute* over the whole abdomen. In the course of three or four hours, I repeated the enema, adding, to the above named dose, mucilages and nervines; *but no stimulants, lest I might rouse to action the poisonous agents administered before I was called, and thus kill my patient.*

Thus I proceeded with caution, obtaining fair operations from the bowels at every successive injection. When the second portion had fully operated, the stomach and that portion of the bowels above the point of interruption became free; so that a very different treatment—as to quantity particularly—was now indicated.

The very first of my treatment so far relieved my patient, that drinks were retained in the stomach, without producing emesis,—which had not been done for six days before. After the third en-

ema, I obtained five passages of the bowels free and full, consisting of a quantity of morbid secretions, probably amounting to from one to two gallons. Then followed the newly formed stools; and the emaciated man, who had only been moved on sheets for days before, and who was given up by all to die,—but his Heavenly Father and the unworthy instrument used in his restoration,—was again restored to health; so that in just one week, from the time when all his family and friends were about him waiting to see him breathe his last, through God's mercy, he walked out around his father's house, and he is now in the enjoyment of good health.

W. B.

PERTUSSIS AND PNEUMONIA.

PROF. NEWTON:—

March 31st, I was called to see a child of Mr. Wm. Henshaw, in this village, aged three years. I found him with the following symptoms;—pulse 200; respiration 100; extremities cold as marble; eyes sunken, with a dark areola around them; alæ of the nose contracted; and the whole expression of the countenance cadaverous. On inquiry, I found he had been in this state for two days. Auscultation exhibited violent inflammation and hepatization of the lungs. The tongue was covered thickly with a whitish coat. The bowels were constipated; the renal secretion was entirely suspended; and tisis was frequent and laborious.

Under these circumstances, I found it indispensable to have three indications fulfilled;—1st, to bring a determination to the surface; 2nd, to lessen arterial action; and, 3rd, to produce active peristaltic motion in the bowels.

For the first, I ordered hot stones, wrapped in damp cloths, placed around the patient, and gave freely pennyroyal tea. After diaphoresis had taken place, I commenced giving lobelia and blood root in tincture, equal parts of each, every ten minutes, until free emesis took place. I then gave an active dose of podophyllin,

and, at the same time, a mixture of syrup of squills in the proportion of 2 oz., to sweet spirits of nitre 1 oz., ipecac 1 dr. Of this, I gave one teaspoonful every 15 minutes, at the same time giving a powder, composed of extract of gall 10 grs., crawley 3 grs., every hour. I also applied to the feet and wrists drafts of black birch (*betula lenta*) one part, indian meal two parts. This I think the best preparation for drafts I ever used. I ordered the treatment to be continued until I should return. This was in the morning. At three o'clock, I visited the little sufferer again. I found the skin moist; the physic had operated well; the pulse was lessened 5 beats; the respiration was the same. The patient had vomited once or twice, since I left. The parents asked my opinion in regard to him. I told them the chance was small; but I would do the best I could. I ordered a large poultice of roast onions, applied to the chest, keeping him in a reclining position. The mother was satisfied with the course prescribed, and was energetic in nursing.

This treatment was continued until April 2nd, when I requested a brother Botanic, who was in the place, to visit him. In addition to the above treatment, he ordered strong flax-seed tea, with a little pulverized liquorice, and a little lemon juice, to be given freely;—also, a cataplasm of crackers, covered with skunk cabbage and skunk's oil, to the top of the chest. He ordered the gall powders to be given every 2 hours, and a strong tea of crawley and lobelia every hour.

April 4th, the patient remained as at first. I commenced feeding him with the syrup of squills. I gave 4 large teaspoonfuls, and then prepared the same article, as at first, and gave a teaspoonful every half hour; and the same amount of skunk's oil every half hour, until he vomited freely. This seemed to excite an action in the air tubes, and the next morning he began to raise somewhat, it being the ninth day after the attack. From that time, he began to amend, and he is now a healthy boy.

I should have said, that, from that time, I treated the case as one of pneumonia, using active expectorants, diaphoretics, and laxatives;—also, mucilaginous substances.

I do not relate this case to boast of it, but to benefit suffering humanity. There were four other cases in town, at the same time,

and the patients all died. Their treatment was Allopathic. In the case above related, the neighbors kept telling the parents, that the child was worse and that all the doctors in the world could not save him ; also, that it was useless for me to run up a bill against them. They even went so far as to say, that, if that patient got well, they should send me to the grave yard to get some of their friends who had been there for 20 years. But, in a large practice, for nine months past, I have lost but one patient in regard to whom I gave any encouragement before commencing treatment. That case was one of paralysis of the bowels, produced by an active dose of tartar emetic. Oh ! when will people learn to obey the laws of nature, instead of regarding the notions of murderous quacks ?

Medical truth is gaining ground fast, in this place ; and people are learning the difference between being killed and cured.

S. P. HUBBARD.

Fiskdale, June 2nd, 1851.

CHOREA.

DR. NEWTON ;—

Dear Sir,—I was, through necessity, and by no means through neglect, obliged to delay my present communication. Certain cases of severe malady, fell into my hands, to which, outside of unavoidable duty, I was obliged to give my most serious attention. One was a case of *Chorea Sancti Viti*. A well conditioned little girl, of about 15 years of age, by means of a fright, was suddenly taken with this terrible disease. It set in by first affecting the lower extremities, then the right arm, with convulsive spasm of the muscles of the face ;—which soon became general over the whole body, impeding all regular voluntary muscular action. These strange distortions were owing to the conjoint action of the will and the excito-motary system.

Knowing that the cause of her disease was fright, I first endeavored to counteract its further effects by every available means. Indeed, the case afforded me a clear specimen, as well of the

prevalence of mind on matter, as of their action on each other, which I consider a theory of no small moment to the medical practitioner. It could be distinctly measured in the present case; for, when her spirits were somewhat exhilarated, her disease would seem considerably to abate, in the violence of her twitchings. She being the daughter of a poor widow and her only assistant, consequently required the most effectual and speedy relief.

After preparing the bowels by the proper drastic and laxative medicines, I administered an infusion of the English valerian, pretty copiously. This had very little or no effect. I then made an infusion of the *scutellaria lateriflora*, of the class and order of the Linnæan *Didynamia, Gymnospermia*, as there are three kinds. This I mixed with the *myrica cerifera*, in the quantity of six parts of the former to one of the latter. I administered one teacupful of the above infusion, three times a day.

After thus continuing about ten days, the girl found relief, and could speak more distinctly. Her gums and mouth were much affected during the first six or eight days. To them I applied a solution of *sodæ boras* and simple syrup, which soon had the desired effect. She is now quite recovered by the application of none but the above remedies, and by constantly attending to the state of her bowels,—which, all along, I kept rather free.

J. B. McMAHON, M. D.

THE BIBLE ON HEALTH.

PROF. NEWTON:—

Having written two or three articles which have appeared in the *Journal*, I hardly dare to offer you another, lest you have occasion to feel I am pushing my claims too far.

That your work is growing more and more interesting, and that the people are so looking upon it, is obvious. I trust, that the number of subscribers is increasing. I presume, however, it is with medical *Journals* as with religious, in this respect; viz., not even all the physicians and ministers respectively take one. How a physician can get along without a good medical periodical it is

hard to tell. I have just spent a few days with a physician of considerable eminence, in a large and thriving village, who has taken, but does not now take, the *Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal*. It is not because he does not like it, or is unable to take it; but, I presume, it is through neglect. So, doubtless, it is with some others. What a fruitful source of ignorance and do-nothing is this matter of neglect!

But I took up my pen to write a few words upon the scriptural view of health. Whatever may be said upon this subject,—whoever may contend that the Bible is silent upon it, it makes no difference. Some can see nothing in that great book but their own limited favorite notions. Others can find every thing taught in it.

Does the bible teach any thing definite on this subject? An important question!

1. The bible presents wisdom connected with the subject of physical human life. To say nothing of other passages from the pen of the wisest man, listen to the following; “*Length of days is in her right hand.*” [Prov. 3; 16.] Wisdom is presented as calling upon the young to listen to her entreaties and instructions. Is it not evident that this text has, to say the least, some reference to this life?

2. We read of a class who, by their violation of God’s laws, do actually shorten their physical life. “*Bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days.*” [Ps. 55; 23.]

3. True religion is represented as having an influence upon the longevity of man, in those passages that present conditions the fulfilment of which is connected with long life. “*My son, forget not my law, but let thy heart keep my commandments; for length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.*” [Prov. 3; 1, 2.] “*Honor thy father and mother, (which is the first commandment with promise,) that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long upon the earth.*” [Eph. 6; 2, 3.]

It is evident that there are many other passages of scripture which have a greater or less bearing upon this important theme. “*Godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.*” [1st Tim. 4; 8.]
More anon.

A CLERGYMAN.

June, 1851.

NEW ENGLAND PHARMACEUTICAL LABORATORY.

WORCESTER, MASS.

The great practical superiority of chemically concentrated, over crude vegetable, remedies is now generally conceded. Besides a greatly increased amount of convenience in administration (which of itself is a sufficient recommendation), there is the important additional advantage, that, by the process to which the articles are subjected, the medicinal properties of some are essentially improved, and the prepared agents are thereby suited to cases to which the crude are inapplicable. In the minds of the subscribers, there cannot longer be a doubt, that, not only the various alkaloids, resins, and other preparations already in use must be generally adopted by the profession, but that the active principle of very many other medicinal agents may and will, in like manner, be obtained in a concentrated and more desirable form.

The subscribers are, accordingly, furnishing themselves with every facility for the various manipulations of vegetable pharmacy, and for carrying forward scientific investigations, to the greatest possible extent. They have opened a PHARMACEUTICAL LABORATORY of sufficient extent in its operations to supply the present and the constantly increasing demand of the profession,—especially in New England.

After the 15th of the present month, they will be prepared to fill orders for several of the principal articles; and, shortly, will have, on hand, an ample and general supply. The terms of trade will invariably be *cash*.

NEWTON AND KELLEY.

Corner of Front and Carlton Streets.

WANTED.

An Eclectic Physician, who is well posted up, in all the reforms and improvements of the profession, and who has had ten years' extensive and successful practice, wishes a situation in some flourishing town or village, in New York, Pennsylvania, or Ohio; where he could settle down for life with a good prospect of a comfortable income from his practice.

He would not object to superintending an establishment for the manufacture or sale of medical preparations, on a moderate salary or fair commission.

A location would be preferred on some Rail Road or Steam Boat route. Address, *post paid*, with full particulars,

WILLIAM BOOTH, Albany, N. Y.

July 1.

THE NEW ANTI-SPASMODIC.

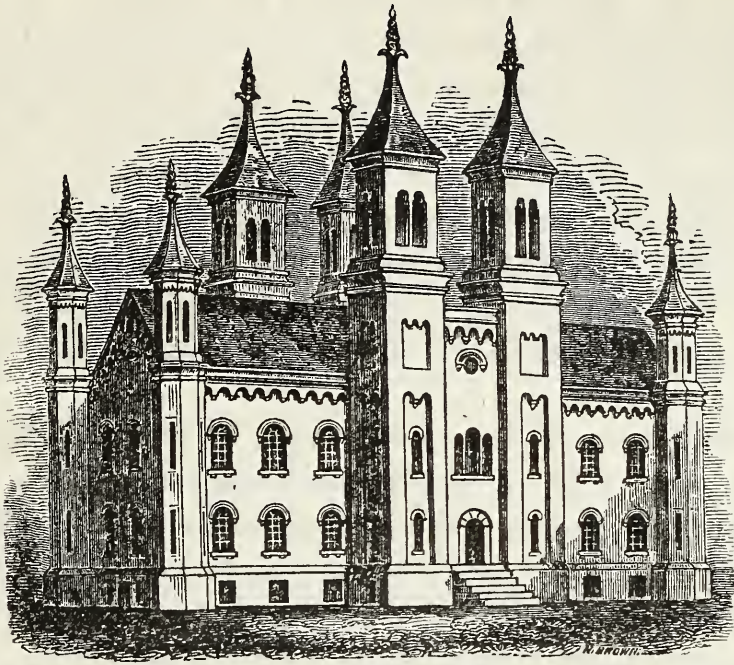
[The readers of the Journal will recollect, that, in No. 3, page 97, our correspondent, W. B., gave a brief but interesting account of his experience in the use of *a new anti-spasmodic*. He referred particularly to those nervous diseases which are immediately connected with the lungs and the uterus; that is, asthma and hysteria.

The delicacy of the expression, in which he described the "fœtid liquor" as obtained from "an animal of the weasel kind," led us and some of our readers to suppose, that the doctor designed the remedy to be kept measurably as a secret. He has, however, generously corrected our error, and apprized us, that the name of the animal, according to the classification of naturalists, is *viverra mephitis*. Should this name prove a little too learned for any of our readers, they will please consult, in the Dictionary of Noah Webster L. L. D., the definition of the *vulgar* word *skunk*, and they will probably receive all necessary light. Seriously, then, and without any additional false modesty, we hope our brethren of the profession will extensively make a fair trial of an agent which, in the hands of an individual, seems to have had a remarkable efficacy in some of the most perplexing of diseases. *Editor.*]

Since my last communication, I have tested the remedy upon a lady who had passed the meridian of life. She had been a great sufferer for many years. I will not here attempt a description of her suffering; but suffice it to say, that the spasms, which had been intolerable for months and years, are entirely removed and she is now in the possession of good health.

This is the third case of complete cure which has come within my practice.

W. B.



[Worcester Medical Institution.]

Editorial.

—:—

ESQ. DOYEN'S LATE LETTER.

A brother physician of high respectability, in writing us on a matter of business, has also penned a few thoughts, respecting the letter of Esq. Doyen, which, at the instance of Dr. Wm. Young, we published in our last number. The brother gently reproves us for consenting to publish a letter which merely serves to advertise a certain physician's ability to cure a certain disease, without at all enlightening us as to the means or mode of cure. We confess we seriously felt the force of this objection, when we gave the copy to the printer, and we were, on that account, tempted to withhold it. Our correspondent, with strict propriety, says,—

“Dr. Young sends this letter to be published,—for what? Why, to let all the people know, that he can cure sore eyes; virtually

making an advertisement of more than two pages,—*and of a secret remedy too*—directly in the heart of the Journal. How much more philanthropic and courteous would it have been in Dr. Young, —if he had really performed a signal cure of diseased eyes, and had wished to let the public know what Esq. Doyen thought of him,—to have given a report of the case, its treatment, &c., with such pathological remarks as would have been interesting and useful to the readers of a medical Journal! So long as narrow-minded selfishness is the ruling spirit of our communications, it will be hard to establish the evidence of our possessing a liberal and scientific system.”

We most heartily endorse every word of this quotation; and, had we not known Dr. Y. and believed, that the omission to name the treatment in this case was rather an oversight, and that, at a future time, he will be pleased to append, to what is of service to him, what will be of value to the public,—to the profession, especially,—we would not have admitted his communication. We are most inflexibly opposed to the countenance of secret remedies, and of every thing which, in any way, savors of empiricism.

Heretofore, Dr. Young has favored us with some communications of deep pathological interest. We hope he will not, in this instance, fail to give us his treatment, and show its appropriateness by an explanation of the pathological character of the disease.

BOTANY BAY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Such, we regard, as the most appropriate name to be adopted by a certain clique in Medicine. They claim to be reformers in the healing art, and to be laboring to promote the public weal; but, for their medical views, we have about as much respect as we have for the religion of Mahomet; and, as to their moral and professional character, it certainly might well entitle them to be distinguished by a separation from all the contaminating influences of the common people.

Union is strength, and there is something even in a name. Why, then, should not the various discontents and ultraists in reform band themselves together under an appellation such as we have placed at the head of this article. They certainly experience no want of men sufficiently eminent to become suitable officers for the organization. If, for instance, they can find a competent number, who are aspirants for office, and who are already honored with the titles of murderers, debauchees, drunkards, liars, thieves, false-swearers, counterfeiters, &c., &c., they may rest assured, that their Association will be one of no ordinary repute.

Query. Will there be found any lack of the necessary material in Connecticut and New York? If so, probably some aid may be obtained from Massachusetts and Ohio.

Our advice in this matter, however, is perfectly gratuitous; and we shall leave to others to do their own business. Suffice it to say, that the medical interests to which we are attached are entirely disconnected from all Botany Bay Associations. We go, not only for liberal professional views and elevated attainments in the science of medicine, but for the possession of such moral qualities as render the physician reputable in the community.



PROF. McCLELLAN ON MATERIA MEDICA.

We would call the attention of our readers to the article in the present number by Prof. E. S. McClellan. It is the first of a series, which he promises to give us on different branches of the *Materia Medica*. In these articles, we expect him to illustrate fully the nature and effects, both of the crude vegetable agents, and of the concentrated preparations. We trust that his communications will be found deeply interesting to all who peruse the *Journal*. For gaining a practical knowledge of vegetable pharmacy, few persons have been so highly favored as Prof. M.; and the profession will now have the opportunity to profit, if they will, by his experience.

HILL'S SURGERY.

We have the impression, that our medical brethren,—especially, in New England,—have thus far quite too much neglected this recently published and highly-valuable work. We are very far from claiming for it perfection ; but we do think it richly worth the cost to every practitioner (of whatever medical faith), who is willing to improve in professional knowledge. There are certainly, in this book, several very valuable things which have never yet been elsewhere published. Get it, brethren, and examine it. Having done so, if you are not satisfied with your outlay of money,—only \$3,50,—send the book to us, and we will pay you for it.

DR. DAVIS' INSTRUMENT.

We have examined, somewhat, Dr. Davis' Instrument for the improvement of spinal curvatures as mentioned in our last number ; and we think it has some advantages decidedly to recommend it. The doctor is an Allopathic physician in this vicinity, who has, as we think, much more *mechanical* tact than skill in the application of medicinal agents. We think that his invention may be of some essential service to that class of patients for whom it is intended. As it is not, however, a complicated affair, it seems to us that fifteen dollars constitute a rather large *mineral* dose for ordinary pockets.

NOTICE TO A CORRESPONDENT.

We have received, from a friend in Syracuse, New York, a notice of some of the late movements of a portion of the Eclectic friends in that State. We doubt not, that the communication contains a good deal of truth ; but much of it is couched in language not sufficiently dignified to be well received by our readers. Besides, we do not consider it desirable to identify ourselves with either party in a quarrel, with which we are but remotely, if at all, concerned.

NEW ENGLAND

BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL

JOURNAL.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

VOL. V.

WORCESTER, MASS., SEPTEMBER 1, 1851.

NO. 9.

Communications.

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GENERAL ENDS TO BE PROVIDED FOR IN THE CONSTITUTION OF AN ORGANIZED LIVING BEING.

I. It is a universal law, that the materials which enter into the constitution of organized living beings are constantly undergoing changes. The incessant action of the vital functions, the exercise of both the voluntary and the involuntary muscles, as well as of the nerves, in every act of sensation and volition, continually subject the system to losses. To keep up the organization, it is, therefore, necessary that these losses should be as constantly supplied. To supply these losses, there is one great end to be provi-

ded for in the constitution of organized living beings. The process of reparation consists of several distinct steps.

1. Since the body is continually undergoing waste, it must find the materials of its reparation in substances foreign to itself.—These materials are furnished by the food which the animal takes. But, before the food can be appropriated to the supply of these losses, it must undergo a preparing process. Hence the necessity of the function of *digestion*.

2. When the food is thus prepared to furnish materials for the supply of losses, it must be carried to every part of the system to supply the waste which is every where going on. Hence the necessity of a vigorous and incessant *circulation*. The circulation of the blood answers several important purposes, of which these two are the most important. The blood, in its circulation, serves as a medium for conveying to every part of the body materials for its nourishment,—and, also, as a medium for conveying dead matter and other impurities to places whence they can be removed. To adopt an illustration with which every one is familiar, we may compare the veins and arteries to railways, the blood to instruments of transportation, and the various absorbent and excreting vessels to depots.

3. In the decomposition of animal matter, a large proportion of carbon is eliminated. This carbon is furnished, not only by the disintegration of particles composing the body, but, also, by the large amount of vegetable matter taken as food. Carbon, in its elementary state, is highly poisonous, and should therefore be expelled from the body as speedily as possible. Now, since oxygen has great affinity for carbon, it is only necessary to bring these elements together to effect a combination. This is accomplished by the process of *respiration*. In the act of *inhalation*, the oxygen of the atmosphere is brought in contact and combines with the carbon brought to the lungs by the blood. In the act of *exhalation*, the compound, or carbonic acid gas, is expelled. Superfluous or dead matter is also expelled by certain secreting organs. For example, the liver expels carbon and *hydrogen*,—and the kidneys, salts and nitrogenous compounds.

II. Another great end, to be provided for in the constitution of organized living beings, is the maintenance of a proper *temperature*.

At a temperature above or below a certain range, the vital functions cease to act. The maintenance of a uniform temperature is, also, effected by *respiration*. Very considerable heat is evolved by the rapid combination of the oxygen and carbon in the lungs. The more rapid and vigorous the respiration, the higher the temperature of the blood. This accounts for the notorious fact, that persons living in polar climates can eat with impunity various fatty matters, such as lard, butter, &c., which are very rich in carbon; while, in tropical climates, such edibles are extremely hurtful.

III. A third great end to be provided for in the organization of constituted living beings is the *continuation of the species*. All animal matter, in consequence both of incessant internal wear and of external injuries, is liable to decay and separation. The very laws of matter decree death upon every living being. Hence the necessity of a system of *reproduction*.

IV. Since an animal cannot maintain its life without a constant supply of food, and since the food is rarely found close at hand, the animal must be furnished with the means of obtaining it. Hence the power of *locomotion* is the fourth general end to be provided for, in the constitution of organized living beings. By this provision, many animals are also enabled to attack, and defend themselves from their enemies. In connection with this, we may add, that, for the same reasons, animals should be provided with organs of *prehension*, as well as of locomotion. The nervous, muscular, and osseous systems constitute a great part of the apparatus of locomotion and prehension.

V. To guide the animal in the search and selection of his food, to warn him of enemies, and to point out the means of defense and escape,—in short, to put him in communication with the external world, the animal must be furnished with the faculties of perception. Hence the necessity of providing him with the *organs of sense*.

VI. Animals must be endowed with a certain degree of intelligence, which, in want of a better name, we may denominate *instincts*; for, without instincts or some kind of intelligence, what will all their complex organizations avail them? Instinct teaches the bee and ant to lay up provisions against the time of want; the robin, the beaver, and the rabbit to protect their young, by making

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nests, building dams, and digging warrens. Without instincts, the lower animals would be as helpless as the very stones.

We would like to say something about the capacity of the lower animals for pleasurable enjoyments, but the limits of this paper forbid.

G. D. B.

July.

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WAS MAN DESIGNED FOR A PHYSICAL IMMORTALITY?

Not a few good men suppose, that, had not sin been introduced into the world, man never would have died. Death is thus attributed to sin. An examination of the structure and composition of the body will convince us, that man, everywhere, in obedience to the great laws of matter, must undergo dissolution. The following are some of the considerations which induce this conclusion.

First, it is a universal law of organized matter, that it is constantly undergoing decomposition. For every expenditure of force, there is a proportional waste of the particles concerned in the action of that force. Incessant action is the universal attribute of organized beings. Hence, there is an incessant expenditure of force; and, consequently, an incessant disintegration of particles. This fact may be accounted for, by supposing, that, in every expenditure of force, there is an attrition of the particles, and that their consequent disintegration is assisted by the remarkable affinity of oxygen for the elements which enter into the composition of animal matter. We believe, that it was Liebig who said, that, the man who dies of *old age is merely burned out by oxygen*.

It is true that this constant waste is compensated in part by the system of nutrition. But, after the animal has attained its maturity, this compensation is only partial. After this period, the supply becomes less and less proportioned to the waste. This might be expected from the consideration, that, the system of nutrition, itself consisting of animal matter, must, like all animal matter, undergo decay. We conclude, therefore, that the human body is predisposed to dissolution. In vain do we search for any

material principle which shall counteract this universal tendency to disintegration.

That a complete system should be devised for the *continuation of the human species*, is a presumptive proof, that man was not destined for a physical immortality. When we consider the organs of reproduction,—the delicacy and complexity of their mechanism,—the facts, that the life of the parties is independent of the life of the parent, and that, in the uterine life, in the case of the parent, the supply is less than the waste, and, in the case of the parties, the supply is greater than the waste,—when we consider, that, at the time of birth, a child, endowed with all the elements of a perfect developement, is ready to take the place to be vacated by its progenitors,—can we doubt that the Creator devised this wonderful system for the purpose of keeping the earth peopled, yet, without violating the universal law of decay and death? Consider the consequences which would result from this system of reproduction, coupled as it is with the universal prevalence of the sexual passion, were there no limit assigned to human life. This consideration, of itself, would furnish a convincing argument that man was not destined for a physical immortality.

Again, *geology* teaches us that man is mortal. Geology is the history of the physical world; it discloses to us the fact that the earth has existed for unnumbered ages. During this period, countless organized beings have lived and died. To not a single member of the animal kingdom has immortality been granted. On the other hand, while, in every case, the individual has died, provision has been made for the continuation of the species. Through all the different stages of the earth's development, the same law of decay and death, without a single exception, has been obeyed. From these data, extending over a period of more than millions of years, we infer, that, man was not destined to live always on the earth.

From these three considerations,—that there is, in all animal matter, an inherent and irresistible tendency to undergo disintegration,—that provision has been made for the continuation of the species,—and, that the history of the animal kingdom shows that death has ever followed life,—we conclude that man, as well as all other living organized beings, must undergo dissolution.

July 12th.

26*

G. D. B.

INVESTIGATIONS IN MATERIA MEDICA, NO. II.

BY PROF. E. S. McCLELLAN.

LEPTANDRA VIRGINICA.

Nat. Ord. Scrophulariaceæ. *Sex. Syst.* Diandria Monogynia.*Synonymes.*—*Veronica Virginica*, Linn.; Blackroot, Culver's physic, Brinton's root, &c.*BOTANY. Gen. Char.* *Calyx* five-parted, with acuminate segments. *Corolla* tubular, campanulate, four-lobed. *Stamens* much exerted. *Capsule* ovate, acuminate. *Cells* two,—valves opening at the top. *Seeds* few.*Spec. Char.* Rhizoma perennial, horizontal, about half an inch in diameter, woody, thickly beset with long slender fibres. Stem erect, from three to five feet high, smooth. Leaves in whorls of from four to six; lanceolate, finely serrate, pubescent and glaucous beneath. Flowers many, nearly sessile, in long terminal and verticillate spikes. Corolla white, villous inside. Stamens much longer than the corolla.

This plant is indigenous to most parts of the United States; abounding in rich soil and open woods. It flowers in July.

Though the leptandra has been in empirical use, for a long time, and highly popular with some individuals, yet it has never received the favor of the Allopathic profession, and has been but briefly noticed by their "authorities." Within the last twelve or fifteen years, however, it has rapidly gained the confidence of the more liberal portion of the profession.

The root (*radix leptandræ*) is the only portion employed. As found in the shops, it is commonly in pieces several inches in length, blackish externally, brown internally, and beset with numerous fibres. Its odor is faint, its taste bitter and somewhat nauseous.*Physiological Effects and Therapeutic Properties.*—The recent root is acrid and unfit for use. In large doses, it produces severe nausea, vomiting, and drastic purging; but, in the dried state, it is mild and very pleasant in its operation.

Leptandra, taken in full doses, is a mild but efficient cathartic of a cholagogue character, cleansing the primæ viæ, and promoting a healthy biliary secretion, without producing the debilitating effects of the more drastic cathartics. In smaller doses, it is aperient, tonic, and alterative.

The dose of the powdered root is from twenty grs. to one drachm. It is best taken in substance, as it yields but a portion of its virtues to water.

Analysis.—The root contains *gum, extractive, essential oil, coloring matter, lignin, and resin.*

Its hepatic, tonic, and alterative properties are dependant upon the presence of its resinous principle (resina leptandræ), which is entitled to the name,

LEPTANDRIN.

This may be obtained in the following manner. Take coarsely powdered blackroot in any quantity, alcohol (not less than 80 per cent) q. s. Obtain, by percolation or displacement, a saturated tincture. The alcohol being removed by a suitable still, to the residue should be added distilled water, an amount equal to its own volume, and this should be permitted to stand for a week. During this time, the resinous matter will precipitate to the bottom of the vessel in a semi-liquid mass.—The water will hold in solution most of the extractive and coloring matter. These being removed, a fresh supply of cold distilled water should be added to the residue and this subjected to an additional washing. Then, the water being carefully removed, drying can best be effected by placing the article on shallow tin or porcelain plates, and subjecting them to a continued heat, not exceeding 180 degrees, until, upon cooling, it becomes perfect friable,—which usually requires eight or ten days. When finely pulverized, it is fit for use.

Too much care cannot be observed, in the preparation of this and analogous articles, *especially* in the process of drying; as the application of a little too much heat may render the article inert or materially change its character.

It is important in the preparation of this article, that high proof alcohol be used, on account of the fact, that there is, in the root, a large amount of extractive matter which is soluble in proportion to the amount of water present in the alcohol, the presence of which tends to prevent the precipitation of the leptandrin.

Leptandrin is a black resinous substance, breaks with a vitreous fracture, semi-liquifies by heat, and is unalterable in a dry atmosphere. The powder coalesces in a warm and moist air. It has neither acid nor alkaline reaction.

Therapeutic Properties.—Leptandrin possesses a property belonging to no other article in the *Materia Medica*, viz—the power to excite free biliary secretion without debilitating and drastic catharsis.

Its immediate sensible effects are very slight, being less cathartic than the leptandra. It occasionally produces nausea which is probably the effect of its hepatic action.

In the treatment of *dysentery* and *diarrhœa*, it is highly valuable. In these cases, it is advantageously combined with podophyllin in the following manner.

℞. Leptandrin gr. v.
Podophyllin gr. ij.
Lactin ʒj.

Triturate and divide into eight powders; one to be taken every two or three hours, until the character of the discharges is changed.

It is highly esteemed in the treatment of *cholera infantum* and should be administered as follows.

℞. Leptandrin gr. iij.
Carbo ligni ʒj.

Triturate and make twelve powders; one to be given every three or four hours, until the evacuations become more natural; after which a powder should be given, twice a day, for two or three days.

This article may be employed advantageously in *dyspepsia*, especially in combination with other articles. It is also highly esteemed in the treatment of *bilious* and *typhoid fevers*.

The leptandrin may be given in doses varying from a tenth of a grain to two, three, or four grains. But a dose of medium fullness is from one to two grains. If made into pills it should be mixed with some very soluble pill-mass, and should be mixed cold.

PHYSOPATHY VERSUS ALLOPATHY.

On the 27th of May last, I was called to a daughter of Mr. J. H. S——, of this place, six years of age, of nervous and sanguine, and slightly bilious temperament, who had been suffering three days with the croup. During the first two days, her parents did what they could for her, without arresting its progress in the least. An Allopathic physician of good reputation was then called, who pronounced the case the worst he had seen in seven years,—evinced *great feeling*,—*wept*,—and gave no encouragement. He, however, prescribed for her, as near as I recollect (,having seen afterward, his prescription), the officinal hive syrup (,to which was added *antimony*, which was given in small sickening doses), and warm fomentations to the throat. This was what was done for her during the night succeeding. The case continued to grow worse until about daylight, when the father sent to my office for tinc. lobelia, which he received just in time to exhibit, as spasms in the glottis commenced, which, so far, had the desired effect. The physician again visited her in the morning, and said he could do nothing more; and, as he was expecting to leave town on a journey the next day, he advised the calling of another physician. He said that, if the child was alive the next morning, he would call before he left.

Among the friends there was a diversity of feeling in regard to another physician, but the father sent for me. I visited her about four o'clock, P. M. I found her laboring under a convulsive and most agonizing respiration,—eyes protuberant, with general tremor,—voice reduced to a scarcely audible whisper,—feet cold,—bowels inactive, not having had any evacuation for forty-eight hours,—and anxious friends in attendance, betraying in their looks utter hopelessness and despair.

I was soon asked my opinion in the case. I said, We have no time to prognosticate,—*we must work*. I promptly ordered ice-water, in copious quantities, to be continuously applied to throat and chest, by means of several thicknesses of cotton cloth being dipt therein,—mustard cataplasms to the ankles,—hot and quenched

bricks to the feet,—also, a diffusively stimulant liniment to the throat and chest, every three hours. I gave a cough powder of about 5 or 6 grs. of equal parts of *sanguinaria can.*, *lob. inf.*, *ictodes foetida*, *arum triphyllum*, *asclepias tuberosa*, and *ulmus fulva*, every hour for four hours, which produced slight emesis. At 8 o'clock, I gave about 1 1-2 grs. of podophyllin; at 10 o'clock 1 1-2 table spoonfuls of castor oil. At 11 o'clock, and subsequently every 1 1-2 hours, I ordered the cough powders and discontinued the cataplasms,—in the mean time giving freely of sage tea or cold water for a drink, as she desired or preferred.

May 28th, I called in the morning, at 7 o'clock. Catharsis had taken place, as freely as could be desired. Emesis, the latter part of the night, had been copious. Large portions of the adventitious membrane had been, at different times, ejected. The breathing, although somewhat stridulous, was comparatively easy. The eyes were natural; the feet and limbs of a natural temperature; in short, the whole scene was changed. The little patient was no longer in the agony of threatening suffocation, and joy and hope beamed radiantly from the faces of friends. The first physician called according to promise,—saw her improved condition,—what was prescribed,—and the directions in full. He acknowledged that the treatment was good (and how could he do otherwise?); but whether others will be benefited by what he saw remains to be seen.

May 29th, the patient was still better,—began to complain of chilliness down the back from the constant application of ice-water to the throat. I ordered it less frequently and copiously; the cough powders every two hours; and a decoction of *asclepias tuberosa* to be given freely between the powders;—podophyllin at about sundown. There was, however, at this time, evidence of quite extensive bronchial irritation, arising, no doubt, in part, from the enlarged and morbidly disarranged condition of the liver which was at first indicated by the tongue.

The above treatment was not altered essentially for the next three days; at the expiration of which time, I found my little patient sitting in a rocking chair, breathing freely with tongue clean, but slight cough, and a fair appetite. So I dismissed her; and,

in a few days more, she was mingling, with her wonted hilarity, in the sports of her young companions.

Reflections. The contrast in the practice and the results in this case, being palpable, comment is unnecessary. It will be observed, however, that my treatment of the case was decidedly and strictly physopathic. And permit me to ask what other plan of treatment could have been as effective and safe.

I boast not personally, but I do claim that such results in practice should commend the *system*, the *principles* upon which the system is *based*, and the *remedies* embraced in the practical application of the principles of the system, to the favorable consideration of every well-wisher of afflicted humanity.

G. N. LANGDON, M. D.

Bristol, Conn. July 23, 1851.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

[The clergyman who has written several articles for the Journal, has sent us another communication, the greater portion of which consists of the commendation of an individual; but, how well soever the praise may be merited, we hardly think it suitable for our columns. Such flattering notices are almost necessarily regarded as invidious. A portion of the communication, however, relates to matters of common interest, and we extract the following.

EDITOR.]

The last number of the Journal was deeply interesting; and, while reading some of the articles, I could but wish that thousands, who do not, would take it.

Were I able, I should like to give an account of the case of Mr. Joseph Stockman, of South Hampton, N. H. And, if this should meet the eye of Dr. S. how glad should I be to have him give a full account of that case to the readers of the Journal! Let such cases come to light. Let the world see what the modest, able, and skillful reformed physicians are now doing for deeply afflicted and almost universally forgotten humanity.

A CLERGYMAN.

CINCINNATI PHYSO-MEDICAL COLLEGE.

[We have received from Dr. A. Curtis, a letter of considerable length, designed for publication in the Journal. A portion of the letter relates to some controverted matters, of which, probably, enough has already been said. Another portion, however, describes the doctor's present relation to his late associates in the College at Cincinnati, which has been reared under his auspices. The impression has gone abroad, that he has resigned his professorship, and that he has done it, in some sense, by constraint. Wherever truth may lie, we cheerfully give his own version of the matter.

EDITOR.]

You suffer a correspondent to say, page 221, that I "remained in the School at Cincinnati as long as I was permitted;" when you well know, that I am still in it, and have the control of every thing belonging to it; and that the other Professors *were permitted to leave*, for no other reason, than that they had abandoned the true faith, on the strength of which they had been brought into it, and had adopted some of those new "views of Pathology," which were about to immortalize the Worcester School! The building, and apparatus, library, &c. being all his own, Dr. Curtis will remain in the College as long as he pleases, and lend it to his contemporaries, and entail it on his followers (successors) or not, according as they teach *Physo-Medical* or *Physo-pathic* principles. Had they not unfitted themselves for medical teachers, they would not have been, as they now are, destitute of almost everything but their tongues to teach with. Dr. Curtis "unfit for a medical teacher!" because he would not "retain, in *his* College at Cincinnati," men who, for popularity, or laziness, or both, had abandoned the only sure platform of medical science, the unity, identity, and sanative or physiological character of irritation, fever, and inflammation!!! (See P. M. & S. Journal, Vol. 3d, page 195.) It is vain to pretend to sanative medication, while the reverse of these doctrines is counted orthodox in theory.

A. CURTIS.

SCIENCE AND RECREATION.

LECTURES BY DR. CURTIS.

Professor A. Curtis will commence, the first evening in March, in the Hall of the P. M. College, Third street, east of Broadway, a Course of Lectures on the great Science of Life. They will embrace the various subjects known by the terms, Anatomy, Physiology, Neurology, Animal Magnetism, Hygiene, &c.

The object is to exhibit, in one grand harmonious whole, the various disjointed parts that are given to us by transient Lecturers, and to unfold the great design, operations, and destiny of that transcendently sublime and beautiful machinery, "the noblest work of God," from the simplest organ of its clay tenement to the most exalted motions of its deathless spirit.

Anatomy will be illustrated by the skeleton and other preparations, by life-like drawings and paintings, and that most wonderful work of art, the manikin; which, for nearly every purpose of instruction, is far superior to the subject it so truly represents.

Dr. C. wishes it distinctly understood, that, in this Course of Lectures, which will be continued indefinitely, he will critically and thoroughly examine, and honestly decide upon, all subjects that propose the development or the improvement of man, regardless of the frowns or sneers of anybody; and that the Hall shall be accessible to others who desire to pursue the same course. The fee, in all cases in which Dr. C. lectures, except the introductorys, will be "ten cents, to pay expenses."

Dr. C. will lecture every morning, at eight o'clock, on the Principles and Practices of Medicine, to his students and the students of any other medical School, or young men from the city who may wish to join them. They will have the benefit of the Clinical Lectures and Surgical Operations afforded by the Infirmary. The same instructions will be given to a Class of *Ladies*, who may desire a Course so thorough and extensive. These Lectures will be illustrated by a very extensive and appropriate apparatus; and doubtful subjects will be tested by the most careful and decisive experiments.

Dr. C. respectfully informs the ladies of the "Health Society," and of the city in general, that he is now prepared to answer their request, "to give them a more extended Course of Lectures on Anatomy, Physiology, &c." Of his ability to perform what he proposes, he presents the following evidence:

At the close of a Course of eight Lectures to "The Ladies' Health Society," Mrs. S. B. McLean, lady of Judge McLean, presented the following, which was unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Society be presented to Dr. Curtis for his highly instructive, and very able and satisfactory Lectures to this Society; * * that we regret their suspension, and invite him to resume them as early as may be thought advisable." (See the newspapers of that day.)

The editors of the *Nonpareil* said, last year, "Dr. Curtis is one of our best Lecturers; give him a full house."

Speaking of our proposed discussion with the Faculty, some years ago, the *Commercial* said, "They need not hesitate on the plea of not having an honorable competitor, for Dr. Curtis is able to contend with any of them."

Professor O. S. Fowler, on seeing the above, took his pen and added: "The head of Dr. Curtis I pronounce a very superior one. It indicates a true philosopher; a profound reasoner; a hearty yet correct reformer; a high-toned moral character; an honest devotee to universal truth; exalted philanthropy; great force, elevated motives; and excellent communicative and lecturing capabilities—a man not often surpassed for talents or moral worth, and admirably adapted to sustain the position proposed in this programme."

PHYSO-MEDICAL INFIRMARY.

The Professors of the Medical Department of "The Literary and Botanic-Medical College of Ohio" having resolved to provide a suitable building in another locality for the delivery of the future Lectures of their several chairs, the undersigned has deter-

mined to renovate the College building and divide several of its spacious rooms in such a manner as to accommodate a large number of patients for the illustration and demonstration of the medical principles he has promulgated for the last eighteen years, and for the application, to the afflicted, of the best practice ever yet discovered or devised by man.

He considers the medical principles, briefly set forth in his "Lectures on Medical Science," true and unchangeable; and, though many special agents and processes may serve to illustrate them, yet those to be used, in the treatment of the sick, should be innocent and the best and most efficient of their kind.

While all error, quackery, and injurious or inefficient means will be rejected, true principles, correct practice, and innocent and powerful agents, will meet a kind reception, come from what source they may—the liberality and progress of the undersigned are limited only by the boundaries of truth and benevolence.

Patients will be boarded and treated in the Infirmary, at prices varying with their condition, wants, and the accommodations they prefer: and those who cannot remain in the Institution, will be examined, and provided with medicines and written directions (a method by which thousands have been cured), at a moderate expense.

Though the cure of disease is at all times preferred, yet, where they are indispensable, surgical operations, of every description, will be performed in the best manner known.

The rooms for the Museum and Library will be neatly fitted up, and the large Lecture Hall will be kept open for Clinical and other Scientific Lectures and Instructions.

Students will be boarded and lodged in the establishment, and regularly instructed by the undersigned in the true principles of medicine, and taught and required to practice "the divine art of healing," under his immediate directions. They will have the use of an extensive Library and Museum, of maps, charts, diagrams, and other valuable apparatus, and the benefit of the Clinical and all other Lectures delivered in the Hall: for all which they will be charged fifty dollars per quarter, payable in advance. They will provide their own Text Books.

The establishment will be regularly opened, early in March ; but patients are admitted at any time, and prescriptions daily prepared in the office in the College, South side of Third street, first building east of Broadway, Cincinnati, only three squares from the Steamboat Landing and five from the Railroad Depot.

A. CURTIS, M. D.

*Pres't of "The Literary and Scientific Department,
of the L. and B. M. College of Ohio."*

N. B. The "Lectures on Medical Science" are all exhausted : those on "Obstetrics" may yet be had—price unbound, by mail, \$1 ; bound, here, \$2 ; wholesale at a large discount, for cash only. The Cyclopaedia is in progress, price \$1 for every two hundred pages. All should have this work.

Selections.

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TREATMENT OF DYSENTERY.

BY JNO. KING, M. D.

Since the appearance of the last epidemic cholera in our country, we have had, in the Western and Southern states, a severe form of dysentery, principally of an epidemic character, though at times apparently sporadic, with symptoms decidedly periodical, especially in relation to the febrile disturbance, the pain and discharges ; at least, such has been the case in all instances of the disease which have come under my observation. Under the treatment usually pursued by physicians, the disease has, unfortunately for the afflicted, proved fully as fatal as cholera itself ; and it is a lamentable fact, that, in sections of the country, every patient who was treated by mercurials, died, while in other places where recoveries occasionally ensued, those who had undergone this treatment were completely shattered in constitution, and their general healths destroyed for the remainder of life. I have received letters from many physicians abroad, informing me of the severity and obstinacy of the disease in their respective locations, and in-

quiring for the treatment which has been ascertained the most successful.

Dysentery, as every medical man knows, is an inflammation of the mucous membrane of the colon and the rectum, occasionally extending into the small intestines, and characterized by frequent mucous and bloody stools, accompanied with much pain, which is principally confined to the rectum, and which is more or less severe according to the degree of violence of the disease. In connection with these, we often find frequent and painful efforts at micturition. Tormina are usually present, with retention of the natural fæces; frequent, small, and corded pulse; and, in many patients, a hot surface. These symptoms, in the majority of cases, have their exacerbations through the night, the patient being comparatively easy through the day; while, in others, the maximum is in the day, and the minimum at night. Nausea and vomiting are present, but more generally in advanced cases; and there is but little fœtor from the stools, except in protracted and dangerous forms. These may be considered the pathognomonic symptoms of the disease, though others are manifested, being, however, those generally common to internal inflammatory affections.

The disease may be brought on by cold, or exposure to sudden changes of temperature, improper diet, as unripe and indigestible fruit or vegetables, confinement in close or illy ventilated rooms, the employment of filthy or impure water, the use of tainted meats, or excessive physical labor. By some, it is attributed to an unhealthy condition of the atmosphere, which is, without doubt, correct in relation to the dysentery of 1849-50-51. Other causes have been named, but the above are the most common. The disease does not confine its attacks to any particular season, but is manifested as frequently and as severely during the winter as in the hot months. Its attack is most commonly sudden, commencing at once with the muco-sanguineous discharges and tenesmus. Occasionally, however, it has been preceded with lassitude, some febrile disturbance, tormina, and diarrhœa.

The treatment of dysentery, in the hands of those who have pursued a course similar to that below-described, has been almost universally successful; and we very much doubt, whether an average of one death in fifty, would not be a higher ratio than the results of this practice, as far as tested, would warrant. The discovery of the active principles of many of our most valuable medicinal plants has resulted in a new era for Eclectic practice; and diseases which at one time required days, or even weeks for recovery, are now cured with unparalleled safety and rapidity;

and the addition of these new agents to our *Materia Medica* has given an impulse, character, and extension to Eclecticism, beyond the most sanguine hopes of its many zealous adherents. In no disease, perhaps, have the beneficial effects of these recent discoveries been so well marked, as in the one under consideration; and so constant have been these happy results, that, in all places where Eclectic practitioners are located, we find them taking the precedence of all others. Whatever may be the immediate or remote cause of dysentery, we invariably find the functions of both the liver and the skin very much deranged, the removal of which is necessarily the first indication to fulfil. Consequently, when I am called to see a patient suffering under this disease, with bloody discharges, tenesmus, &c., whether it be of one day's duration or a week, my first prescription, thus far, has invariably been as follows;

℞. Podophyllin, gr. vj.
Leptandrin, gr. iv.
Lactin, ʒ ss.

Mix and divide into four powders. One powder to be given every three hours, until free catharsis is produced. In many cases we prefer the common diaphoretic powders to the lactin, which have a tendency to correct much of the harshness of action of the medicine.

The above combination, though at first sight appearing heroic, will yet be found most effectual in removing the disease, often within twenty-four hours from the commencement of its use. It exerts a most powerful influence on the liver and skin, restoring their functions to a normal condition, and causing free biliary and cutaneous discharges; and, in addition to this, as both the podophyllin and the leptandrin act with energy on mucous tissues, besides possessing an undisputed antiperiodic agency, this fourfold power naturally indicates them as the proper remedies, and the successful results following their administration, conclusively demonstrate the correctness of the indication.

It will generally be found, after the third dose, but sometimes not until after the fourth, that the patient will experience for a time very unpleasant and distressing symptoms, though this is not universally the case. There will be present, nausea and vomiting, griping pains in the abdomen, cold sweat, coldness of extremities, great prostration, and copious discharges. These symptoms need create no alarm or uneasiness, and we usually prepare the friends of the patient by informing them of the anticipated effects, directing them, in case of much prostration, to support the patient with brandy sng or other grateful stimulant, until the purgative opera-

tion has ceased. It must be remembered, that it is only necessary to administer the above powders until their decided effect is produced, when they are to be laid aside. With but few exceptions, the termination of the catharsis is followed by the immediate cessation of tenesmus and the dysenteric discharges.

The patient will now be found in a condition, in which it will be necessary to maintain an hepatic and cutaneous influence, to restore tone to the debilitated state of the intestines, prevent further discharges, and preserve the antiperiodic disposition already established. For this purpose, I usually administer the following:

℞. Sulph. Quiniæ, gr. viij.
Sulph. Morphicæ, gr. 4-5.
Pulv. Ipecac., gr. ij.

Mix and divide into eight powders. One powder to be administered every two or three hours, gradually lengthening the intervals between the doses, and continuing their use for two or three days.

In by far the greater part of cases, this treatment will be found all that is necessary, as in a day or two the patient will be cured and able to attend to his business. Sometimes, however, and especially among those patients to whom we have not been called until they have suffered under the dysenteric attack for several days, there will be found, after the operation of the cathartics, light muco-sanguineous discharges with some tenesmus, for which, in connection with the above quinine powders, it will be necessary to administer injections, composed as follows, one of which should be given immediately after each discharge, the patient being requested to retain it as long as possible.

℞. Infus. Hydrastis Can. (cold), ℥ i.
Tinct. Opii., gtt. x. vel. xx. Misce.

Large injections counteract the end aimed at, viz: to allay inflammation, and check the discharges.

If this does not readily remove the symptoms, and the patient's strength will admit, the cathartic must be repeated, but in smaller doses; and, if it removes the pain and discharges, must be followed by the quinine powders as above. But, if he be very weak, the administration of Port wine, one or two drachms, in which is dissolved tannin, two to four grains, repeated every hour or two, according to the urgency of the case, with the above injection, will generally effect the cure. Sometimes, I have found much advantage from the following preparation:

℞. Tr. Catechu, ℥ iij.
Tr. Camphor.
Tr. Leptandrin, aa ℥ j.
Syr. Zingiber. vel Cinnamom. ℥ j. Misce.

Dose, a teaspoonful, every 1, 2, or 3 hours.

Some practitioners continue the administration of the podophyllin and leptandrin in minute doses, triturated with lactic acid, and with excellent results.

Where the disease manifests a disposition to be obstinate—which is seldom the case where Eclectic treatment has been adopted from the first—the stools continuing bloody and becoming fetid, with or without tenesmus, inability to retain anything on the stomach, or if retained, followed shortly after by a desire to stool, with much prostration, and indisposition to move or talk, it will be highly important, in addition to the other treatment, to frequently bathe the surface of the body and limbs with an alkaline wash, warm or cold, to suit the nature of the case and the patient's feelings,—also to apply over the bowels and spine, intermittingly, mustard poultices. The tongue must likewise be observed. If it be coated yellow, brown, or dark, acidulous draughts must be given, as they will in this instance prove useful; but will be injurious, if given when the coat is white. Oatmeal made into a cake with water, then baked, and finally browned similar to coffee, and made into a coffee, not only will be found nourishing, but will often check the nausea and irritability of the stomach, when all other means fail. It must be given without milk or sugar, in tablespoonful doses, and repeated sufficiently often. Some practitioners speak highly of a tea of parched corn for this purpose, but I have never employed it. If demanded, acids or sedatives may be combined with it.

During the whole course of treatment, the patient must remain as much as possible in a recumbent position—the erect posture, or much motion, seems to aggravate the disease. In the case of delicate females, or patients of not very strong constitutions, the dose of the cathartic powders may be somewhat diminished, according to the practitioner's judgment.

Such, in brief, is the treatment which I have pursued both in Memphis and Cincinnati during the last two years, and thus far without the loss of a single patient; and a similar course is now, I believe, generally adopted by Eclectic physicians.

In years past, I have met with considerable success in dysentery by the use of the *white liquid* or *saline physic*, which has in many instances effected a recovery where, dissolution seemed inevitable; but I have not used it for some three or four years, though I believe it will be found a very efficient remedy. The formula for its preparation is given in the *Western Medical Reformer* of 1846, Vol. VI, No. 3, page 56.

The following will be found an useful preparation for children, suffering under dysentery :

℞. Pulv. Leptandrin.
 Pulv. Zingiber, (Jamaica), aa gr. v.
 Pulv. Podophyllin, gr. jss.
 Pulv. Cretæ, Preparat., gr. x.
 Pulv. Sacch. alb., ʒj.

Mix, triturate well together, and divide into ten powders. For a child, from 1 to 3 years old, give one powder every three hours.

[From Braithwaite's Retrospect.]

KOUSSO: AN INFALIBLE REMEDY FOR TAPE WORM.

In Southern Arabia, on the sea coast, and along the shores of the Red Sea, it is well known, and considered a most valuable medicine. In the Northern and Southern Abyssinian it is universally used about once a month, the trees being numerous, and the medicine costing hardly anything.—At Hurrur, a province bordering on the kingdom of Shoa, it is well known, and used; though the Somali tribes, residing to the eastward, on the N. E. horn of Africa, are unacquainted with its virtues. Bruce mentions that no Abyssinian will travel without it; and I am informed by my friend Lieutenant Cruttenden, Assistant Political Agent at Aden, that such is actually the case, to his knowledge; the few Abyssinians who visit the port of Aden, invariably bring with them a supply. The dose I understand to be a small handful of the flowers mixed with water, in which sometimes tamarinds are infused, the patient, while under its effects, keeping aloof from any one. Its operation is speedy and most effectual.

In a country like Abyssinia, where almost all, if not the entire population, are more or less affected with tape-worm, the "koussou" is a special blessing of providence, as a medicine within the reach of the poorest shepherd and infallible in its effects.

Mr. Coffin, an Englishman for many years naturalized in Abyssinia, and now a chief of some importance, visited Aden a few years ago; and, whilst staying with my friend above mentioned, administered a dose of the "koussou" with the happiest effect, to an officer of H. M. 17th Regiment. Mr. Coffin never traveled without a supply of the medicine, and ever during his stay at

Aden, took it regularly himself, and administered their customary doses to his attendants who had accompanied him.

I am not aware if the officers of the surveying vessels of the Indian navy, when employed on the coast of Abyssinia and Nubia, used the remedy or not. I believe they did, as I am aware that many suffered greatly from tape-worm : and not one of the party, although eighteen years have elapsed, is free from the disease even at the present day. *Lancet*, *Sept.* 17, 1850, *p.* 305.

By Dr. INGLIS, Halifax.—[As this is the first time koussou has been tried in the provinces, the following case may not be without interest.]

July 18, 1850.—Elizabeth Smith, aged 56, residing at No. 2, Carrier street, Halifax, states, that some years previous to 1840, she had suffered from indigestion, as evinced by the usual symptoms ; that, in the early part of that year, the pain and uneasiness, from being general, became more fixed in the umbilical region, accompanied by a constant aching pain in the small of the back, and a frequent sense of extreme faintness ; that in March, 1840, she had taken a largely diluted dose of Epsom salts, which, operating violently, brought off in the evacuation a portion of tape-worm fifteen yards in length. After this there was a temporary cessation of pain ; but, at the expiration of a fortnight, five yards more of the worm, unexpectedly, and without the aid of medicine, were ejected. From that time, till within the last two years, portions of tænia, varying from half a yard to seven yards in length, were expelled, either by the use of remedies or by voluntary effort.—The more acute symptoms have, within the last two years, gradually diminished, but there has been the almost daily voidance of from twenty to sixty detached links of tænia, generally in the evacuations ; but not unfrequently portions protruded themselves even when she had been passive or in a state of rest. The appetite has been capricious, never ravenous : and the bowels throughout have been regular, although rather inclining towards relaxation. The usual remedies have been administered, in a greater or less degree, during a period of ten years, and still there continues the daily discharge of portions of the worm, some of which have been this day examined by myself and my friend Mr. Bramley, with whom was last intrusted the treatment of the case. The several portions of the tænia, when voided, have hitherto been alive.

July 19.—The dose of koussou, having been infused for a quarter of an hour in twelve ounces of hot water, was taken at three

separate draughts, an interval of five minutes elapsing between each, at a quarter past eight o'clock, A. M. The patient having taken the kouso as directed (fasting), a slight degree of nausea was induced, which, however, was soon relieved by a cup of weak tea, without either sugar or milk, and a little toast. Slight griping pains were felt in the bowels at a quarter past nine o'clock; and at half past nine o'clock there was a free, liquid, and dark evacuation, in which floated many detached portions of tænia. At ten o'clock, another large, dark, liquid motion brought with it the entire remaining portion of the tænia, the head and neck separated from the body, and the body, six yards in length, divided into equal lengths. Neither portion evinced any symptom of life, as the segments previously voided had done. A seidlitz draught was ordered in the afternoon, and a lavement of hot water to be used before going to bed.

July 20.—The bowels were frequently moved yesterday after the seidlitz water, and the lavement was only retained about five minutes. The patient expresses herself this morning as perfectly free from pain: the bowels have been freely evacuated, but not the slightest trace of tænia could be discovered in any of the discharges since the voidance of the entire worm at ten o'clock yesterday morning.

CASES OF CHEESE POISONING.

Dr. Parrish was called to a family of a laboring man, his wife, and six children, all of whom, except the wife, had been taken sick within a few minutes of each other, after eating their accustomed scanty meal of tea, bread, and cheese, without anything else. The children were more violently affected than the father, their symptoms resembling somewhat those of cholera:—as severe vomiting, dizziness, great prostration of strength, coldness of the extremities, accompanied with profuse watery discharges from the bowels. After relieving the violence of the symptoms, the doctor took some of the matter ejected from the stomach to an apothecary, in order to apply to it some of the tests for metallic poison, but found no reason to suspect poison in any of the food. The druggist, on learning the facts of the sickness, mentioned that a family near by had been similarly affected, on the previous evening, from eating cheese from the shop of a neighboring grocer. The doctor

now repaired to the family in question, and found that those who had eaten the cheese had all been attacked in the same way as his own patients; and, on visiting the grocer, from whom it had been obtained, he learned, that it was one of a large lot from a celebrated New York dairy, was but three or four months old, weighed ninety pounds, and was considered a good article. The grocer had sold nearly seventy pounds of it within a few days to a large number of people, and had retailed out some eight or nine cheeses from the same lot, without hearing any complaint from his customers, until within two days, during which time five or six families had been taken ill. Those who had eaten of the cheese previously, though many of them were found and inquired of, experienced no inconvenience from its use. A slice of the cheese being subjected to an analytical chemist, no trace of mineral poison could be found in it; hence, in seeking an explanation of this singular phenomenon, the peculiar state of the atmosphere was thought of, as a probable source of the deleterious properties which seemed to be developed in the cheese under its influence—these singular facts having occurred during a spell of remarkably damp, foggy, and mild weather, succeeding a cold and clear atmosphere in January. During the two days in which these cases occurred, the air was loaded with moisture, and the fog on the Delaware was sufficiently heavy, to impede the progress of the boats in crossing.

The cheese, it is suggested, having been previously frozen, might, in the process of softening, have developed deleterious properties; or, as often happens under more favorable circumstances, the oily matters contained in it might have been converted into an irritating acid, which acted on the stomach and bowels in the manner described.

What strikes us as remarkable is the fact, that the discarded portion of the (poisonous) cheese, was afterwards sold out in slices by another person, without any unpleasant results; which fact seems to confirm the theory that the cause of the offending property was atmospheric. Considerable pains having been taken by Dr. P. to ascertain the extent of injury from this cause, he supposes that not less than one hundred persons have been made sick from this cause, under the observation of physicians in Philadelphia. But we must close this already lengthened notice, by copying from the essay before us, the following:—So far as the limited number of observations here detailed, will justify any conclusion, we might say first:—That in all the instances of sickness from cheese poison, the cheese has been mild and newly made.

Secondly. That the deleterious properties of the article have been developed suddenly in a mass not previously injurious.

“Thirdly. That in all the cases the cheese had been exposed to the air; and that in all probability a peculiar state of the atmosphere was the immediate cause of the development of poisonous properties.

“If these conclusions be correct, it would seem proper that all newly made cheese should be protected from the air, especially in damp weather; and that their too free use as an article of food, to the exclusion of more wholesome and substantial aliment, should be discouraged.”

INVALUABLE PARTURIENT.

BY J. C. B. WHARTON.

I was called to the parturient chamber of Mrs. D., at 10 o'clock, P. M., April 17. Her pains being very inefficient, I retired, directing the feet to be bathed, as they were rather inclined to be cold, and, should the labor appear to receive increased action by it, to be awakened. I was left, however, undisturbed, until near sunrise next morning, when I visited my patient; and, on making inquiry into her case, I found that the pain had somewhat increased after bathing the feet, but that the uterus had again rather fallen back, into a state of inertia; and, as the membranes had ruptured about half an hour before I was called on the previous evening, I anticipated a protracted labor. However, as it was a first presentation, I concluded to wait a few hours longer, for more efficient pains. At 10 o'clock, uterine action still remaining about the same and without producing any perceptible foetal advancement, I concluded to administer, (not the ergot,) but a strong infusion of *Caulophyllum*, about half a pint of which produced sufficient uterine action to expel the foetus and effect the delivery, in less than one hour from the time the first dose was exhibited. The convalescence of the mother was very unusually rapid, and the child was and still remains in perfect health. In a few days afterwards, I had another opportunity of trying the remedy in precisely a similar case, and, without any variation of success; and I could instance many other cases, if it were necessary, as I have never tried the remedy in all that time, without similar success and the most positive benefit. I would not, however, be understood to claim any thing like original discovery in regard to the admirable parturient effect of the *Caulophyllum Thalicroides*, for it is an item found in my note book which was gathered in the winter of 1848-9, in your excellent

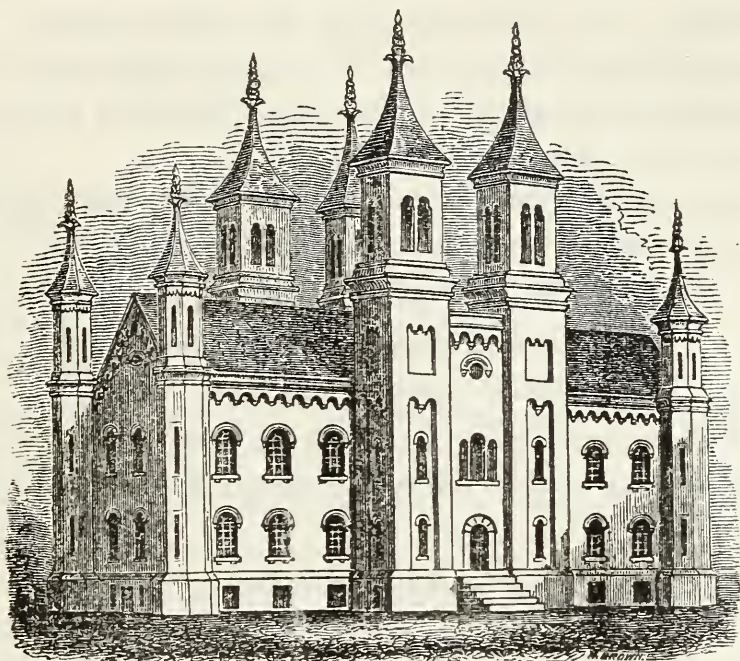
Institute, and I only add the above as an humble evidence of its positive and unequivocal advantages in the practice of obstetrics.
New Petersburg, Ohio, May, 1851.

[The Blue Cohosh, *Caulophyllum Thalictroides*, the Black Cohosh, *Macrotrys Racemosa*, and the White Cohosh, *Actæa Alba*, have all been found effectual during parturition, in increasing the contractile energy of the uterus, and are also much employed in many forms of uterine disease, and with much success. The first two are, however, more generally used than the latter. By many practitioners they are preferred to the ergot, being equally as effectual and not liable to the objections made against that drug. And, in those cases where time and patience only are required on the part of the practitioner, but who, unfortunately for his patient, has too small a share of these, from press of practice or other causes, the use of the above articles to expedite delivery, (a practice which we deprecate, however,) is preferable, and less mischievous in their consequences, than the ergot.] *Eclectic Medical Journal.*

BUCHANAN'S JOURNAL OF MAN.

This unique Journal has just completed its second volume, making altogether about a thousand pages of important and novel matter in relation to the science of man. The reception of this work has been of the most gratifying character:—not only has it received the favorable notice of the press, but its numerous readers have expressed themselves in terms so ardent and cordial as to require a grateful acknowledgement. The frequent expressions of regret, that the Journal was not commensurate with the interest of its readers, have induced the editor to enlarge the third volume to twice its present size. To those who do not desire a larger amount of Anthropological matter than the Journal at present affords, it will continue to be sent at the same monthly rates, \$1.00 per annum in advance, for 32 pages monthly; but, to those who wish a fuller exposition of the great wonders now in progress, and more elaborate scientific essays on Phrenology and the kindred sciences, it will be sent, in the bi-monthly form, for two dollars per annum in advance.

To retain the advantages of a monthly issue for the enlarged edition, six numbers, of 32 pages each, will be issued in July, September, November, January, March, and May, and six numbers of 96 pages each in the alternate months, August, October, December, February, April, and June. *Eclectic Med. Journal.*



[Worcester Medical Institution.]

Editorial.



ASCARIS LUMBRICOIDES AND TÆNIA LATA.

Early in the summer of 1849 we were first called to visit professionally the wife of Mr. L. H. C. of this city. At that time, she was suffering under severe tetanic spasms, involving opisthotonos, and, at the same or at different times, rigidity of nearly every muscle in the body. As the lady had, till a little previous to that period, resided in one of the cities of a neighboring State, we inquired, as to the length of time during which she had been subject to these attacks, and the medical treatment which she had there received. We learnt, that the attacks had occurred at irregular periods, for three or four years,—that the treatment had been various, and had come from the hands of several physicians. We prescribed an emetic and anti-spasmodics, which soon afforded relief.

From that time, finding her, after intervals generally of a few weeks, subject to these paroxysms, we were induced, on one occasion, to inquire, "*Have you ever been doctored for worms?*" Her significant and humorous reply was, "No, but I have been doctored for every thing else."

We then persuaded her to commence taking our OLEAGINOUS VERMIFUGE, composed according to the following

℞. Oleum Terebinthinæ. ℥j.
Chenopodium Anthelminticum. ℥j.
Oleum Ricini. ℥ viij.

This she took, almost daily, in doses of from one to two fluid ounces, for several weeks. She also took a few times, a decoction of the following

℞. Senna Alexandrina,
Spigelia Marilandica, aa., equal parts.

She took this in sufficient doses to produce a briskly purgative effect.

The result of this treatment was the discharge of about *one hundred* worms of the class usually termed *Teres* or *Ascaris Lumbricoides*. Several, at different times, were ejected from the mouth, one or two at a time. The most of them, however, passed anally, and generally in a perfect state; though some remained in the alimentary canal, till they were partially consumed. The voidance of these greatly benefited the lady's health; and it remained in an improved condition for a considerable period.

At length, her tetanic troubles returned, and the paroxysms increased in severity and frequency. We became fully convinced, that the old tormentors were again multiplying and repeating their war upon her health and comfort. We expressed our conviction, and urged the renewed use of the vermifuge, which was assented to. This was about the first of the past month.

The lady, possessing, as Phenologists would say, large *secretiveness*, had, up to this time, concealed from us the fact, that she had again begun to void worms, and that several had recently passed from the mouth. Reluctance to resume the taking of the nauseous medicine had induced this concealment; and the matter was

not avowed, until she was, in a sense, constrained, by her medical adviser, to apply the former effective remedy.

After a few days, copious and repeated doses of the vermifuge had appeared to take some effect; yet no more worms were discharged.

For a few times, she had been subjected to mesmeric influence, with the hope of strengthening her nervous system: and, at this period, she appeared to possess a slight clairvoyant power. On Saturday morning, Aug, 9th, with the view of testing that power, we called her attention, while she was mesmerically asleep, to the condition of her stomach. She asserted, that she could see the gastric contents, and that there was a large mass or knot of dead worms lying heavy and cold within. In her waking state, she had begun to complain of a sense of heaviness and coldness at the stomach; and this, of course, rendered the clairvoyant account somewhat probable.

At this time; after some apparent struggles with her feelings of desire to conceal another important matter, she at length said, "There is something else in my stomach;—there is an alive creature there." On our making inquiries in regard to this creature, she imperfectly described—not a *tenia solium*—but a *tenia lata*. She said that it had a large head and mouth, and that it was composed of a series of joints. She judged it to be a yard and a quarter long. She insisted that all the other worms were dead. After still farther struggling with her feelings, she added, "I could tell you something, if I had a mind to." This awakened our curiosity, and we encouraged and persuaded her, till she said, that, about the first of Nov., 1850,—soon after a time at which we were called to her when she was nearly strangled apparently with worms,—being in the house alone, she thought she would try an experiment. So she got a dish of milk, and heated it on the stove, quite hot. She also provided herself with a cup of salt and water to use if needed. She then held a little of the hot milk, in her mouth. Finally, she placed her mouth directly over the dish of milk; when a creature made his way within reach and she seized him. She drew him out, consisting of a large head and a

body about a foot and a half long, flat, and composed of joints. The body had a sudden termination, as if *broken off square*. She said it was the same sort of creature as that now in her stomach, only not as large as the latter. She said further, that, a few days ago, she repeated the experiment, while alone, after having locked the doors;—that a creature then came up into her throat, but that she did not quite get hold of him, before he so nearly choked her, that she was compelled to drink the salt and water, and turn him down. If she had then had help, she believed she might have seized him, as she had before seized the other; but, in her own language, she thought she should have choked, before she got rid of him.

Being aroused from her mesmeric state, she was mortified to learn what she had told; but frankly admitted the whole story of her past transactions to be true, and gave several additional facts.

No longer doubting the present existence of a tape worm, we resolved to destroy it. On the afternoon of that day, we ordered her to drink, as soon as it could be prepared, one tea-cupful of a strong decoction of the polypodium felix mas, an equal dose at bedtime, and another the next morning. For a special reason, however, the first dose was not taken till past 9 o'clock, P. M. In about ten minutes after she had drunk this dose, she began to be in great distress in her stomach. This was accompanied with a sense of coldness throughout her system, but especially in her stomach and lower limbs. Hot flannels were applied to her stomach and limbs, and every means was employed to warm her and relieve her pain, but without effect. At a little before 11 o'clock, her friends, being alarmed at the peculiarity of her symptoms, sent for us. We reached the house at eleven, and found her in the most excruciating agonies. She declared, that she had never suffered so extreme pain in her life. She said, it seemed as if she must die. In a few minutes, however, her pain seemed to diminish a little; and, not knowing what else to do, we attempted to put her into the mesmeric sleep; and we soon succeeded. She immediately declared, that her great distress was caused by the tumbling motion of the worm, but that he was dying. She said, that

his mouth was open, and that he seemed to be in great distress. Soon she added, "He trembles, O! how he trembles;—he is dying."

We gave her some strong decoction of wormwood which had been previously prepared, in hope that it might hasten the death of the worm. She drank it willingly; and, from time to time, spoke of the worm as giving increased evidence of being near his end. After a while she said, "He scarcely moves," and, finally she exclaimed, "He is dead;—he does not move."

From that time, she was free from pain, but spoke of an unpleasant sense of weight and coldness in the stomach. Having awaked her from her sleep, and finding her to continue free from pain, at 12 o'clock we gave her an active cathartic and left her.

On Sunday morning we called, and found her *about the house*, comparatively well. Towards morning, her physic had operated copiously, and had brought away a quart or more of an almost purely jelly mass. The peculiar gastric sensation was, in a good degree, removed. On being thrown into the clairvoyant state, at this time, she declared, that "*the creature*" was there dead, but that the mass of "*dead worms*" was all removed.

From this time, we daily gave her large doses of physic, and daily mesmerized her to learn her clairvoyant decision, as to the condition of the stomach and the tænia. Gradually the animal began to decay, and the stomach to be inflamed. Her mouth began, as she said, "*to taste nasty*." When awake, she spoke of a peculiarly odious fœtor as arising from her stomach; she had but little appetite; she was thirsty; and there was a sense of heat in the stomach.

The dejections became dark, viscid, and fœtid. Clairvoyantly, several times she asserted, that the tail of the animal was decaying; but it was not till Wednesday, August 13th, that the body of the worm passed off. It then came away in a mass, partially consumed, but partially also showing the joints and form. Still, in clairvoyance, she declared, that the head remained in the stomach. And, in very deed it was so; for, on Wednesday, August 20th,—she, in the mean time, having been daily physicked,—the head and one joint attached to it were voided, somewhat decayed, but

yet retaining their form. With this remaining portion of the animal, also passed more of the viscid matter.

The head was flat and otherwise shaped much like a snake's head. It was full an inch broad ; and the length was a little greater than the breadth. The joint attached was nearly of the width of the head. Of course, from this, the size of the body could, to so some extent, be determined.

From this time, the lady has felt herself rid of "the old serpent, and all his crew;" and, though her nerves are left comparatively weak, and she is troubled with other forms of disease, yet her health, by the operation, has been greatly improved.

LOCATION OFFERED.

Dr. H. D. Allen, of Weston, Vt., being unable to continue professional labor, on account of a physical injury which he has lately received, offers his location and practice, at a reasonable price, to a good Eclectic practitioner. The doctor, we believe, has hitherto done an extensive business ; and we hope he will find a successor who will be equally as successful as himself, in securing the confidence and curing the maladies of the people.

CONCENTRATED MEDICINES.

The Firm of Newton and Kelley have at length furnished themselves with the best and most ample means for obtaining the various resinoids, alkaloids, &c., now becoming of deservedly popular use. All orders, post paid, with money enclosed, will be promptly answered.

NEW ENGLAND
BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL
JOURNAL.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

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NO. 10.

Communications.

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INVESTIGATIONS IN MATERIA MEDICA. NO. III.

BY PROF. E. S. McCLELLAN.

MACROTRYS RACEMOSA.

Synonymes.—*Cimicifuga racemosa*, *U. S.* *Actæa racemosa*, *Lin.*
Cimicifuga serpentaria, *Pursh.* Squaw root, black cohosh, black
snake root, rattle root, &c., *Vul.*

BOTANY.—*Nat. Ord.* Ranunculaceæ. *Sex. Syst.* Polyandria
Monogynia.

Gen. Char. *Calyx* about four leaved, becoming colored before expanding, caducous. *Corolla* many minute petals, very caducous or wanting. *Stigma* simple, sessile, curving towards the gibbous side of the germ. *Capsule* two-valved, dehiscent at its strait suture.—(*Eaton.*)

There exists, among Botanists, considerable diversity of opinion, with respect to the proper genus in which this plant should be placed. Later Botanists are generally agreed in removing it from the *Actæa*, in which it was originally placed by Linnæus; but they are not agreed as to its proper place. It was arranged by Pursh in the genus *Cimicifuga*; and this arrangement is adopted by the U. S. Dispensatory. Eaton arranged it in the genus *Macrotrys*. But Rafinesque, not satisfied with this, formed for it the new genus *Botrophis*. There seems, however, to be but little use for the last, as it differs only in name from the *Macrotrys*; both of which are alike distinguished, by the single pistil, from the *Cimicifuga*, and, from the *Actæa*, by the dehiscent capsule and the number and character of the petals. "I see," says Professor Eaton, "no good reason for changing the name to *Botrophis*, according to Rafinesque. Our plant does not agree with the description of *actæa* or *cimicifuga*. I have examined it in all stages of maturing, where hundreds were growing."

It is desirable to avoid innovation when it can be done without sacrifice. For this reason I prefer Eaton's arrangement; it being more generally adopted, and equally as correct as that of Rafinesque.

Spec. Char. *Rhizoma* perennial, large, tortuous, and black, thickly beset with long black fibres. *Stem* from three to eight feet high, terminating in long paniculate racemes of white sepaled flowers. *Leaves* ternately decomposed. *Leaflets* oblong-ovate, gash-toothed. *Petals* many, very minute. *Stamens* long, about one hundred to each flower, and giving to the raceme the appearance of a long slender white plume. *Capsule* ovate, dry, dehiscent.

The *macrotrys* grows common in almost all parts of the United States. It is generally found in open woods and on hilly ground. It flowers in June and July,—its plume-like racemes presenting quite a conspicuous appearance. Its taste is disagreeable, and its smell unpleasant.

This article has been favorably spoken of by many medical men, although it occupies only a secondary place in the United States Dispensatory.

It is said to have been used by the Indian women as a parturient. Hence one of its vulgar names,—squaw-root.

The dried root (*radix macrotryis*) is the only portion that is used. It is commonly found in the shops in rough tortuous pieces, sometimes an inch or more in diameter and several inches in length,—black externally, dingy white internally. The radicles are very brittle, when perfectly dry. The proper time for collecting it is in the autumn after the top is dead. The roots should be thoroughly washed, and dried in the shade.

The principal constituents of the root are *lignin*, *gum*, *mucilaginous matter*, *starch*, *sugar*, *coloring matter*, and *resin*.

Its medical properties are dependent upon its resinous principle (*resina macrotryis*), which has received the name

MACROTRIN.—This may be prepared in the following manner. Take coarsely pulverized macrotrys in any quantity, high proof alcohol, q. s. Prepare a saturated tincture. To this add distilled water about equal to one tenth of its volume; after which remove the alcohol by distillation. Place the residue in a suitable vessel, and permit it to stand about six or eight days. In this time, the resinous portion will have precipitated to the bottom of the vessel, in a solid mass. The water and matter held in solution should now be removed from the vessel. The residue must be washed in cold distilled water, until it becomes perfectly granular. After the washing has been completed, it may be removed from the water by a suitable filter. It is best dried in the open air, with the addition of heat not above 100 degrees. After it has been thoroughly dried and finely pulverized, it is fit for use.

Macrotrin thus prepared is of a yellowish drab color. It coalesces by heat, is unalterable in the open air, is insoluble in water, but completely soluble in alcohol.

PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS AND THERAPEUTIC PROPERTIES.—The macrotrin possesses the properties of the macrotrys, and may be used to fulfil all the indications for which the latter is applicable.

Administered in small doses, it produces no very decided effects

upon the system. In larger doses, it produces a sense of fulness and dizziness in the head,—sometimes headache. In excessive doses, it is liable to produce violent headache, delirium, and coma.

With reference to its therapeutic application, it is variously regarded by different individuals. Dr. N. Chapman says, “Besides the astringent property of this root, which I have never been able to discover in any degree, it is expectorant, narcotic, anti-spasmodic, diaphoretic, and in large doses emetic. Given so as to affect sensibly the system, we find first some nausea, followed by great freedom of expectoration, and more or less relaxation of the surface, with slight nervous tremors, and vertiginous affections. The pulse, during this state, is considerably lowered, and is apt to remain so for some time.” He further adds, “It is alleged, in consumption, to lessen the frequency of the pulse, to allay the cough, quiet the mobility of the system, and particularly to subdue hectic fever.”

It has been highly recommended in chorea. Professor Wood says, “We have administered this medicine in chorea, with complete success, after the failure of purgative and metallic tonics; and have also derived the happiest effects from it in a case of convulsions, occurring periodically and connected with uterine disorder.”

It has also been considered a mild tonic promoting the action of the skin, kidneys, and bronchial mucous membrane. It has gained considerable favor in the treatment of rheumatic affections, particularly those of an inflammatory character. Although it may be valuable in all these cases, its *emmenagogue* properties are preeminent. That it exerts a specific and controlling power over the uterine functions there is no doubt. This power seems to be peculiar. Its direct tendency is to promote the healthy functions of the uterus. It is, on this account, equally applicable in amenorrhœa, dysmenorrhœa, and menorrhagia. Such was the opinion of the late Professor T. V. Morrow; and, in accordance with his opinion, was his application of the remedy, in the latter years of his life, especially. Professor C. Newton, also, in addition to its *emmenagogue* properties, has found it to be a valuable parturient. He has used it considerably, and uniformly with decidedly favorable results.

In cases of amenorrhœa, when a cathartic is indicated, the addition of podophyllin, in sufficient quantity to evacuate the bowels freely, will render its action more effective.

DOSE AND MODE OF ADMINISTRATION.—The macrotrys may be given in doses of from twenty grains to a drachm of the pulverized root. It must be administered in substance or tincture in order fully to obtain its virtues. Water takes up only a portion of its properties.

The macrotrin may be administered in doses varying from one fourth of a grain to one or two grains. Perhaps the most judicious mode of administering it is to commence with small doses and increase gradually, until it begins to produce fulness and dizziness of the head. It should then be discontinued until these symptoms abate, when it may again be repeated.

INTERESTING COINCIDENCE.

In the September No. of the Physo-Medical and Surgical Journal, published at Cincinnati, Ohio, appears an article, under the head of "Materia Medica and Pharmacy, by F. D. Hill, M. D." This article is, in a good measure, identical in import with the first of the series of "Investigations in Materia Medica," which appeared a *month earlier* in this Journal. The general arrangement of the two articles is very similar; and, with a few exceptions, the facts expressed are alike. Indeed, to a considerable extent, the articles are the same, *verbatim et literatim*; and, where they differ in language, there is yet, in much of the latter, an admirable parody of the former. It is a little striking, that two persons should think and write so nearly alike, the one just a month later than the other. Still, there is nothing in the coincidence very inexplicable. It requires *less* than a month to transport the mail from Worcester to Cincinnati.

E. S. McCLELLAN.

POTASSÆ SESQUI-CARBONAS.

BY PROF. E. S. McCLELLAN.

Sesqui-carbonate of potash may be obtained, in an impure state, by the lixiviation of ashes made by the combustion of hard wood,—the liquid thus obtained being reduced by evaporation to a state of dryness. This preparation is recommended by Dr. Beach under the improper name of *vegetable caustic*.

For a more scientific investigation of this article, we are indebted to W. S. Merrill, A. M., of Cincinnati. Mr. Merrill has found it to be essentially the *sesqui-carbonate of potash.

It may be obtained by heating, in an iron vessel, the pure bicarbonate of potash, until one fourth part of its carbonic acid is disengaged. This will be effected at a temperature of a few degrees above the boiling point of water. The change which is supposed to take place is as follows: The bicarbonate, being $\text{KO}, \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$, CO_2 is changed to $2\text{KO}, 3\text{CO}_2 + 2\text{HO}$. As the bicarbonate (saleratus) of commerce contains more or less silicia and other impurities, it should be purified before being used for this purpose. This may be effected by dissolving it in distilled water (rain water will answer). Most of the impurities are insoluble, and will precipitate,—when the decanted liquid may be reduced to a state of dryness.

The sesqui-carbonate of potash is nearly white, completely soluble in water, and is considerably alkaline.

PROPERTIES AND USES.—This article is seldom used as an internal agent. When applied to the healthy tissue, its caustic effect is very slight. It possesses an energy just sufficient, mildly and gradually to destroy semi-vital and pseudo-organic structures. This property renders it peculiarly valuable, and its range of application extensive.

The following are a few of the cases in which it has been successfully employed.

*This salt was discovered by Dr. Nimmo of Glasgow. See Dr. Thomson's "First Principles."

In the treatment of *fistulous diseases*, it is pre-eminently valuable. By its proper and persevering application, inveterate cases of *anal fistula* have been successfully treated, without the use of the knife. The most favorable results have attended its employment in *scirrhus* and *cancerous diseases* of the uterus. It is much esteemed in the treatment of *hip disease*. *Osteo-sarcoma* has been successfully treated with it.

The sesqui-carbonate of potash may be used in powder or in solution, at the discretion of the physician. It is perfectly safe, and may be applied to the most delicate parts, without fear of injury.

For a detailed account of the application of this article in the treatment of these and analogous diseases, I refer the reader to Hill's Surgery.

PHYSOMETRA.

By P. JOHN, M. D., OF MILLVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

PHYSOMETRA, or *Physometrie*, as the French have it, is a term used to characterize a morbid condition of the uterus, in which there is an accumulation of gaseous fluid. And, my having had some recent cases of this affection to treat, which cases were rather interesting to me, is the only apology I can offer for troubling the readers of the Journal with an article on this subject at this time.

This trouble—*uterine tympanites*, as Boivin terms it—occurs under very different circumstances. According to Burns, the gas or air may be secreted by the lining membrane of the uterine cavity, or it may arise, in the opinion of Duges, from the decomposing process of either a portion of the secundines, of a clot, or of a part of the lochia; and hence we are led to infer it to be more incident to lying-in women than to others.

In the majority of cases recorded, the os uteri is found completely closed;—sometimes, by induration and contraction of the canal of the cervix; at other times, by some peculiar obstruction of a temporary character: but, in others (and I have observed such),

it appears, that, the passage or canal of the cervix being pervious, the gas escapes as soon as, or soon after, it has been secreted ; and hence a considerable difference in the symptoms.

Dr. Hamilton inclines to the belief, that air may be drawn up into the vagina by the motion of the neighboring muscles, when there is a general relaxation of these parts. And some author has asserted, that, where there fails to be a contraction of the uterus, the cavity becomes filled with air ; and that, if the os is or becomes closed, inflation of the womb is the consequence.

“In idiopathic physometra, the gas is inodorous ; but not so when it is the result of decomposition. In the former case, nothing but air is contained in the womb ; in the latter, especially when the source is the ichorous discharge from a cancerous ulcer, there is fluid also contained in it.”

Denman is of the opinion, that there may be discharges of gas from the vagina alone, which Hamilton conceives to be occasioned sometimes by a communication existing between this canal and the rectum.

Symptoms :—These are of such a character as to be, sometimes and under some circumstances, mistaken for pregnancy ; such as the suppression of the menses, abdominal enlargement, and the secretion of milk. These three prominent symptoms, as nearly all authors agree, occur in this difficulty of the uterus.

The accumulation of gas and consequent bulk of the uterus are generally, however, not very great ; yet cases have occurred, in the practice of others, in which the enlargements were as great as take place in the eighth and ninth months of gestation. Causes of some kinds, such as bending forward, sneezing, coughing, etc., more generally bring about its expulsion, before such increase of bulk. This escapement—and there is frequently a loud explosion accompanying—is entirely involuntary, and causes the poor patient to feel very uncomfortable, oftentimes, in company.

As far as my knowledge extends, in the generality of cases, there is no pain and but little uneasiness, other than what may arise from the enlargement of the abdomen ; though, in one or two cases recorded, there was considerable distress, such as “heat and stinging pain in the tumor, extending to the groins, thighs, and vulva.”

Variable appetite, constipated bowels, etc., may occur, from the compression the inflated uterus exerts on the surrounding viscera.

The tumor is of an elastic nature, and an internal examination will reveal the os uteri higher, and the cervix shorter than in their normal condition.

Diagnosis :—Physometra may be mistaken for pregnancy, hydro-metra, ascites, and scirrhus or steatomatous depositions. By attention to the following points, it may be distinguished—from the first, by the resounding of the tumor, by the foetal movement, etc.; from the second, by the greater elasticity of the abdominal tumor; from the third, by the defined shape of the tumor, by its resonance, and by the absence of fluctuation; and, from the last, by the elasticity and resonance of the bulk or tumor.

Treatment :—The indications of treatment are *palliative* and *preventive*;—to superinduce an escapement of the accumulated gas, and to prevent its subsequent secretion.

The first may sometimes be brought about by exciting sneezing or vomiting. If these means fail, a canula, of proper shape and size, should be introduced, carefully and slowly, through the os uteri into the cavity of the womb, through which the pent up air will gradually escape, until the uterus is quite empty, and the bulk and abdominal enlargement entirely subside. Well, this *relieves* the patient; but the question arises, How shall we proceed,—what course shall we pursue,—what process institute, in order to *prevent its being secreted again*? If we knew to a certainty the precise *cause* of this secretion in each particular case, we might more readily decide; but, unfortunately, respecting these and the pathology of physometra, we are as yet considerably unenlightened, from the fact, that the revelations furnished by post mortem examinations are indefinite and scant.

If we have reason to suppose the difficulty to be occasioned by the decomposition of some foreign matter, injections of warm water, with a portion of *tincture of myrrh*, thrown into the uterus, will, from the antiseptic properties, prove beneficial;—they will likewise aid in removing the offensive matter.

In cases, where this secretion occurs from the lining membrane of the uterine cavity—and these are the most stubborn,—injections

composed of a decoction of *hamamelis*, with a few drops of tincture of *sanguinaria* added, from their power of correcting morbid action going on in mucous membranes, will doubtless prove beneficial, and indeed preventive. These should be continued, with such modifications and changes, as, in the judgment of the physician, the nature and circumstances of the case may require. Other derangements should not be overlooked, as internal medicines are frequently indicated.

CONGESTIVE FEVER.

ITS HISTORY, DIAGNOSIS, ETIOLOGY, AND GENERAL TREATMENT.

By congestive fever, I mean that form of disease which, in its first invasion of the human system, very nearly resembles the more common or bilious remittent fever, and which has, for the last fifteen years, proved most alarmingly fatal in the Southern and Western States (, especially during the first years of its prevalence), but from which the New England and the Middle States have been exempt, in a highly favored degree. I am not aware, that, until several years subsequent to the existence of the cholera in 1832-3, the peculiarities of this disease were at all understood, or, in fact, that the disease itself prevailed. The first time I ever met with it, was in the year 1836, in the State of Alabama; although, if I recollect aright, it prevailed, the previous year, in Camden, South Carolina, and vicinity. It soon spread over the Southern States, and has since prevailed, in a greater or less degree, through the whole range of the Mississippi valley, occasionally visiting the more eastern portions of the Union. The only cases I have seen in this State were in the fall of 1848, in the town where I reside and in Waterbury. By congestion, we understand, as the name implies, an accumulation and engorgement of blood, in some parts of the body. Such is doubtless the case in this disease, as we shall see in the further examination of its progress in the human system.

First, we will present the most important *symptoms* attending its

pathological action; *secondly*, its *etiology*; and, *thirdly*, the *treatment* indicated to effect a cure.

First, then, the DIAGNOSIS.

It is ushered in with a chill, or with intense coldness of the extremities,—severe pain in the head and back,—in some cases the pulse being quick and small,—in others more slow, full, and labored. In all cases the pulse recedes, as the coolness of the extremities continues and advances. The patient complains of great thirst. In some cases, the tongue is slightly coated with a yellowish *fur*. In others, it is without any coating, is considerably swollen, and the edges are of a deep dark red color. The stomach is irritable, rejecting every thing. The patient is unceasingly restless,—frequently sighs,—feels no pain,—and declares that nothing is the matter. The arterial action increases and becomes very great. Delirium at length supervenes; and the cold pallid countenance, the dull and sunken eye, the great dew drops of death, all speak, in unmistakable language, that the hour of dissolution is near. So it proves, and soon the scene is closed. Yet so peculiarly insidious is the approach of the disease, that danger is seldom apprehended, by the patient or his friends, until the pulse is nearly extinct, and the cold sweat of death appears upon his brow. The period of this disease varies from two to eight or nine days, according to the violence of the attack; and it is as *surely fatal* in the latter as in the former period, if not fully arrested soon after its invasion.

Secondly, ETIOLOGY. Here we enter upon an unexplored field of investigation. That the true cause of this fatal disease has ever been ascertained,—that the *why* and *wherefore* of its peculiar action on the human system have ever been lucidly explained to the human mind, I am not aware. Experience and careful observation have, however, enabled us to detect some of the outward predisposing causes of this disease. A very clear, warm, and dry atmosphere, during the day in the summer months, succeeded by cool and northerly winds at night,—causing thereby a great difference between the temperature of the day and night,—powerfully predisposes to this disease,—particularly in those persons, whose business callings compel them to exposure in the extremes of day and night,

at this season of the year. But, while we acknowledge these as predisposing causes of this disease, why does it assume such a strange, stubborn, and insidious character, so essentially different from the common bilious or remittant fever? What is the peculiar operating cause of this difference of pathological action? That the fluids of the system recede from the extremities,—that there is obstruction and loss of vigor,—and that the powers of life are struggling with some desperate disease, too mighty for its energies, is evident.

But why these phenomena? What is the *immediate cause*? Have the important functions of that highly important organ the liver become disturbed? Or is the irritated stomach the seat of the trouble? Or are the fluids of the system the part chiefly disturbed, thereby implicating every important function necessary to health?

From my observations I am inclined to the conclusion, that the disease is situated in *the fluids*,—that no one portion of the internal viscera is alone implicated,—but that every function important to health becomes more and more seriously affected, as the disease continues and advances, until every energy is lost. The *asthenic condition* of Brown is consummated; the *morbid excitement* of Rush is fully extended; the *heat* of Thomson is exhausted; the *electrical energy* of Sherwood has escaped; and death, of necessity, ensues.

I am strengthened in this conclusion by the fact, that the most robust persons,—those in the vigor of life,—of the fullest habits,—are the ones most subject to its attacks. And, further, experience has proved, that any cathartic effect upon the system, more than is necessary to remove effete matter from the bowels, only hastens, with fearful celerity, a fatal termination. After carefully reviewing the diagnosis, the retrocession of the fluids from the extremities, the labored and waning pulse, the increased arterial excitement, etc., etc., to what other conclusion could we rationally and pathologically come, but that the fluids of the system are obstructed,—congested. Further, there are many symptoms, attending this disease, which strikingly remind the medical practitioner of that terrific scourge, the *cholera*. As, during the second stage or stage of collapse in cholera, the fluids recede from the extremities, and

the pulse sink ; so it is in the forming stage of this disease. And, as in the third or inflammatory stage of cholera there is great arterial action, delirium, and death ; so it is in the further progress of this disease. I come, then, to this conclusion, that the primary cause of this disease is exposure to a dry atmosphere, with sudden transitions of temperature, closing the porous system, and consequently driving back the blood from the capillaries upon the larger vessels or trunks of the arterial system ;—an action by which they become engorged—congested. Hence, debility and death, as a sequence. If we are not in an error in our observations of this disease and the causes producing it, we cannot fail, at a glance, to perceive,

Thirdly, THE PROPER MODE OF TREATMENT INDICATED.—As the blood, from which the system receives its nutrition and vital energy, is thrown back from the capillaries, in consequence of the constriction of the porous system, debility, as well as congestion of the system, must inevitably ensue. Hence, there is, in this disease, *constriction, debility, and congestion*, and the effects of these different conditions upon the system are, consecutively, constriction inducing debility, and constriction and debility superinducing congestion. It will be obvious, therefore, to every one, versed in the first elements of the Physio-Medical practice, that relaxants and stimulants are the remedial agents indicated, upon which the physician must undeviatingly rely,—bearing in mind, however, that any secondary effect upon the system, must not be overlooked, but must be met as circumstances require. The extract of lobelia inflata, in large and oft repeated doses, from three to four times the quantity usually given, answers most admirably the first indication ; and capsicum annuum, internally and externally, with constant and thorough friction externally, together with other stimulants with which every practitioner is familiar, will fulfil the second indication. But persevere,—Yes ! Let this word be stereotyped—*Persevere*. Your patient may be more comfortable ; but, unless there is thorough reaction, and warmth in the extremities, and a *free, easy, and regular* pulse, he is still in danger, without the most thorough and continuous treatment, until every vestige of disease is overcome. Without this, while you are expecting to find him convalescing,

death will remove your patient beyond the power of medication.

But, with thorough, energetic, and persevering treatment, ever and anon keeping in view the leadings of nature, and judiciously selecting such efficient and harmless remedies as will remove the secondary effects upon the system, the benevolent practitioner will find, to his great joy, this stubborn and dangerous disease divested of its terrors. Here permit me to remark, that our system of practice, in those parts of the country, where this disease has most extensively prevailed, has been most astonishingly successful. Compared with that of Allopathy, our triumph has been complete.

But our object is not and should not be *merely* to triumph over another system of practice, but it should be to triumph over disease. This is the perfection at which we should all aim, and which, when attained, will enable us to leave those false and worse than useless systems of former ages, to fall, of their own weight, into their own native insignificance.

But, to attain to this perfection in the science of medicine, patience and perseverance in every practitioner are indispensable requisites. He must have the philosophy of Epictetus, which we may sum up in two words—*Patere, sustine* ; Suffer and bear. Patience, as homely a virtue as it may seem, is as essential to the success of the physician, as to that of the christian ; and sloth is a vice as intolerable in a physician and as fatal to his prospects and usefulness, as it is to virtue. The science of medicine, that science, all important to the happiness of man on earth, is a nymph whose smiles are not gained, and whose favor is not won, without humble, long, and assiduous wooing.

She hath placed her temple upon the mountains, and not on the plains ; and he, who would reach that glorious fane, inscribe his name thereon, and gain a niche within it, must quit the plains of inglorious ease ; and, in his progress, when one height is gained, must expect to see “ Alps on Alps arise.” He must not expect to reach the dazzling heights, by violent and intermitting efforts. His progress may be slow, but it *must* be constant. Let no one be disheartened by this picture. Go thou up. The summit will be gained at length, and then a *heaven* will be opened upon thy vision ; and a region of light, beauty, and purity, with its smiles, will richly

repay thee for all thy toils,—will amply reward thee for every oblation laid upon her altar.

G. N. LANGDON, M. D.

Bristol, Ct., March, 1850.

AN OVARIAN TUMOR, SUCCESSFULLY REMOVED,

BY PROF. W. BURNHAM, M. D., OF THE WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION.

About six years since, Miss U. Palmer of Guilford, Ct., received, by pressure, a slight injury in the lower part of the abdomen; and, from that time, has had gradually increasing uneasiness and pain in the part. For about three years past, there has also been an enlargement in the right side, just above the pubis. This, from its commencement, gradually increased, and carried the whole viscera of the abdomen before it, until they reached the umbilicus, and filled, from side to side, the lower half of the abdominal cavity. Such, however, has been the form of the tumor, that, instead of pressing the pelvic viscera downward, it has, to some extent, drawn the uterus and vagina upward; the attachment of the tumor being mainly to the broad ligament of the uterus and the right ovarium.

The symptoms in the case were so obscure, that there had been some difference of opinion, as to the true character and seat of the tumor. Dr. Bradley of New Haven who had treated the case for the last year, with the exception of a few weeks, judging correctly of her condition, had given her very appropriate palliative remedies, and had been able to keep her strength up tolerably well; but, as the tumor increased in size, the pressure upon the nerves and blood vessels became greater, and the pain consequently more intense. At length, the constitution seemed to be fast sinking under the weight of the tumor and the intensity of her suffering. For the last eight months, she has been confined to her bed, on account of the pressure, when in an erect position, upon the pubis, the nerves, and the blood-vessels of the lower limbs.

During the last month before the operation, Dr. Jewell of Guil-

ford carried out the same general plan of treatment which Dr. Bradley had previously pursued; but, finding that the palliative course could sustain her but little longer, he advised the risk of the complete removal of the tumor, by a surgical operation. As the only hope before her without such an operation, was certain death from continued suffering, she readily consented, and even earnestly urged its being done.

I was called to see her, on the 11th of August; and, on the 12th, with the assistance of Dr. Jewell of Guilford, and Drs. Bradley and Sprague of New Haven, I removed the tumor. The operation was performed in the following manner.

The patient was placed upon a table suitably arranged. She was then put under the influence of chloroform, skilfully administered by Dr. Sprague. I then made an incision through the integuments, down to the peritoneum; and extended it from the umbilicus to the symphysis pubis, in the direction of the linea alba. At this stage, I paused, for a short time, to allow the hemorrhage from the superficial vessels to cease, so that no blood should escape into the cavity of the abdomen.

During this delay, the patient was allowed to rally somewhat from the effects of the chloroform. After the superficial hemorrhage had ceased, an additional quantity of chloroform was administered; and I then raised a portion of the peritoneum with a pair of delicate toothed forceps, and made a small incision through it sufficient to pass a director. Upon this I passed a probe-pointed bistoury, and carried it upward to the extent of two inches, so as to enable me to introduce my finger, explore the abdomen, and determine the extent and points of attachment. After finding, that all the attachments upon the anterior surface, which were somewhat numerous, were easily broken up, I again, with the bistoury, guided upon the director, divided the peritoneum to the full extent of the external wound.

On passing my hand through the opening, I found, that the magnitude of the tumor rendered it impossible for me to remove it, without diminishing its size, or very much enlarging the opening. As a fluctuation could be distinctly felt in the tumor, I determined on lessening that, as being the more convenient course for myself

and the safer for the patient. I then took fast hold of the sac, with a strong pair of toothed forceps, and drew it forward, so as to close the opening and prevent an escape of the contents into the cavity of the abdomen. I now made a free incision into it, and removed about two quarts of thick coagulated matter, of the color of pus, thickly mixed with loose hair, which had evidently been detached from most of the inner surface of the sac.

This movement allowed me to collapse the sac, and afforded ample room to turn it over, so as to expose the pedicle and other attachments. The principal attachment was by a pedicle to the broad ligament of the uterus; but it involved the fimbriated extremity of the right fallopian tube. The pedicle was secured, by a small ligature, and divided. All the other attachments were broken up with the finger or the handle of the scalpel, and the tumor was removed, including the ovarium and fimbriated extremity of the fallopian tube. The only ligature used was the one around the pedicle of the sac; and not more than four ounces of blood were lost in the whole operation. Not half an ounce escaped into the abdominal cavity; nor were any of the contents of the sac discharged into it. The lips of the wound were then brought together, and were secured by means of the interrupted suture and adhesive straps. The ligature was retained and secured at the lower portion of the wound; the whole was covered with lint and retained by means of a roller; the patient was replaced in bed and kept quiet for a time, until the effects of the chloroform had passed away.

During the whole operation, the pulse did not materially change; nor did the patient seem to have suffered, in the least. Much credit is due to Dr. Sprague for the skilful manner in which he managed the chloroform, keeping her steadily under its influence, without producing any of the dangerous symptoms which sometimes occur, from an ignorant administration of it. As he watched carefully the full effect, both upon the pulse and upon the countenance, he was able to hold a perfect control over her; and scarcely was the operation completed, which lasted just one hour, before she was perfectly conscious and inquired into all the stages of the operation. Drs. Bradley and Jewell, also, rendered me

very efficient aid during all the stages of the operation. Indeed, I could not have had any better assistants than I had, and all of them were from the ranks of the reformed School of medicine. It cannot, therefore, longer be said, that surgery cannot be practiced by Botanic practitioners; for I found them fully acquainted with all that was required of them, in this very important operation.

After removing the tumor and inverting the sac, I found, between the two coats of the cyst, a small plate of bone, quite thin, about three fourths of an inch in diameter, of a triangular shape; and, directly over the centre of that bone, attached by a small pedicle, was a perfectly formed tooth, corresponding with the cuspidati. This was surrounded by a dense membrane, perfectly covering the fang of the tooth, to the crown, which was covered by a beautiful enamel. I have preserved the sac for the College museum.

I have just heard from the patient, and learn, that she is improving fast, and now feels quite sure of a perfect recovery. It is four weeks since the operation. Of course, the period of danger is nearly passed.

NOTICE

To the Practitioners of the Physopathic Medical Practice of Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey.

“IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH.” And, inasmuch as the friends of Medical Reform in the West, the South, the East, and the North have concentrated their efforts, united their wisdom, and organized their forces, it is deemed high time that *we of the Middle States* “go and do likewise”;—that we enter into a systematic organization and union of effort in order to properly devise and more effectually prosecute means and ways the best to secure the great objects of *true* medical science in our borders. Our influence upon community and the popularity of Physopathy in our States

depend much, very much, upon our organization. It is one of the most powerful instruments in the accomplishment of any enterprise; and, without it, we can do nothing. Then, Practitioners of Sanative Medication, let us bestir ourselves, *unite*, and *organize*.

It is proposed, that we meet in Convention at the City of Philadelphia on the *last Thursday in October*, 1851, for the purpose of forming a Middle States Physopathic Medical Society, etc. It is confidently and earnestly hoped, that all who have adopted the platform of Innocent Medication will attend, as matters of grave interest and importance, to the cause in general and practitioners in particular, will be up before the Convention for consideration, discussion, and decision.

Those Practitioners of Reform residing on the eastern shore of Maryland, as the Bay seemingly separates them from the South, are respectfully and earnestly invited to meet with and join us in our contemplated organizational movement.

Delegates, on coming to the City, will please call at A. Comfort's Drug Store, 295 Market st., in order to learn the precise place of meeting.

P. JOHN, M. D., *Penn'a.*,

J. S. PRETTYMAN, M. D., *Del.*,

L. H. BORDEN, M. D., *N. J.*, and others.

OBITUARY.

Died, at his residence in Meriden, Doct. Wm. Allyn, much respected as a man, and highly esteemed as a physician. He commenced the reformed practice, early in life, and somewhat early in its history. He had attained an enviable reputation in the profession; and many of his friends, who looked to him for help in times of sickness, as well as the whole community, will deeply feel his loss. His disease was typhus fever. Constitutionally rather feeble, and made more so by having had several attacks of fever before, and exposing himself for several days after the disease

had commenced, he sank under its influence. Notwithstanding the exertions of his medical advisers and the kind offices of friends, he yielded up his life of usefulness to the King of Terrors, at the age of about thirty seven years,—leaving a wife and children to mourn the loss of a husband and father.

S e l e c t i o n s .

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[From the Stethoscope and Virginia Med. Gazette.]

REPORT OF A CASE OF DOUBTFUL SEX.

BY WM. M. BROCKS, MILTON, N. C.

It is so exceedingly rare to meet with a *lusus naturæ* of this kind in the United States, that it might be thought almost culpable, if it were not repored. It is doubtful whether any of the primitive races of any nation ever presented such anomalies. It is only among high-bred classes of men and animals, that such cases are to be found. Nature here seems to hesitate as to the sex she will choose to cast off from her generative matrix.

Martha, the subject of this report, is a slave, the property of a gentleman of Pittsylvania county, Va. She is not a pure African, but a brown mulatto, about 24 years old; she has the rounded limbs of the female, weighs 145 pounds, and of Dutch build from shoulders to pelvis. She has suffered from neuralgia of her foot, and fever; has been married some three or four years, and has never menstruated. It was, therefore, naturally supposed, that her sufferings were caused by amenorrhœa. When she was before me for examination in April, 1850, my attention was first called to the flatness of her broad chest, and entire absence of her breasts; and, as she had never had her catamenia, I inferred that her genital organization was defective; and, upon examination very carefully made, both by the sight and the touch, I found this to be the fact. The pectoral muscles were as devoid of the mammary glands above them, as those of a male of the same age; the nipple was of the ordinary male size; face full, oval, and masculine. The genitals presented the most extraordinary appearance. The mons veneris was covered with the usual growth of hair of puberty. Descending from the upper part of the external labia, was a small black

apron, about three inches long, like the African prepuce, which, at first sight, as it tapered to a small point forward and downwards, resembled the pendulous penis. On lifting it up, it was not round or solid, but extensible, like a cut-open prepuce. Near its junction to the labia, and just within, could be seen and felt a large clitoris nearly two inches long, and feeling like the spongy corpora cavernosa of the penis, and having the cellular membrane only over its structure.

On passing through the nymphæ, the finger came in contact with the upper portion of the vagina, on which the distended bladder rested; and no further ingress to the hand forward was permitted. In the centre of the axis of the pelvis, the finger was introduced, and then carried to the left side, and in this direction it was arrested.

On the right side, the finger passed some three inches towards the left iliac fossa to a *cul-de-sac*, near the bottom of which a small spongy tuber, like a testis gland, was felt, having no scrotal covering. I then searched higher up for the uterus, and all around the sac, as far as it could be reached. I could find none, neither os tincæ, body, nor fundus. She said she had never had pains in her loins, &c., which usually precede the incipient menstrual effort at puberty. She had little or no desire for copulation, and did not enjoy it, and it sometimes gave her pain.

I regard this case as highly interesting physiologically, and as well entitled to be classed with those of hermaphroditism as any which I have seen reported—the absence of mammæ and uterus assimilating her to the male, and the well-developed external labia and nymphæ to the female.

[From the Eclectic Medical Journal.]

OLD-SCHOOL TREATMENT OF CHOLERA IN THE SOUTH-WEST.

While on a visit to Memphis, Tenn., recently, we had an opportunity of seeing the pernicious effects of treatment by the old-school physicians in cholera and dysentery in that city. They suppose the diseases to be the same, and treat them in a similar manner, as follows: calomel and opium, in large or small doses, as they may think best, alternated every one or four hours with seidlitz powders, cream of tartar, or lemonade, until increased catharsis and salivation is induced, which is effected in ten or

twelve hours, if the patient lives that time. This is the general plan pursued by the profession there, and the result is, that not a single case of cholera thus treated this spring has been cured. This fact they acknowledged to us in person, and also that they had but little better success in their treatment of dysentery. Such is the fatality attending the hunker treatment of these diseases in that city, that the whole community who are in a situation to leave for the north, have preferred doing so; and, for the three weeks we passed there, from one hundred and fifty to two hundred citizens left on each packet, and in less than a month the whole city will be nearly depopulated.

Is it not strange that a class of physicians will continue to practice from year to year without making any change in their treatment, when they know, that, for the three years past, during which time they have pursued the same course, the result has been and will invariably continue to be the same? How long will an enlightened community submit to such ignorance and stupidity, in a matter like this where life itself is concerned? We know some Eclectic practitioners in Memphis who have had as severe cases of these diseases as others, and who have not lost a single case during the present season, and who, for the last two years, have been almost universally successful. It will not do to cathartise in these diseases, to any extent, especially in cholera,

AMERICAN REFORM MEDICAL INSTITUTE,
OF LOUISVILLE, KY.
ANNOUNCEMENT AND CIRCULAR.

The Second Annual Session of this Institution will commence on the first Monday in November next, and will continue sixteen weeks. From five to eight Lectures will be delivered daily, except Saturdays, which will be devoted to Examinations and Clinical Instruction.

TEXT BOOKS: The following are recommended as text books, and will be consulted *ECLECTICALLY*, so far as Surgery, Materia Medica, and Practice are concerned. Anatomy—Morton, Wilson, or Pancoast's Wistar: Physiology—Carpenter, Oliver or Magendie: Surgery—Hill, Druitt, Liston or Chelius: Theory and Practice—Beach, Howard, Matson, Wood or Watson; Materia Medi-

ca—Kost, Pereira, and U. S. Dispensatory : Obstetrics &c.—Beach, Meiggs, Blundell, Rigby or Churchill : Medical Jurisprudence—Beck or Taylor, and Dean or Christison : Chemistry—Turner, Fowne, Silliman or Gardner. Every student should provide himself with a Medical Dictionary.

FACULTY.

JAMES MILOT, M. D., Professor of General and Special Anatomy, and Operative Surgery.

E. MORGAN PARRITT, A. M., M. D., Professor of Physiology and Medical Jurisprudence.

CHARLES J. CHILDS, M. D., Professor of Principles and Practice of Surgery.

J. HENRY JORDAN, M. D., Professor of Institutes and Practice of Medicine.

W. LYTTLETON JENKINS, M. D., Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

A. H. BALDRIDGE, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children.

LOUIS NOLLENBERGER, A. M., Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacy.

JAMES MILOT, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.

TERMS:—Tickets for the Course, \$60.

Matriculation fee (paid but once), \$5 : Demonstrator's ticket (optional except with candidates for graduation), \$5 : Diploma fee, \$20.

Any person, by paying \$100 in advance, will be entitled to attend two or more Courses, or as many as are necessary to his graduation, without further charge. Or, if preferred, \$50 in advance will be received, with a note of \$60, with approved security, payable in twelve months.

Students who have attended two Courses in other Medical Schools but have not graduated, will be admitted to a full Course in this at HALF PRICE. All Graduates of other Medical Schools will be admitted to a Course in this free of charge, except for Matriculation and Graduation fees (\$25), which will be required in advance.

The tickets in all cases are required to be paid for in advance, unless different arrangements are made by special agreement. The Matriculation fee must always be in advance.

P. S. Female students will be admitted to a full Course on the same terms. They will be allowed the privilege, however, of attending a part of the Lectures, at \$10 for each ticket they may prefer.

Clergymen of all denominations will be admitted to the Lectures free of charge, except for Matriculation.

RULES FOR GRADUATION: Candidates for Graduation will be required to attend punctually the Lectures of each Professor—to take the Demonstrator's ticket and attend to Dissection—and to attend the extra instructions and examinations of the Graduating Class.

They must also have attended one full Course of Lectures previously, in this or some other legally incorporated Medical School. Provided, however, that any person who has been three years next preceding engaged in a reputable practice of medicine, may, by attending one Course in this Institution, present himself for Graduation.

The difficulties under which this School has labored for a time, in regard to obtaining suitable Professors, have at length been overcome. The Faculty is now complete; and it is believed constitutes a College of Professors unsurpassed, in point of ability, practical experience, and capacity for teaching, by any Medical School of the kind in the United States. Great pains have been taken to secure an able and efficient Faculty, so that every department may be conducted in the most thorough and complete manner; and no pains will be spared by the Professors to render this the case in an eminent degree. The most ample opportunities for Dissections and Surgical Operations will be furnished. In regard to Hospital advantages, by an act of the City Council, our students have equal privileges at the Hospital with the students of the other Medical Schools in the city. Taking everything into consideration, it is confidently believed, that the American Reform Medical Institute presents claims upon the confidence and patronage of Reform Physicians and friends of the Cause in the West and South, equal at least, if not superior, to any other School.

Students, on arriving in the city, will please call on the Dean, at his Office on Second Street, between Main and Market Streets, half a square south of the Galt House.

For further particulars or information, address

J. H. JORDAN, M. D., Dean of the Faculty.

Louisville, Ky., Sept. 1, 1851.

[From the *Physo-Medical and Surgical Journal*.]

INFLAMMATION OF THE UTERUS.

BY J. DAVIS, M. D., SALISBURY, O.

SYMPTOMS.—"Fever; swelling and pain in the region of the womb, the pain extending down the loins and thighs; difficulty in voiding urine; nausea and vomiting, attended generally with more or less symptoms of hysteria." "In some cases the head is affected with slight delirium; impaired vision." "Pulse weak and

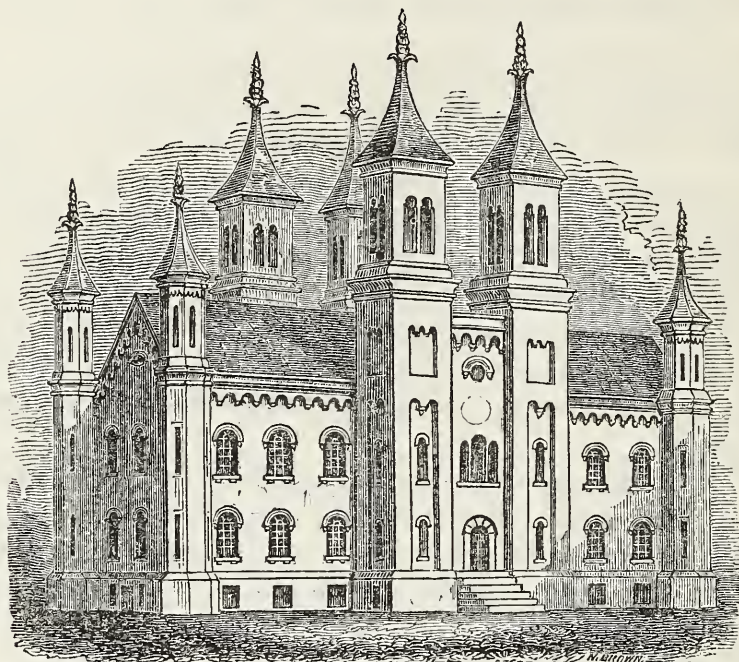
frequent ; lochia nearly suppressed ; tongue foul ; sometimes diarrhœa."

Mrs. T., for some days previous to confinement, complained of pain in the back, loins, hips, and a continual feeling as if urged to pass urine. These symptoms increasing, and others coming on, as nausea, vomiting, pain in the head and stomach, she sent for me, and I found her in labor. The pains were very irregular, effecting the stomach with nausea and vomiting, the head with pain. These symptoms were remedied by giving an emetic, stimulants, and nervines. The labor progressed slowly, and, after the lapse of forty hours, the delivery was completed, although, toward the last, the pains became very weak, making it very tedious and discouraging to the patient.

After the delivery, most of the symptoms that were present during labor, continued, except the nausea and vomiting. I used medicine, as freely and judiciously as I could, to remedy these difficulties ; yet, after all, inflammation developed itself, as in the symptoms at the head of this piece, and many of them of a very aggravated character, in about thirty hours.

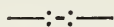
TREATMENT.—Ordered two pills every half hour, made of lobelia, ipecac., and soda, of each one part, mixed in extract of boneset, till free emesis ; and a tea of chamomile, parsley, uva ursi, and queen of the meadow, to be used freely for drink, till the urine passed off freely and easily. One and a half grains of podophyllin triturated with fifteen or twenty grains of cream of tartar (soon after the above pills are discontinued) to be given ; and, if it does not move the bowels in five hours, give one table-spoonful of castor oil, and one tea-spoonful of spirits of turpentine, well mixed in one dose. The free operation of the above medicines, together with clysters, repeated every three hours (made of lobelia, elm, and cranesbill, or myrrh), and fomentation of the bowels with bitter herbs, and bathing them with strong stimulating liniment three times a day, and bathing also the whole surface with saleratus water, soon made an amendment in the symptoms, which I maintained by repeating the above remedies as they were required ; and in three or four days the inflammation was entirely subdued. As the paroxysms of fever would begin to return, I used the pills, clysters, and alkaline bathing more freely. If the swelling and soreness returned, the turpentine and oil were repeated, and the liniment and fomentation over the bowels more frequently freshly applied. If the urine was more suppressed, the tea was used more liberally.

It may be well to say, the child lived about two days and a half. Twenty-four hours before it died, it turned very yellow.



[Worcester Medical Institution.]

Editorial.



OUR COLLEGE PROSPECTS.

It is generally known, that the Trustees of the Worcester Medical Institution did not, in accordance with their early expectations, succeed in getting the College building in readiness to be occupied the latter part of the last Term. The amount subscribed, the past year, was far from being sufficient to complete the building. Besides, in consequence of the pressure in the money market, considerable sums of what had been subscribed remained unpaid. During the whole of the winter, our agent Prof. Parritt was obliged to be at the West; and, on his return in March last, it being Term time with us, he could be spared but a short season from his appropriate work of lecturing. Of course, for about eight consecutive months, almost nothing was done in the matter of agency. Under these circumstances, we could not urge the contractor to

hasten his work. Nor was it important for us to do so. Our necessities only required the building to be in readiness for the Term of 1852.

The balance of the work is now under contract, and is rapidly going forward. The building will *positively* be completed during the approaching winter. Our agent is in the field; and, we are happy to say, meets with a becoming liberality on the part of the friends. The greater portion of what is necessary to finish the building is pledged. Still, *the balance must be raised*, as the Institution cannot afford to suffer pecuniary embarrassment. Besides, it is extremely desirable, that a small amount more of land, now under contract, should be secured. The beauty of the location and the full benefits to be derived from a Botanic garden require it. The library, also, and the chemical and anatomical apparatus, though now measurably adequate to all the purposes of instruction and illustration, yet are not as ample as the high standing of the Institution demands.

We respectfully entreat, that every friend of this reformatory movement, who has not yet had an opportunity to aid us in our necessities, will not neglect the *duty* and the *privilege* of contributing liberally to help forward a common cause. Just be ready, friends, with *pen, ink, and the needful*, that, when our agent shall cross your track, he may be detained only for a moment's use of the quill and a few interesting manipulations.

Few objects, as we verily believe, appeal so unqualifiedly and imperatively to the benevolent aid of the community as the wants of the Worcester Medical Institution. It has already gained, throughout the Union, a reputation for the elevated character of its instructions, and its unyielding demand of thorough attainments on the part of the candidates for its honors. Its diplomas are valued, by medical students, *as meaning something*.

Hereafter, our facilities will be much greater than they have ever yet been; our prospects, for a very large Class, in March next, are the most flattering; and every man who is interested in the progress of true medical science has now reason to be proud of the noble monument already erected and magnificently displaying itself on Union Hill in Worcester.

VETERINARY JOURNAL.

Through the politeness of the editor, George H. Dadd, M. D., we have received the first number of the American Veterinary Journal, accompanied with a beautiful engraving of the English cart horse, the first prize animal of the Royal Agricultural Society at Derby, 1843. The work is issued in large octavo form, and is to appear in monthly numbers of thirty two pages each. Our friend, who is, by birth, an Englishman, is doing a first rate service to this yankee land, by the profession to which he has devoted himself, enthusiastically and efficiently. He has, by his science and skill, already given reputation and dignity to a branch of medical practice before neglected and treated as almost unworthy the notice of respectable and educated men.

Dr. Dadd is worthy of great praise for having applied the reformed practice of medicine to the wants of sick animals. We happen to know something of his success; and know, that he is practically demonstrating, the truth, that blood-letting is as entirely unnecessary for irrational creatures as for man, and that innocent and sanative medication only is required in the one case, as in the other. We certainly wish the doctor a profitable, as well as a successful business; and we are happy to find, that even Allopathic authority is willing, that *brutes* should be *rationaly* treated, though *rational* beings are encouraged to be *brutally* put to death, with poisons and the lancet.

We copy, with pleasure, the following commendatory remarks, from the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal. They are from the pen of the editor; and they show conclusively, that even our Allopathic brethren are receiving a more favorable impression than they have hitherto cherished, in regard to the superior efficacy of the Physo-medical system.

“*The Veterinary Journal.*—The first number of a periodical devoted to the diffusion of veterinary knowledge, edited by George H. Dadd, M. D., has been issued in Boston. The work is to be published monthly, at the low price of \$1 a year, and is deserving

of patronage. It is the province of humanity to encourage a branch of knowledge that contemplates the amelioration of the condition of sick animals, and proposes a rational, scientific medication, founded on the laws of their organization, instead of the murderous system of farriery, which has been the disgrace of our country. Fine breeds of horses, cows, and other domestic animals, the accompaniments of man in his civilization, are the pride and sources of reliable property of the farmer, who feeds them upon rational principles, deduced from long observation upon their habits, character, and tendencies; but, in regard to the diseases to which they are incident, from the vicissitudes of climate, bad management, unnecessary exposures, and the cruelties often inflicted on them, no adequate provision has been made. It is one of the anomalies of every day life, that a valuable animal is given up to a confessedly ignorant man, to be dosed for a malady of which he knows nothing, with drugs the action of which he cannot predict, from not knowing their specific characters. Veterinary science proposes to prescribe for sick and maimed animals on scientific principles, precisely as human beings are treated by the physician and surgeon. We have always regarded it a proper field for the exercise of medical talent, and by no means beneath the dignity of any man, however eminent and professionally influential, to know how to alleviate the sufferings of a poor dumb beast. If a particular course of education is pursued with reference to this specially, it is better still. It is one's ignorance, and not his distinguished attainments, that degrades a profession. There is no reason why an accomplished veterinary practitioner should not have as good and prominent a place in society, as a quack who tampers with the lives of his fellow men under false pretensions, and takes their money without rendering an adequate equivalent. We hope this new work will meet with much success."

THE MEDICAL ERA.

The first number of the Medical Era and Home Journal of Health is received. It is published at Louisville, Ky., and is edited by J. H. Jordan, M. D., who is also the proprietor. We select from it the Announcement and Circular of the AMERICAN REFORM MEDICAL INSTITUTE, given on a previous page. If we understand

the position of our friends of that School, they are established on essentially the right ground ; and we most cordially greet them as fellow-laborers in the cause of true medical science. In the appointment of our associate, Prof. Parritt, to a place in the Faculty of the Institute, we can assure its Board of Trustees, that they have made a judicious selection. They have a man of splendid talents and thorough training,—one who will do abundant honor to the chair which he is to fill. The efforts at Louisville are yet incipient, but the location is central and admirably happy ; and, if our friends there *do the right thing*, we have the fullest confidence, that they will succeed.

We are glad, that one of the Professors of the School has commenced a Periodical, to serve as its organ, and be the exponent of the views taught and to be taught by the Faculty. We hope the paper will receive an extensive circulation,—particularly, at the South and the West, the region for which it is specially designed.

DR. WILLIAM YOUNG.

Dr. Young has lately removed his residence from Phillips to Farmington, Me. In a private letter, informing us of his change of location, he gives us a few remarks explanatory of his views and intentions, and of the circumstances under which a letter from Esq. Doyen was lately sent us for publication. The explanation is entirely satisfactory, and we take the liberty to present it to the public. We will only add, that we shall be glad to receive an article from the doctor on *ophthalmia* or any other medical subject, at any time.

“ I notice a few remarks, in No. 8 of the Journal, concerning the letter of Esq. Doyen ; and I shall be pleased, as soon as I have a convenient opportunity, to give the profession and the public, whatever information or knowledge, I have obtained, concerning *ophthalmia* and its treatment.

I would here say, that I have no secret remedies, and will use

none in my practice. No one is more opposed than I am to "empiricism" and secret remedies ; and, had I thought that your readers would have considered that letter, as advertising a secret remedy, I should not have sent it to you, in the manner I did.

I, at that time, as you are well aware, was at Phillips, in the midst of three "Allopathic physicians" who used all their concentrated energies to injure me, by all the means that were in their power ; and slander is often the offspring of envy. Sometimes, while I resided there, I would remember, that "we should not cast our pearls before swine."

Very respectfully yours,

WM. YOUNG.

Farmington Centre, Sept. 19, 1851."

PHYSICIAN WANTED.

Augusta, the capital of Maine, is a place of considerable size, and delightfully situated. We know something of the character of its inhabitants ; and we have good reason to believe, that it will afford a very desirable location for a good, common-sense, and scientific physician. The men whose names are attached to the following notice, are, as we happen personally to know, among the most eminent and honored citizens. We would be glad, if some of our recent graduates should find themselves in a condition to give heed to this call.

" PROF. NEWTON ;—

Dear Sir,—We, the undersigned, citizens of Augusta, Me., having, for some years past, critically watched the mortality attending the practice of both the Allopathic and Homœopathic physicians of this place, do most sincerely and conscientiously believe, that there is or ought to be, a safer, surer, and more successful mode of treating disease. We, therefore, wish, through the columns of your Journal, to give notice, that a good physician of the reformed practice is very much needed here. We want a man thoroughly educated in his profession, and, in every way, qualified for his work. Such a man will very soon find enough to do.

REUEL WILLIAMS,

ALFRED REDDINGTON."

PROF. BURNHAM AS A SURGEON.

We would call the special attention of our readers to the surgical operation reported in the present No. of the Journal. Not only was the case, in itself, a very interesting one, but the skill and care with which the operation was performed and its complete success, are worthy of all praise. As a surgeon, Prof. Burnham has few equals, in the ranks of either the Old or the New School. We are right glad to know, that his superior skill is beginning to be extensively appreciated, and that his services are being called for, even, as in this instance, at the distance of a hundred and fifty miles from home. We are glad, too, that any of the friends of our College and of a scientific medical practice, who are not themselves familiar with the more difficult operations in Surgery, are disposed to encourage professional talent in our own ranks, rather than apply to those who take every opportunity to represent us as destitute of a competent number of well qualified practical surgeons.

CORRECTIONS.

In the last No. of the Journal, on page 269, in lines 7 and 9 from the top, the word *parties* should have been *fetus*. On page 271, line 6th from the bottom, for *perfect* read *perfectly*. The article on CHEESE POISONING, commencing on page 287, should have been credited to the New Jersey Medical Reporter. On page 297, line 19th from the top, for *fe ix* read *filix*. The plant referred to is what is commonly called *male fern*, arranged by the older Botanists, under the genus *polypodium*, though Eaton and some others class it as a species of *aspidium*. On the whole, we suppose, that the latter classification is sustained by the more weighty authority. *Felix-mas*, also, the name of the species, is a compound word, and the parts should be united by a hyphen. For the phrase *polypodium, felix mas*, therefore, read *aspidium filix-mas*.

NEW ENGLAND
BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL
JOURNAL.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

VOL. V.

WORCESTER, MASS., NOVEMBER 1, 1851.

NO. 11.

Communications.

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UNITED STATES CONVENTION.

At a Convention of Reformed Medical Practitioners, held in the city of New York, on Tuesday, the 23d of September, 1851, the undersigned were appointed a Committee to call a UNITED STATES CONVENTION at Philadelphia, Pa., on the third Tuesday of January, 1852, to take such measures as may be deemed necessary and advisable for the promotion of the CAUSE OF MEDICAL REFORM.

The undersigned would, therefore, respectfully and cordially invite the Reformed Medical Profession to meet in Convention at the time and place above mentioned, for the purpose of adopting meas-

ures to secure the united and harmonious co-operation of all the friends of Medical Reform.

Delegates will please call at the store of Dr. Wm. Armstrong, 254 Market St., Philadelphia, to learn the hour and place of meeting.

ISAAC J. SPERRY,
WILLIAM ELMER,
JOSEPH D. FRIEND, } *Committee.*

MEDICAL INCONSISTENCY.

[The following is from the letter of an individual whose business has led him to travel considerably in different parts of the State of New York, and who has occasionally done something in aid of the Journal. EDITOR.]

How it is, friend Newton, that I find so many families, who smoke and chew tobacco, take snuff, drink tea and whiskey,—poor families too, I know not ; for, when these same families are solicited to become subscribers to an excellent Medical Journal, that will teach them how to avoid a great many of the ills which flesh is heir to,—one that will teach them the laws of life and health ;—in short, one that will save them ten times its cost, in a pecuniary point of view, why, they are too poor !—they can not afford it !! Oh Shame ! where is thy blush ? Tell it not in Gath ; publish it not in the streets of Askelon. Yet so it is ; and, to cap the climax of the whole, it is ten chances to one, if these same families do not keep two or three great worthless dogs. Yes ; and, in addition to all this, pay from ten to fifty dollars a year a sacrifice to old Allopathy,—a thing, of all in this world, the last which will consent to be reformed ; for every thing else, nearly, seems to be going ahead,—gaining in numbers and strength. Alas ! for poor old Allopathy !! She is shorn of her strength. What will become of her ? Her doom is certain,—her destruction inevitable. Unless she consents to be reformed, and that right speedily, she will discover “ the hand-writing upon the wall,” in letters of living light,

“Thou art weighed in the balance and found wanting.” May she be saved from her impending fate.

That you may be prospered, meet with abundant success, run, and be glorified in publishing the Journal, is the sincere desire and prayer of your most humble servant. ———

Selections.

—:—

[From the Eclectic Medical Journal.]

ATRESIA VAGINÆ.

BY T. J. WRIGHT, M. D.

I am desirous of submitting a few remarks, under this head, believing them to be of sufficient interest to occupy a place in your Journal.

I was called upon, April 21st, by Dr. R. of this city, who requested me to accompany him to see Mrs. W. S. a patient of his, the day following, which I did.

On our arrival we found the subject of the following remarks to be a native of Ireland, about twenty three years of age, sanguine temperament, somewhat emaciated, and her general health much impaired. On the 4th of July, 1850, after suffering severely for some time, (it being her first confinement,) she gave birth to a very large dead fœtus. She had no physician, but was attended by a midwife. The expulsion of the fœtus caused a laceration of the vagina, which was followed in a few days by inflammation, swelling, and excessive pain, accompanied with large discharges of matter resembling pieces of flesh. The discharges in course of time gradually became less, and in three months she was able to leave her bed. On examination, there was found to be *no vagina*, not even a *cul de sac*! Where the external orifice *should have been*, was found a cicatrix, almost as hard as cartilage; and what seems strange to me is, that, although the *smallest orifice* could not be detected, yet she informed us, that she had at times, though irregularly, a slight discharge of a catamenial character,

We having decided at once to operate, she was placed in a recumbent position, her knees drawn up and extended. A sound was introduced into the bladder, and the fore finger of the left hand into the rectum. Upon careful examination, the only texture that appeared to intervene between the sound and the finger, was the walls of the urethra and rectum, or, if any thing more, some cellular tissue. We inferred from this, that the vagina had principally, though not entirely, sloughed away. Although no vestige of a vagina was to be found by the touch, we supposed it possible, that a part of the tube might still remain, and that its upper portion might be reached by the bistoury. With this view we commenced to operate, with the intention of making an artificial vagina, and, if possible, to discover that portion left of the original which we expected to find.

I now took my place in front of the patient, having the staff in the bladder somewhat curved, and held firmly, with the fore finger of the left hand in the rectum, to serve as a guide, and began, by cutting laterally with the bistoury, to dissect between the rectum and urethra, carrying the incisions within a short distance of the womb, extending them between four and five inches; after which, quite a quantity of dark looking liquid resembling venous blood flowed from the orifice. The operation was performed in one hour, without doing violence either to the rectum or urethra. The orifice was made sufficiently large to introduce a finger, the greater part of the distance to the womb, and the remaining portion, large enough to admit an ordinary-sized catheter. The patient now being exhausted, we concluded to suspend our operations, with the expectation of enlarging the orifice at some future period; ordering her in the meantime to keep it open with a *bougie*, which was done. I returned the following day with Dr. R., and found her doing well.

But she being persuaded by her friends to believe that recovery was impossible, and that it was labor in vain to try to accomplish anything, I was inclined to let her and her friends please themselves. Dr. R., soon after declined further attention upon her, from the fact, that she would not submit to such treatment as he deemed necessary to a final cure.

On or about the first of June last, I met Mr. S. in the street; and he requested me to take entire charge of his wife, "who," as he said, "is now willing to have the case prosecuted to a cure, if you think it can be done." I assured him it could. On the fourth of the same month he called at my office, and requested me to go and see his wife, which I did; and, upon examination, I found the vagina to be again *completely closed*,—nothing having been done to

keep it open for sometime. I placed her in a proper position, and commenced as before to lay open the closed vagina with the bistoury; and completed the operation in a much shorter time than before. At a little distance from the external orifice of the vagina, was found a ring, of a cartilaginous character, which it was necessary to remove, before the artificial vagina could be made sufficiently large to perform its natural functions, and prevent the adhesion and final obliteration of the small orifice made with the bistoury. To accomplish this, and at the same time keep the orifice open, I resorted to the use of bougies of various sizes, commencing with very small ones, and increasing the diameter, as fast as the nature of the case would admit. To cut down the ring, the *sesqui-carbonate of potash* was used; mixed with tallow to cause it to adhere, and smeared on that part of the bougies which came in contact with the *cartilaginous ring-like formation*. The *sesqui-carbonate of potash* was applied in this way for nearly a week, cutting down the ring very fast, so much so, that, at the close of the week, a bougie over an inch in diameter was introduced with comparative ease; after which, the caustic applications were discontinued, and a plain, smooth, but light bougie was kept in situ, smeared with tallow only. The soreness gradually subsided, her health improved very fast, and her menstrual discharge now became regular. Believing herself nearly well, she left the city about three weeks ago, to spend the summer with her friends and relatives in the country. I have since heard from her, through the medium of her husband, who informs me, that she is in good health, and able to perform all the duties required of her, with ease and pleasure. She still uses a bougie a portion of the time.

Cincinnati, July, 1851.

ON THE CHEMISTRY OF DYSENTERY.

BY DR. OESTERLEN.

Dr. OESTERLEN, as the director of the Medical Clinique at Dorpat, has had a vast number of cases of dysentery brought under his notice; but his object, in the present paper, is merely to report the results of the examination of the matters discharged from the bowels. Even a superficial view of the disease serves to show of what importance these discharges are. The enormous quantities that are passed, and the rapid collapse and emaciation that ensue,

are unequalled, save in cholera itself. Still there exists no exact account of these quantities, or of the chemical composition of these discharges; and the present paper, as a first step towards supplying this deficiency, details the examinations made in four cases, by Professor Schmidt and himself. A graduated vessel was adapted to the night-stool, so that the entire amount of excrementitious matter would be accurately measured. Sufficient clinical particulars are given to show that the cases were well-marked examples of the disease.

The first general observation made is upon the enormous amount of the loss of albumen, salts, water, and epithelial scales that take place. Thus we find that the quantity of discharges collected, in one patient, amounted to 2100 cubic centimetres (or grammes) on the 10th day, to 3500 on the 12th, 800 on the 14th, 3500 on the 15th, and 2000 on the 17th; the amount of albumen and epithelium discharged being 79.4 grammes on the 10th day, 80.9 on the 12th, 18.2 on the 14th, and 52.8 on the 15th. In another patient, the total discharges amounted to 3800 cubic centimetres on the 1st day, to 2400 on the 8th day, and to 800 on the 14th. Deducting from 20 to 25 per cent. for the urine which sometimes became commingled with the stools, the author calculates that an adult, in a case of medium severity, will pass from 1500 to 2000 cubic centimetres per diem, during the first fourteen days, and from 800 to 1000 for another week; so that, for the entire duration of an attack that has lasted three weeks, he passes at least, 30,000 cubic centimetres, or 30 kilogrammes. The albumen exists in different proportions, as 15, 23, 24, or 39 per 1000, its daily loss by weight varying from 20 to 80 grammes.

Not only is there this immense loss of *albumen*, but its percentage and absolute quantity are found to be far more considerable in the severer stages of the disease, than in the later and generally milder ones; so that this general proposition may be laid down—that the more severe is the disease, the greater will be the amount of the stools and their richness in albumen; while the less they are in quantity, and the poorer in albumen and larger in their proportion of water, the milder is the disease, or the more has it advanced towards its later stages. So, too, in any intercurrent aggravation of the disease, we find this indicated in the increased quantity, but especially in the increased albuminosity of the stools. In an attack of medium intensity, we may estimate that the patient will lose from 50 to 60 grammes of albumen during the first fourteen days, and about 20 grammes during the next eight days—the total loss amounting to from 900 to 1000 grammes. This large

loss of albumen becomes the more striking, when we compare it with that which is observed in other diseases attended with purging, or after the use of laxatives. Thus, in the stools produced by calomel and jalap from a patient suffering from chronic disease of the brain, the proportion of albumen was only 3 per 1000; and in a case of typhus, the stools furnished but 3.9 per 1000, i. e. five times less than a case of dysentery, even when on its decline. Estimating the entire weight of the albuminous portions of the blood at 800 or 900 grammes (Valentin), from 1-20th to 1-40th of these are lost daily.

Estimating the *water* of the blood at from 9 to 10 kilogrammes, the abstracting daily from 1500 to 2000 grammes of this sweeps away with it a portion of the newly-formed albumen, and gives rise to modifications and diminution of various exudatory and secretory processes, and especially influences the quantity of the *urine*. This is found to be remarkably diminished; and the same cause explains the dry and inactive state of the skin, and any diminution of the quantity of vapor and carbonic acid that may be exhaled from the lungs. In some cases, the whole quantity of urine passed in the twenty-four hours, has not exceeded 400 or 500 grammes. Contemporaneously with the improvement of the patient and the diminution of the stools, the quantity of the urine increases.

The *bile* has been supposed to play an important part in this disease. In 46 autopsies it was found in the most varied quantities, just as is the case in other diseases. Any defective secretion is, doubtless, in part dependent upon the little food these patients take.

Dysentery belongs to the so-called malarious class of diseases, and at Dorpat is endemic just as in the ague; and in relation to the antagonism said to exist between this last disease and phthisis, it is interesting to observe that, in 46 autopsies of dysenteric cases, no traces of tubercle could be found, notwithstanding that phthisis is a disease of frequent occurrence in the vicinity.

From what has gone before, we may adduce the therapeutical rule of employing only with the greatest caution, the means (e. g. mercury, bloodletting) calculated to induce or augment loss of material; and to use every means not merely to cope with the local disease, but also with the important anomalous *crasis* induced, and prevent, by the addition of new material, exhaustion of the mass of the blood.—*Henle and Pfeufer Zeitschrift*, Band vii., 253–81.

CARIES OF THE FOREHEAD,
SOFTENING OF THE BRAIN, AND TOTAL SUPPURATION OF THE AR-
ACHNOID, WITHOUT ANY DISTINCTIVE SYMPTOMS.

BY DR. HEINRICH, OF MAINZ.

Dr. HEINRICH regards the following case as a very important one in its medico-legal aspect.

N. N., æt. 22, a clerk, of weakly habit, yet of good health usually, had been for a twelvemonth liable to headaches, which would last for some hours and then leave him. They did not affect any one part of the head in particular, and were accompanied by a sensation of pulsation. The attacks came on without any obvious cause, and after some rest subsided. As he was unwilling to leave his occupation, he had not applied for medical aid. One day he was at a tavern with some friends (he was of sober habits however), when one of them accidentally struck him a blow, with a pipe, just above the root of the nose; but so slight was this, that it did not even produce any mark. Nevertheless, he was seized with a severe attack of headache, affecting especially the top of the head; and so distressing was it, that, after a sleepless night, he called in a practitioner. Purgatives, and afterwards antiphlogistics, though there was no fever or signs of inflammation present, were employed in vain; and, after twelve days spent in efforts to obtain relief, he was brought to the hospital. He complained of excessive and constant suffering, but was entirely conscious, nor was there general fever or local heat of the head. The pain was accompanied by a sensation of throbbing of the entire head, which was sometimes exchanged for a painful sense of pressure, as though the head were secured on every side in a vice. His understanding and memory were undisturbed, even amidst his extremest sufferings, his great complaint being sleeplessness. He was pale and emaciated. His eyes retained their brilliancy, save during the existence of the sense of pressure, when they became clouded. His pulse was slow (50 or 55), weak, and soft, the tongue clean, stools regular, absence of all thirst and fever. Several days thus passed away, the pain continuing without intermission, and the debility augmenting, but the intellectual powers continuing undisturbed until the twenty-seventh day, when fever, delirium, and convulsions appeared, and he died the next day.

At the *post-mortem* (thirty-six hours after death), a slightly elevated, yielding spot was observed on the forehead, which had not

been remarked during even the last examination made of his head the day before he died. On removing the scalp, a fetid, ichorous fluid flowed from this part, and the periosteum of the frontal and adjoining parietal bones was found in part loosened, in part destroyed by suppuration, while the upper half of the frontal bone was carious and penetrated. The bones of the skull were surprisingly thin, the thickest not exceeding two lines, and the thinnest half a line. Opposite the carious bone the dura mater was observed suppurating and gangrenous, and discoloured in other parts. Both hemispheres were flattened, as if sunk in. The arachnoid was so covered with pus, that no traces of its proper characters could be discerned. The substance of the brain was of a pappy, semifluid consistency, and exhibited no increase of vascularity. All traces of the arachnoid were gone at the base of the brain, there being nothing but a fetid ichor; and to such an extent had softening of the brain gone, that it could not be taken out without rupturing it.

With such an extensive disorganization of the brain and its membranes, the entire absence of all disturbance of its functions, until the day before death, is hardly comprehensible, and such extensive changes imply a much longer period in their production than the history of the case furnishes; for, during the twenty-eight days, no signs of acute inflammatory action or disease of the skull could be detected by repeated careful examination. They were doubtless due to chronic inflammation operating during the twelve months he had complained of severe headaches. Yet had he considerable intervals of entire freedom from these; and, at the time he received the blow, he was engaged in cheerful conversation, and complained of nothing. The post-mortem shows, that the blow received had nothing to do with the production of the caries. Had it been inflicted somewhat higher, and that during a scuffle, the patient apparently quite well at the time, and immediately afterwards becoming so ill, suspicion of its agency would have been reasonably excited, until the autopsy revealed of how much longer standing the mischief really was.—*Henke's Zeitschrift*, Band lvii, pp. 379-404.

NEEDLE FOUND IN THE HEART.

DR. NEILL, while dissecting the body of a negro, who had suffered, though not urgently, some time before death, from palpitation, slight dyspnoea, and severe cough, and who had never complained

of having received any injury, nor manifested any tendency to suicide, found a foreign body in the heart, which it was ascertained, could not have fallen in during the dissection. It proved to be a broken worsted-needle, two inches long, imbedded in the external wall of the left ventricle, with its point directed to the apex of the heart. It was much oxidized, and could not be moved from its situation until the cyst containing it was split up. The broken end was contained in one of the columnæ carnæ.

Cases are on record, in which needles have penetrated into the heart from without. Dr. Leaming relates one of a seamstress, who thrust a needle through her chest, by falling against a table, and who died, after suffering from pleurisy, pericarditis, and pneumonia, for nine months. The body of the needle was found imbedded partly in the wall of the right ventricle, and partly in the septum, whilst the point projected a quarter of an inch into the left ventricle. Another is contained in the 'Archives Générales,' 1842, in which a soldier ran two needles into his heart, and died in nineteen days. The needles had passed through the heart, and lodged in the lower part of the left lung, therein inducing an abscess. A third case is related by Dr. Graves, in which the needle, after having been run in for the purposes of suicide, was cut down upon and removed. The patient, however, died of pleurisy, on the eighth day; and, on opening the left ventricle where the needle had entered, a small membranous sac, about the size of a pea, and containing pus, was found.—*New York Med. Examiner*, N. S., vol. v, No. 2, p. 94.

EXTRA-UTERINE PREGNANCY.

BY DR. GORDON.

A negro woman, æt. 41, about six months advanced in pregnancy, was seized with symptoms of labor in the middle of June, 1848; and, on examination, a body of considerable size was felt lying in the cavity of the pelvis, between the vagina and rectum, and on which the mouth of the womb was pressing with considerable force. Pains continued at intervals, and on the 20th of July, a consultation was held on the case. The opinion already entertained, that the foreign body felt in the pelvis, was an extra-uterine fœtus, was adopted by all. During the consultation, violent labor-pains came on, and, as delivery was impossible with this firm body blocking up the pelvis, an operation was determined on. An in

cision, three inches long, was made in the posterior wall of the vagina, and the head of a fœtus felt by the finger, passed through the wound, to be pressing on the perineum. Vain attempts to extract it by the forceps and other instruments were made, and the incision was enlarged. During each uterine contraction, the body was pressed forcibly against the perineum, and the index-finger of the one hand having been passed into the rectum, and that of the other through the wound, a sufficient purchase was gained upon the child's neck, to raise the head from the bed of the vagina; and then, by a violent pain, it was expelled far beyond the vulva. The fœtus was, however, still firmly held against the vulva by three fleshy bands, one of which seemed to be the remains of the funis. All three proceeded towards the upper and posterior part of the pelvis. They were divided, and, on tracing them backwards, were found conjoined into a flesh-like substance, six inches in diameter, and one and a half thick, which was attached high up in the pelvis. Very little hemorrhage resulted from the division; but it was not deemed prudent to pursue the bands, which, indeed, after the delivery, completely receded beyond reach. The fœtus, thus extracted, consisted of an agglutinated cartilaginous and osseous mass, some of the bones being tolerably well formed, others only imperfectly so. It measured, from the vertex to the forehead, 2 3-4 inches; in its biparietal diameter, 2 1-2 inches; from shoulder to shoulder, 2 inches; from vertex to coccyx, 5 inches.

As soon as it was removed, all labor-pains ceased, to become renewed on the 22d, when, after two hours' duration, a child was born, that lived only three hours. The date of the extra-uterine conception was traceable back to 1836, since which time, she had borne five living children. As long as the tumor continued high up in the abdomen, it only caused occasional uneasiness; but having, three months prior to the operation, descended into the pelvis, it gave rise to great mechanical obstruction and constitutional disturbance. The woman did very well.—*New York Journal of Medicine*, N. S., vol. iii, p. 132.

CASE OF EARLY VIABILITY OF AN INFANT.

M. Bierbaum, in an article upon this subject, relates the following case that occurred to his preceptor, Outrepont. A newly married woman bore a child twenty-seven weeks after her last menstruation, and five weeks after perception of fœtal movements, *i. e.*, between the 175th and 189th day. It was 13 1-2 inches long, and

1 1-2 lb in weight; covered with wooly hair; slept almost uninterruptedly; seldom opened its eyes; did not cry, but moaned when its position was changed. The pupillary membrane was present, the knees were pressed close against the chest, and the thighs drawn against the belly. In place of nails there were firm white folds of skin. Fifteen weeks after birth it had scarcely grown 1 1-4 inch, and in its eleventh year was not larger than a child of seven or eight; but in other respects, both mentally and bodily, was as it then should be.—*Med. Zeitung*, 1850, No. 44.

[From the American Medical and Surgical Journal.]

ACCOUNT OF A SUCCESSFUL AND INTERESTING SURGICAL OPERATION,

PERFORMED BY PROF. S. H. POTTER, M. D.

Communicated by Dr. A. B. Harrington, Henderson, N. Y.

Mr. Editor:—Permit a humble servant of suffering humanity to present your readers with an account of a most interesting case of disease, evidently occasioned by merciless mismanagement. At 3 A. M., Nov. 22, 1849, I was called in haste to visit Mrs. B., the wife of a respectable citizen of Henderson, and mother of seven children. She was supposed to be dying. Indeed, they had just reason for such fears. I had often heard that she was not expected to live; but had no acquaintance with the family.

When I arrived, I found her pale as marble; the pulse was gone at the wrist; and, on placing my ear over the chest, a faint murmur only was discernible. The heart beat about fifteen strokes to the minute; and the limbs were cold and motionless. I asked the husband whether he expected me to help a dead person. He replied, "While there is life, there is hope."

I made the following prescription: 4 drachms of brandy, 20 minims of spirits of ammonia, 20 do. spirits of camphor, 30 do. spirits of mentha piperita, [peppermint,] 4 drachms of water, and 1-2 drachm of loaf sugar. I also directed the limbs to be bathed with a strong tincture of capsicum; and a cloth wet with the same to be placed over the epigastrium. Twenty minutes after, the pulsations had increased to thirty-five a minute. I soon after administered 10 minims of aqua ammoniæ in two drachms of water; and ordered capsicum to be given at intervals of three hours, during the day.

Mrs. B. for the last two years and a half had been subject to a

hemorrhage from the womb. The attacks were quite regular, about once each six weeks, and became successively worse. She had given birth to a daughter about three years since; and the physician, she told me, as he introduced his hand into the uterus to remove the placenta, had inflicted a severe hurt or injury, over the left ilium, near the fundus. She never recovered. The same physician treated her afterward for *prolapsus uteri*, and uterine hemorrhage, to no purpose. His skill was at length exhausted; and he pronounced her incurable. An *Indian doctor* was next employed, but without success.

Mrs. B. improved much under my treatment, and became quite comfortable; but there appeared so heavy a drawback, that I felt compelled to request an examination. I found an ovarian tumor of the left hypogastrium, resembling a large hypogastrocele. I did not examine her *per vaginam*. I continued to treat her, and succeeded in greatly relieving the weakness, and tenderness of the *os sacrum*, by the use of stimulants, tonics, and diuretics. She became able to walk about the house, had an excellent appetite, and bid fair to recover.

In March, 1851, I was called again. I told Mr. B. that I could not treat her without an examination *per vaginam*, as she complained of a fulness, and heavy weight in that region, with symptoms very different from those of *prolapsus uteri*. To my astonishment, there was a polypus, which filled the vagina almost within an inch of the external labia; no less than seven inches long, and four and a half inches in diameter; capable of a rotary motion, about half way round with difficulty; the apex very obtuse, pear-shaped. The size at the attachment I could not ascertain.

Dr. Hale of Adams Centre, a very able practitioner, was called by me; and we decided that it would be impossible to ligate with the double canula, unless a portion of the excrescence could be caused to slough off. As however the tumor appeared to be increasing from above, and the warm weather would render the decomposition dangerous, we thought best to lose no more time, but to procure a surgeon at once. Choice was made of Dr. S. H. Potter, of Syracuse Medical college. Prof. Potter came here promptly, accompanied by Dr. Kilbourne, of Oswego, and Dr. Noteman, a very estimable young physician, now of Watertown.

On visiting and examining the patient it was declared to be impossible to operate with the common canula. Prof. Potter ordered two small metallic tubes to be made, about the diameter of a goose quill, eight and a half inches long, with two sliding bands, and a double ring to confine the canula together. The tubes were obtuse at one end, and curved about two inches at one-third of the length from the end.

On the morning of the 21st of June last, we repaired to Mr. B's residence, to perform the operation. The blades of the newly-invented canula were separated, and each armed with the ligature, which, in a reasonable time, was passed around the polypus by Dr. Potter, with some little assistance. The double ring was then moved to the extremities of the canula, to confine the blades; and then the flat band, which was about half an inch in width, was passed to the outer end to confine them. A small piece of wood was inserted to draw the ligature across for tying. Then the tightening was next performed. In the evening I found all going on well. The next day, Drs. Potter and Hale visited her, and found considerable inflammation, with appearances of rapid decomposition.

After that time she remained in the care of Dr. Hale and myself. The ligature was tightened daily. We found no difficulty in keeping down inflammation with weak lye and ulmus enemas. We were now quite confident of a happy termination. On the 27th, a dull, heavy pain commenced in the left cardiac region, extending up the region of the left carotid artery, and along the œsophagus, and preventing deglutition to a serious extent, except as assisted by fomentations. On the 30th, the tumor sloughed away.

On the third of July, I made my last examination with a speculum. I found the os uteri dilated, the fundus inverted, and the remaining part of the neck of the polypus protruding through the os uteri. Passing the end of the speculum through the os uteri, it inclosed the neck of the excrescence, which I found in a decomposed condition, and twisted it off with the long forceps. The place of the attachment was at the left of the fundus, at the precise locality where Mrs. B. had told the physician that he had injured her. I took a large probe, wound the end, passed it through the speculum, and pressed the fundus of the uterus back to its natural position. The neck of the polypus when removed was over two inches long, and larger than a man's thumb.

July 5th.—I was called at 3, A. M. It was supposed that she could not live long. My anxiety may well be imagined. An operation in progress which no books treated of, and the eyes of community upon me,—the patient screaming out at every breath. I bathed the left cardiac region with a liniment composed of two parts of tincture of camphor and one of chloroform; and ordered a mustard plaster over the uterus—also one on the inside of each groin. The pain ceased in ten minutes almost entirely; and, after a second enema *per vaginam* of the decoction of salix alba, [rose willow,] she became perfectly easy.

August 1.—Mrs. B. has continued to improve, and is now able

to walk about the house, over the farm and neighborhood, and to visit friends who never expected to see her outside her own door till the last offices were performed for the dead. I now leave this case for medical scholars, abler than myself, to give the pathology.

When this operation was contemplated, Dr. S. the physician to whom I have so often referred, was very officious with his remarks. Admitting that Mrs. B. had a polypus, he affirmed that we did not know enough for its treatment; and he thought that she knew enough not to be imposed upon by a set of ignorant quacks. The ladies who were invited to be present to console and sympathize in this hour of peril, he averred, should have thought more of themselves than to attend in such a company.

Public sentiment, however, takes a different view of the matter. It is notorious, that after this man had injured Mrs. B. at her accouchement, he denied doing so, and treated her two or three years. He then declared that neither himself nor any other physician could cure her. This is the individual who now declaims against our *quackery*! He now goes so far as to assert his *opinion* that the tumor existed before the birth of the last child. He ought to have known this, at that time; as he passed his hand into the uterus, where he could examine for himself.

Surgeons are aware, that it is often characteristic of these fungous excrescences to grow again. Perhaps this may be the case with Mrs. B. No candid person should let this fact improperly influence his judgment. An extremely difficult and dangerous surgical operation has been performed—by quacks perhaps—but it is successful.

MEDICAL COLLEGES.

In our last No., we gave the Announcement and Circular of the American Reform Medical Institute, recently established at Louisville, Ky. We here give the Circulars of several other Institutions, which, to a greater or less extent, are helping forward the cause of true medical science in the country. We, of course, do not endorse all their peculiarities, nor intend to sanction any of their errors or deficiencies; but, unlike some of our medical brethren, who are envious at the success of every enterprise in which they are not immediately concerned, we are willing, that any system of measures, tending to remove the most destructive errors of the profession, should succeed.

We publish these Circulars, thus clustered together, under the impression, that such an embodiment of the matters which they contain may, years hence, be perused, with satisfaction, by the readers of the Journal. In the history of reform in medicine, there are facts which properly chronicled, will prove as interesting, even to the men of another generation, as to those who witness them.

EDITOR.

SYRACUSE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The second Term of this Institution will commence on *Thursday, December 4, 1851*, and will continue sixteen weeks.

A gratuitous preliminary Course of Lectures will commence on Thursday, Nov. 6, and continue four weeks. At the same time the Demonstrator's room will be opened with every facility proper to the study of Anatomy. Tickets for a full Course of Lectures, \$60 in advance, or a well endorsed note of \$70 and interest on twelve months' credit; for two or more full courses, \$100 in advance, or a well endorsed note for \$125. Matriculation fee \$5. Demonstrator's Ticket, \$5. Graduation fee, \$15. Ladies are entitled to the Professor's tickets at a reduction of one-third from the specified charges.

Board may be had at good places for \$2,00 to \$2,50 per week. Students may board themselves in clubs for half those prices.

PROFESSORS.

S. H. POTTER, M. D., Surgery and Obstetrics.

C. D. HAMMOND, M. D., Anatomy and Pathology.

DWIGHT RUSSELL, M. D., Theory and Practice and Pharmacy.

JOHN T. GOODIN, M. D., Materia Medica, and Diseases of Women and Children.

ALEXANDER WILDER, M. D., Chemistry and Physiology.

AUGUSTUS A. FAHNESTOCK, Botany.

C. D. HAMMOND, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy, and Surgical Prosector.

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, which is now in operation at Syracuse, affords superior advantages to students for acquiring a knowledge of medicines and the mode of preparing them; which will expedite them in obtaining a practical understanding of therapeutic science. The three Professors of Pharmacy, Materia Medica, and Chemistry, who are connected with this establishment, act in the same capacity in the Syracuse Medical College.

Students arriving in the city will call at the Dispensing Store of the American College of Pharmacy, where the Secretary of the Faculty has his office. For further particulars, address a letter (post paid) to

S. H. POTTER, M. D.,

Dean of the Faculty.

CENTRAL MEDICAL COLLEGE, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

The next annual Course of Lectures in this Institution will commence on the first Monday in November, 1851, and continue sixteen weeks. In issuing this Announcement, the Board of Trustees have the gratification of adverting to the unparalleled success of the School during the past six courses of instruction, as affording undoubted evidence of its appreciation by the public, its permanent establishment, and future prosperity. The Faculty have received renewed assurances from that portion of the profession among whom their labors have been cast, and who have had an opportunity of judging, that their course meets their cordial approbation and will be sustained.

Central Medical College is permanently located in the City of Rochester, which from its central position, convenience of access, large population, wealth and morality, must be acknowledged as the most desirable location in the State. In consequence of the number of ladies who have attended during the three last Terms, and at the request of others who propose attending the next Session, the Board of Trustees have established a Female Department, which is in charge of Mrs. L. N. Fowler, M. D., who from her spirit of investigation, and scientific and medical acquirements, has obtained a wide spread and merited popularity.

FACULTY.

- L. C. DOLLEY, M. D., Professor of Anatomy and Operative Surgery.
- LEVI REUBEN, M. D., Professor of Physiology and Pathology.
- O. DAVIS, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics.
- P. C. DOLLEY, M. D., Professor of Principles and Practice of Physic, and Surgical Diseases.
- W. W. HADLEY, M. D., Professor of Materia Medica, Therapeutics, and Pharmacy.
- A. K. EATON, A. M., M. D., Professor of Chemistry and Forensic Medicine.
- W. BEACH, M. D., Emeritus Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine.
- J. H. TILDEN, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy and Surgical Prosector.
- LORENZO N. JONES, Janitor.

FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

- MRS. L. N. FOWLER, M. D., Professor of Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children.

FEES.—Aggregate cost of Professor's Tickets, \$60; Demonstrator's Fee \$5; Matriculation Fee \$5; Graduation Fee \$15. Good board can be obtained at \$2 and \$2,25 per week. Graduates of Medicine in reputable Colleges, Clergymen, and Theological Students will be admitted to the Lectures on the payment of the Matriculation fee. Students are advised to furnish themselves with text books, Old-School works as well as Reform publications. All will be consulted eclectically. For further information address

WM. W. HADLEY,
Dean of the Faculty, Rochester, N. Y.

THE PHYSOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF OHIO.

It will be recollected by many of our numerous friends, that this Institution was chartered by the Legislature of this State in March, 1839, under the name and title of the Literary and Botanic-Medical College of the State of Ohio.

Under this name, and in virtue of the provisions of this charter, the Institution has grown up to become one of great value to community, notwithstanding it has had to struggle against popular prejudice, ignorance of the important principles it inculcated in the practice of medicine, and the embarrassing and degrading epithets heaped upon it by its enemies, as well as some assumed by its friends, together with some objectionable features of the charter.

Our charter (which was a university charter) has undergone such amendments and modifications by the Legislature of Ohio, during the Session of 1851, as to exactly meet our wants. The literary and medical departments have been separated, and are to be perpetuated under two distinct Boards of Trustees and Faculties. The literary department, where gentlemen can better qualify themselves for the study of medicine, if desired, will be held at the old College edifice, on Third street, under the direction of Professor Curtis and Board of Trustees; and the medical department will be held at the corner of Western Row and Fifth street, in an airy, clean, and genteel part of the city, under the direction of Professors Stockwell, Powers, Carter, Johnson, Parritt, Brown, and the Board of Trustees.

The name of the Institution has been changed, as will be seen above. It has cut loose from all the new-fangled notions of the day, not directly connected with medicine, and has taken a high, liberal, and honorable position among the medical Colleges of this great republic. Its motto is, and ever will be, innocent medication, educated practitioners, and "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you."

This Institution takes a liberal view of the science and practice of medicine. It advocates and requires of its graduates a thorough knowledge of anatomy, physiology, chemistry, botany, materia medica, pharmacy, therapeutics, obstetrics, pathology, surgery, theory and practice of medicine, &c.

It is not bound down to the dogmas and teachings of any man or any sect, but approves of truth wherever found. It cherishes all due respect for the cultivators of medical science of every name and order, adopting, however, into its own teachings and practices, only such facts as perfectly harmonize with our great fundamental principle, INNOCENT MEDICATION.

We desire to be co-workers with all respectable medical Schools of whatever name or order, in bringing the science of medicine to

as great perfection as may be, and rendering practical medicine as safe and efficient as possible, in the restoration from disease, and the preservation of the health of our fellow-beings. With such views and feelings we extend the right hand of fellowship to our medical brethren of every name, reserving to ourselves the privilege of strict adherence to an innocent and efficient medication.

Our College will be in possession of ample means for illustrative instruction in the various departments of medical science; and no exertion, on part of the Trustees and members of the Faculty, will be wanting to render the Institution deserving the liberal patronage of this enlightened community.

The fall and winter session will commence on the first Monday in November, 1851, and continue sixteen weeks, six Lectures per day. Tickets to the full Course \$60 in advance, or \$75 payable in one year, with interest, indorsed by two responsible men and certified by the justice of the town. Matriculation, \$5. Graduation fee, \$20. Demonstrators's ticket \$5, and ticket to the Commercial Hospital, \$5.

For further particulars, a line addressed to the Dean of the Faculty will receive immediate attention.

Students, on arriving in Cincinnati for the purpose, will find the Dean by calling at his office in the College building, on the corner of Fifth street and Western Row.

JOSEPH BROWN,
Dean of the Medical Faculty.

Cincinnati, July 1, 1851.

FACULTY.

- H. F. JOHNSON, M. D., Professor Theory and Practice of Medicine.
- J. A. POWERS, M. D., Professor Medical and Operative Surgery.
- E. M. PARRITT, M. D., Professor Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.
- E. H. STOCKWELL, M. D., Professor Anatomy and Physiology.
- J. BROWN, M. D., Professor Botany and Materia Medica.
- R. C. CARTER, M. D., Professor Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children.
- A. F. WILLIAMS, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.

ECLECTIC MEDICAL INSTITUTE OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Chartered in 1845, Total No. of Matriculants from 1845 to 1851, 1054.

The seventh winter session of this College will commence on the first Monday of November, 1851, and continue four months. The chairs of the Faculty will be arranged as follows:

- I. G. JONES, M. D., Professor of Theory and Practice of Medicine.
- R. S. NEWTON, M. D., Professor of Surgery.
- B. L. HILL, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children.
- Z. FREEMAN, M. D., Professor of Special, Surgical, and Pathological Anatomy.

J. R. BUCHANAN, M. D., Professor of Physiology and Institutes of Medicine.
 L. E. JONES, M. D., Professor of Materia Medica, Therapeutics, and Medical Botany.
 J. MILTON SANDERS, M. D., Professor of Chemistry, Pharmacy, and Toxicology.
 O. E. NEWTON, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy and Surgical Prosector.

A gratuitous preliminary Course of Lectures will commence on the second Monday of October. At the same time the Demonstrator's rooms will be opened, with every facility for the study of Anatomy.

Terms.—Tickets to a full Course of Lectures (until graduation) \$100 in advance, or a well endorsed note for \$125. To a single Course of Lectures \$60 in advance, or a well endorsed note for \$70. Matriculation ticket \$5—Graduation \$15—Demonstrator's ticket \$5. It is recommended that Students, (especially candidates for graduation,) attend the Session at an early period, as a full and regular attendance on the Lectures will be expected. Anatomical material can be had in abundance, and furnished at rates sufficiently reasonable to guarantee a full supply for every student. Board costs from \$2, to \$2,50 per week. Students sometimes board themselves for much less. Students upon their arrival in the city will call at the office of Prof. R. S. Newton, on Seventh street, between Vine and Race. For further particulars, address Dr. R. S. Newton, or

JOS. R. BUCHANAN, M. D., *Dean*.

ECLECTIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA, LOCATED IN PHILADELPHIA.

This Institution will commence operations, Oct. 27, 1851, under most flattering auspices, and continue FOUR months. PRACTICAL MEDICINE and its collateral branches, will be faithfully taught, thus imparting the knowledge to the student, most suitable to fit him for the responsible duties of A PRACTICAL PHYSICIAN.

PROFESSORS.

S. H. POTTER, M. D., Principles and Practice of Surgery.
 THOMAS COOKE, M. D., Theory and Practice of Medicine.
 JOSEPH SITES, M. D., Obstetrics, and Diseases of Women and Children.
 HENRY HOLLEMBÆK, M. D., Materia Medica and Therapeutics.
 S. J. W. MINTZER, M. D., Anatomy and Physiology.
 ————
 Chemistry.
 S. J. W. MINTZER, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.

Professors' Tickets, \$12, each. Full Course of Lectures, \$72; in advance. A well indorsed note of \$80 for one year, with interest, will be accepted.

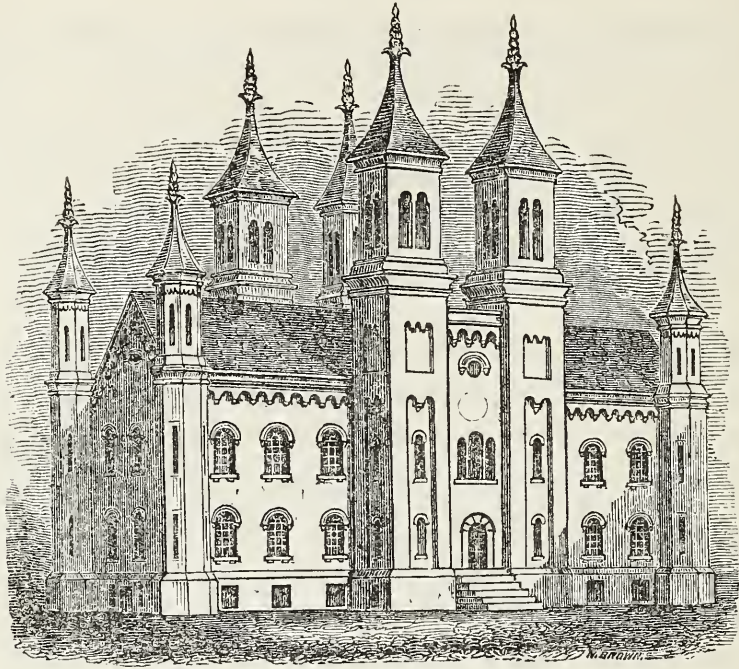
Matriculation Fee, \$5; Graduation Fee, \$25. The Trustees and Faculty are empowered by statute to confer all the degrees which are granted by any Medical College in the State. Candi-

dates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine must be twenty-one years of age; and, in addition to the usual preliminary study, must have attended two full Courses of Lectures in this, or some legally incorporated Medical School, the last of which shall be in this; and must be competent to sustain a thorough examination before the Faculty. Address THOMAS COOKE, M. D., Dean, No. 31, North Sixth St., Philadelphia, Penn.

Of the present condition of the Southern Botanico-Medical College, at Macon, Ga., we have no direct knowledge,—the paper which has heretofore been its organ, not having appeared to us of late, for some reason, perhaps because *it is not*. We presume, however, that the College is sharing its usual degree of prosperity. In the 11th No. of the 4th Vol. of the Journal, we published the Circular of last year, and to this we refer our readers.

A similar remark might be made, respecting the Botanico-Medical College of Memphis, Tenn. We suppose its Faculty remain essentially the same as they were the last year. Prof. E. M. Parritt, however, has recently been called to the chair of Chemistry. We hear, indirectly, that the College is in a flourishing condition; but the Medical Reformer, which, till of late, we have received from Memphis in exchange, has disappeared. If it is already defunct, we would recommend to our friends in that quarter, to make, at least, an occasional use of the "Journal" as their organ, and to give their influence to increase its circulation in the Southwest. It would afford them a very good method of cultivating a spirit of friendship, and an acquaintance with their friends in New England.

Dr. A. Curtis, dissatisfied with the course pursued by his late associates in the Physo-Medical College, at Cincinnati, Ohio, has given notice (in the Botanico-Medical Recorder, the publication of which he has recently resumed, in opposition to the Physo-Medical and Surgical Journal), that he has secured a Medical Faculty, and will sustain a Medical Department in the Cincinnati Literary and Scientific Institute. The Winter Course of Lectures, he says, will commence on Monday, the 3d of November, and will continue sixteen weeks. Whether this new movement is called for, and will meet with general favor, we do not undertake to decide. We want more light.—EDITOR.



[Worcester Medical Institution]

Editorial.

—:—

OUR NEXT COLLEGE CLASS.

We are interested to learn from every quarter, that medical students are designing and preparing to become members of our College Class, the ensuing Term. Almost daily, of late, we have received calls from individuals, or letters, assuring us of the purposes of the writers to be with us in March next. We cannot fail to have a large Class. The growth of our Institution has been comparatively *slow*, but *sure*. Our position, for its peculiarity, has heretofore received the shafts of ridicule from every quarter. Now, however, the justness of this peculiarity is being acknowledged on every hand. In former Classes, we have had students who have attended on instructions, in Allopathic Colleges, in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsfield, Woodstock, Castleton, and Brunswick; also, those who have been members of Classes in nearly or quite all the Botanic and Eclectic Colleges of the country. From all these, *without a single exception*, we have had the unequivocal expression, that the course of instruction at Worcester, as a whole, is more elevated, definite, and strictly philosophical, than they have elsewhere received.

WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION.
ANNOUNCEMENT AND CIRCULAR FOR 1852.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., *President.*

E. M. PARRITT, M. D., *Secretary.*

WILLIAM JOHNSON, Esq., *Treasurer.*

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., | O. P. WARREN, M. D., |
| GEO. W. CHURCHILL, M. D., | NATH'L BROOKS, M. D., |
| STEPHEN CUTLER, M. D., | ALBERT FIELD, Esq., |
| W. A. FISHER, Esq., | J. W. JOHNSON, M. D., |
| JOHN A. ANDREWS, M. D., | G. W. WILSON, Esq. |
| SULLIVAN FAY, Esq. | |

FACULTY.

C. NEWTON, M. D., *Professor of General and Special Pathology.*
 E. M. PARRITT, M. D., *Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.*
 WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*
 MICHAEL GABBERT, M. D., *Professor of Theory and Practice.*
 G. W. MORROW, M. D., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*
 E. S. McCLELLAN, M. D., *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*
 S. ROGERS, M. D., *Professor of Hydro-therapeutics.*

CLASS OF 1851.

—:—

| NAMES. | RESIDENCES. | INSTRUCTORS. |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Abraham Charles, | Florida, N. Y., | A. Mosher, M. D. |
| Alger Isaac S. | Williston, Vt., | S. C. Witherby, M. D. |
| Ambrose David L., | Deerfield, N. H., | G. W. Skinner, M. D. |
| Andrews E. O. G., M. D., | Fernando, Miss. | |
| Andrews George, M. D., | Worcester, Mass. | |
| Armstrong David F., | Lawrence Co., Ind., | G. W. Morrow, M. D. |
| Blakemore Thomas M., | Memphis, Tenn., | M. Gabbert, M. D. |
| Bryant Francis A., | Adams, Mass., | N. Shepardson, M. D. |
| Burnham A. Hubert, | Lowell, “ | W. Burnham, M. D. |
| Carswell Robert B., | “ “ | F. A. McDowell, M. D. |
| Dow Curtis L., | Worcester, “ | S. Rogers, M. D. |
| Dunton William L., | Charleston, Vt., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Elliot Stephen C., | Corinna, Maine, | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Foskit Stebbens, | South Wilbraham, Mass., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Gabbert Solon, | Memphis, Tenn., | M. Gabbert, M. D. |
| Gifford Abram A., | Westport, Mass., | J. M. Aldrich, M. D. |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Heywood Avery H., | Peterboro', N. H., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Hutchins Isaiah, | Groton, Mass., | R. Green, M. D. |
| Jewell Oliver H., | Farmington, Maine, | B. Morton, M. D. |
| Jones Henry D., | Hebron Ct., | W. K. Otis, M. D. |
| Kelley Frank H., M. D., | Lawrence, Mass. | |
| King George W., | Wilton, N. Y., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Lathrop Moses C., | Tolland, Ct., | M. Calkins, M. D. |
| Lockling Nathan P., | Smithfield, R. I., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Martin Noah R., | Saco, Maine, | N. Brooks, M. D. |
| Meacham Hiram A., | Dana, Mass., | A. Bassett, M. D. |
| Newton Horatio G., | Argyle, Maine, | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Nichols George M., | Worcester, Mass., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Parker George W., | Washington, Vt., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Rogers Elisha A., | Worcester, Mass., | S. Rogers, M. D. |
| Root William, | Jericho, Vt., | S. C. Witherby, M. D. |
| Scott Charles E., | Middletown, Ct., | E. Burr, M. D. |
| Sleeper Warren W., | Pittsfield, N. H., | O. P. Warren, M. D. |
| Stotesbury George W., | Macon, Ga., | P. Stotesbury, M. D. |
| True N. Lawrence, | Meredith, N. H., | W. Leach, M. D. |
| Ware Abel, Jr., | Fitchburg, Mass., | H. H. Brigham, M. D. |
| Way Benjamin, | Plainville, Ct., | G. Andrews, M. D. |
| Wilder Edward C., | Boston, Mass., | H. F. Gardner, M. D. |
| Wilmarth Albert T., | Mason, N. H., | C. Newton, M. D. |
| Woodruff Stephen W., | Columbus, Ga., | M. Woodruff, M. D. |
| TOTAL, 40. | | |

GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 1851.

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Alger Isaac S., | Williston, Vt., |
| Andrews E. O. G., | Fernando, Miss., |
| Armstrong David F., | Lawrence Co., Ind., |
| Blakemore Thomas M., | Memphis, Tenn., |
| Elliot Stephen C., | Corinna, Me., |
| Heywood Avery H., | Peterboro', N. H., |
| Jewell Oliver H., | Farmington, Maine, |
| Kelley Frank H., | Lawrence, Mass., |
| Lockling Nathan P., | Smithfield, R. I., |
| Martin Noah R., | Saco, Maine, |
| Nichols George M., | Worcester, Mass., |
| Stotesbury George W., | Macon, Ga., |
| True N. Lawrence, | Meredith, N. H., |
| Wilmarth Albert T., | Mason, N. H. |

TOTAL, 14.

COURSE OF STUDY, &c.

The following are the principal authors recommended :—

On Anatomy—Morton, Wilson, Harrison, and Pancoast's Wistar.

On Surgery—Hill, Druiitt, Liston, Castle, and Pancoast.

On Physiology—Carpenter and Oliver.

On Pathology—Chomel and Williams.

On Materia Medica—Kost, Pereira, and Wood and Bache.

On Auscultation and Percussion—Gerhard and Bowditch.

On Theory and Practice—Howard, Mattson, Beach, and Watson.

On the Institutes of Medicine—Gallup.

On Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to Women and Children—Beach, Churchill, Chailly, and Maygrier.

On Medical Jurisprudence—Beck and Dean.

On Chemistry—Fownes and Turner.

On Botany—Wood, Eaton, and Gray.

The tuition, in this Institution, for the Course of Lectures first attended, is \$60, in advance. The same is charged for the second Course. Subsequent ones are gratuitous. For students, however, who have attended two full Courses at other Medical Colleges, but none in this, the tuition is \$10, only. To graduates of other Medical Colleges, it is gratuitous. A matriculation fee of \$5 is required, in advance, of every student who has not attended a previous Course in this Institution. Graduates are charged, in addition, \$18, for a Diploma.

The next Course of Lectures will commence on the first Thursday in March, 1852, and will continue sixteen weeks. Good board can be had, during the Term, for \$2,50 per week.

The text-books recommended are consulted *eclectically*,—*authoritatively*, indeed, so far as they are descriptive of actual conditions, as in Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and the like ; but otherwise, *with careful discrimination*,—a peculiarity of what is taught in this Institution being, that all medication should be both innocent and sanative.

From time to time, accessions are being made to the Anatomical and Chemical Apparatus, Library, &c. The Faculty of the Institution now constitute a full and eminently able Board of Instruction ; and the facilities to be enjoyed by students are, in every way, ample. Dissections, surgical operations, illustrations, and experiments, are conducted in the most advantageous and instructive manner.

As, however, it is the aim of the Trustees of this Institution to render it pre-eminent for advantages afforded, any donations in money, or preparations adapted to facilitate illustrative teaching, in any of the departments, are respectfully and earnestly solicited.

REQUISITES FOR GRADUATION.

Every candidate for the degree of Doctor in Medicine must have arrived at the age of twenty one years;—he must have attended two Courses of Lectures in an established Medical College or Colleges, one of which Courses must have been in this Institution;—he must present, from an accredited physician, testimonials of his having employed three years in professional study, under the direction of a competent medical instructor;—he must, also, present satisfactory testimonials of his possessing a good moral character; he must, if he is not a literary graduate, have a competent literary education;—he must, four weeks, at least, previous to offering himself for examination as a candidate for graduation, deliver to the Faculty a dissertation, written by himself, on some subject connected with medicine, the principles of which dissertation he must be able publicly to defend;—and he must sustain an examination in the various branches of medical study, as contained in our Course of Lectures, and in the text-books which we recommend, or equivalents.

In insisting on so high a standard of attainments for graduation in this Institution, its Faculty would remark, that they are not at liberty to do otherwise. These are the requisites in the two Allopathic, which are the only other medical Schools, in the State: and a clause in our charter reads as follows. "*The Trustees, together with the regularly constituted officers of the Worcester Medical Institution, in conferring the degree of Doctor in Medicine, are hereby restricted to the same rules and regulations which are adopted and required in conferring the same degree by the University of Cambridge, and the Berkshire Medical Institution.*"

We would, however, add, that we would not lower this standard, if we could. In placing it thus high, our Legislature acted in accordance with our repeatedly expressed wishes. We mean that a diploma from this Institution shall be worth something to its recipient. In selecting the objects which shall be sealed with our sig-

net, it is not so much their number as their quality which we regard. We would, indeed, induce as many students as we can, to attend on our instructions; but our honors are bestowed on those only who are well-trained and thoroughly qualified to practice the healing art with success.

ADVANTAGES AFFORDED.

During the current year, the large and splendid building recently erected, has been in the process of completion, and will *positively* be in readiness for lecture purposes, before the opening of the the next Term.

The building contains Lecture Halls of sufficient size to accommodate a Class of two hundred students. These are in the second story above the basement, where are also the Chemical Laboratory, Anatomical Cabinet, and several ante-rooms. The story below, contains the Dean's office, a Museum, a Library Room, Parlor, &c., &c. The Janitor's residence is mainly in the basement. The Dissecting Rooms are in the attic, which is spacious and affords every desirable facility.

The length of the building is one hundred and fifteen feet, and the breadth, in the widest portion, sixty four feet. The height of the central towers is more than one hundred feet. If architectural magnificence, convenience in the size and form of Lecture Rooms, and various facilities for imparting professional instruction afford any attraction to medical students, the Faculty of the Worcester Medical Institution now feel, that they have favoring influences of no ordinary kind.

The location of the College on Union Hill, at the junction of Union avenue and Providence streets, is, of all places in the city, the most delightful. This spot commands a wide and extensive view of the surrounding territory; and the landscape unfolded is of insurpassable beauty. The city lies chiefly spread out in the principal valley below; the Wachusett mountain is seen in the distance, and on every hand are richly ornamented valleys and cultivated slopes.

Worcester city is one of the most beautiful inland places in New England. Railroads, leading into it from nearly all directions, render it easy of access from all quarters. The enterprise and

wealth of its inhabitants are proverbial, and have secured for it a permanent prosperity, unequalled in any sister city. There is, however, another consideration of far greater moment to medical students. It is the high intellectual and moral tone of society. The population includes a large number of literary men; and the literary institutions are of a high order.

Such arrangements are made, that material for dissection is honorably obtained and abundantly supplied; and the Anatomical Cabinet affords every facility for investigation in this department. The Chemical Laboratory is furnished generally with the means requisite for demonstration, and even with the more rare and delicate instruments for research. The Trustees of the Institution, conceiving an intimate knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and Chemistry as incalculably important to the practitioner of medicine, have given, to the teachings in these departments, a prominence unusual in medical Schools. Surgery, however, Materia Medica, Theory and Practice, Obstetrics, and Medical Jurisprudence, all receive their full share of attention.

THE CIRCULATION OF THE JOURNAL.

The New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal is the only advocate of a purely innocuous medication now published in New England. In editing it, we have, from the first, endeavored to speak against the errors of Allopathy, not in strains of mere declamation, but in terms of bold, clear, and unanswerable argumentation. We are inflexibly opposed to every form and degree of poisonous and depleting practice,—believing and advocating, that the only object in exhibiting any remedy should be to assist and strengthen the vital powers. Since we commenced the Journal, a vast change has come over public sentiment, in reference to matters of medicine. The system which we advocate, instead of having here and there its scattered votaries, now commands the confidence of a large portion, not to say a majority, of the people.

Under such circumstances, the circulation of the Journal, though now highly respectable, yet ought to be, at least, tripled. We, therefore, feel, that we have a claim on the aid of our friends,

especially those of the profession. Almost every one who is now a subscriber, might, by some personal exertion, send us two or three new names, together with *the needful*; and we respectfully ask the lovers of truth and mercy, if something like this is not required at their hands. At any rate, we feel, that it is not too much to ask physicians, to give us the address of such other physicians, in the circle of their acquaintance, as are supposed to be favorable to our reformatory movement and to the prosperity of the Worcester Medical Institution. We wish to sustain friendly relations to all such practitioners of medicine, and to have them feel, that we and they are "laborers together" in a cause of common interest.

With the exception of the present number, the current volume of the Journal has been almost exclusively filled with original matter. Only a few, and those important selections, have been made. We hope to make the next volume more interesting and valuable than any preceding one. We have, not only secured the cooperation of able correspondents, but made arrangements to devote more time to the editorial department. We mean, that, in pathology and materia medica, especially, our readers shall find new and instructive matter enough to be more than an acknowledged equivalent for *the dollar*. "A word to the wise," it is said, "is sufficient;" and, in reference to this whole matter of duty and effort, we have only *one word* to say to our friends, and that word is TRY. Try to procure substantial and paying subscribers to the Journal. Try, by every means, to enlist the sympathies and aid of your neighbors and friends in the efforts made at Worcester to improve the character of the profession and elevate the standard of medical attainment.

We hope, that our friends will continue to favor us with communications of a practical and scientific character. Such communications give interest to the Journal, reputation to their authors, and information to the profession.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Dr. E. H. Stockwell and his associates in the Faculty of the Physiothatic College of Cincinnati, on the one hand, and Dr. Alva

Curtis on the other, are in a complete *muss*. Dr. C. has resumed the publication of the Botanico-Medical Recorder, commencing at Vol. 17, No. 1,—the point at which he left it to go into the hands of Prof. Stockwell, under whose management it took the name of the Physo-Medical and Surgical Journal. Each party charges the other with misrepresentation and falsehood. Dr. C. taking advantage of a charter, granted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, under the name of the “Cincinnati Literary and Scientific Institute,” has opened a medical department, in opposition to the Physopathic College. We learn on reliable authority, as we suppose, that the two champions are *now*, or, at any rate, have *recently* been publicly battling each other on matters of personal and professional difference. We have heard the story of two snakes who began biting each other, at the tail, and continued their mordicant operations till they had entirely gorged each other. How the matter now referred to will terminate we do not predict; but, had we had the opportunity to have given advice at an earlier period, we should have said, in the language of a good old counsellor, “Leave off contention, before it be meddled with.”

On the same authority alluded to above, we also learn, that Prof. B. L. Hill of the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, the author of a recent work on Eclectic Surgery, has gone over to Homœopathic ranks, and accepted the Professorship of Surgery in the Homœopathic Medical College lately established at Cleveland, Ohio. It is said, that he has sold, in whole or in part, to Prof. R. S. Newton, the commercial interest of his book. Rumor (noted, however, for her mendacity) says, that he was in a *rather strait jacket* at Cincinnati. But suppose it was so,—what has become of his Eclectic *principles*? Or had he none, and were his professional notions and habits a mere garb to be worn or thrown off at pleasure?

We have received, too late for insertion in this number, a notice of the Proceedings of a Convention of Reformed Medical Practitioners in Connecticut, holden at Middletown, on the 8th ultimo. The communication will appear in our next issue. The true friends of medical reform in “the land of steady habits” seem determined to go ahead in the work of medical progression.

CONCENTRATED MEDICINES.

We are frequently asked what we have, by personal observation, learnt of the comparative efficacy and value of the various concentrated preparations of medicine, which have, of late, been introduced to the notice of the profession. In answer to such inquiries, we will here say, that we have given several of these preparations a pretty fair trial; and some of them we now hold in high estimation,—particularly the leptandrin, the podophyllin, and the macrotrin. Separately, and combined in different ways and proportions, according to the nature of the disease to be treated, *these* constitute invaluable remedies. They serve as an efficient alterative in various chronic affections, and may be given with advantage in certain acute diseases. For more definite information, in regard to their therapeutic properties, as used separately and in combination, we refer our readers to the communications of Prof. E. S. McClellan, detailing their properties and published in some late numbers of the Journal.

We think favorably, also, of the sesqui-carbonate of potash for the purpose for which it is recommended. These, together with several other highly useful preparations, the Firm of Newton and Kelley now have on hand, in quantities sufficient to supply numerous practitioners; and we would call the attention of those in this vicinity especially, not only to the articles above-named but to the preparations of *iris versicolor*, *aralia nudicaulis*, *panax quinquefolia*, &c., &c., all of which, *in the best condition*, may be had at our office in Worcester, and of the Messrs. Wilson and Wm. Johnson of Boston.

THE CINCINNATI MONTHLY.

This is the title of a monthly periodical published at Cincinnati, by W. M. Naudain, and edited by J. King, M. D., late Professor of Materia Medica, in the Memphis Institute. Its motto is, "Free to the investigation of all parties, sects, sciences, arts, and opposed to all monopolies." Its editorials are well written, and the selections judiciously made. Its mechanical execution does credit to

the Publisher. It is intended for popular reading. We wish it a long and prosperous life.

It is published at the low price of fifty cents per year.

THE JOURNAL.

We are not much in the habit of publishing the flattering remarks, which occasionally appear, in our exchange and other papers, respecting the character of our periodical. We give the following article, however, from the Bangor Daily Whig and Courier, because it takes a common-sense view of some important facts,—facts which every person of discernment must see are a sure index of the change which is being wrought in public sentiment.

“THE MEDICAL AND SURGICAL, published by Prof. Calvin Newton, M. D., at Worcester Mass., has been placed on our table by Prof. Parritt. It contains much matter to us peculiarly interesting.

The simple fact, that a periodical devoted to reform in medicine, demanding for its support so extensive a circulation as the mechanical execution of the Journal before us must require, in order to meet its current expenses, is pregnant with meaning of an unmistakable character.

There must be somewhere a demand, and that demand, we may fairly infer, is based on a *reformed public sentiment*. Again, the elevated tone of the articles, the important information they contain, and the decided talent they indicate, are prognostic of a markedly improved state of the reformatory movement.

We are gratified in being enabled to express our pleasure at the success of its able and talented editor, in thus fostering into existence and sustaining so valuable a contribution to the reformed medical periodical literature of the day.

Terms, \$1 per annum, payable in advance.”

We assure our friends, that our progress is onward. From time to time, new and substantial subscribers are voluntarily sending us their names. Non-professional men and even Allopathic physicians are becoming desirous of information respecting the state of things in our ranks; and, on this account, they feel constrained to become readers of the Journal.

NEW ENGLAND
BOTANIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL
JOURNAL.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

*“Seize upon truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground.”*

VOL. V.

WORCESTER, MASS., DECEMBER 1, 1851.

NO. 12.

Communications.

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INVESTIGATIONS IN MATERIA MEDICA. NO IV.

By PROF. E. S. McCLELLAN.

IRIS VERSICOLOR—*Blue Flag.*

BOTANY. *Nat. Ord.* Iridaceæ. *Sex. Syst.* Triandria Monogynia.

Gen. Char. *Perianth* tubular, limbs petaloid and membranous; the sepaloid segments revolute, the petaloid erect and converging. *Stamens* three. *Style* trichotomous, with petaloid segments covering the anthers. *Capsule* three-celled. *Seeds* many.

Spec. Char. *Rhizoma* perennial, fleshy, tortuous, armed with radicles. *Stem* two or three feet high, flexuous, round on one side,

acute on the opposite, sometimes branched, bearing from two to six flowers. *Leaves* amplexicaul at base, striated, sword-shaped. *Peduncles*,—length indefinite, inside flattened. *Ovary* triangular, corners obtuse, sides flat. *Sepals* beardless, variegated with yellow, green, and white, border purple. *Petals* entire or emarginate, erect, commonly paler than the sepals. *Style* three-parted near the upper end, each segment bearing a petaloid, crenate, purplish or violet stigma, somewhat reflexed at the point. The plant flowers in June and July.

The blue flag is indigenous to the United States, and is usually found in wet meadows and swamps. Its flowers are much more beautiful than many of our cultivated exotics. Like many other indigenous remedies, it has not received any very marked attention from the profession generally.

The dried root (*radix iridis*) is the only portion of the plant that is employed in medicine. As found in the market, it is somewhat spongy, contorted, of light color, and more or less beset with long fibres. In the green state, it is extremely acrid and nauseous; but it becomes more mild by drying. Age impairs its virtues.

The therapeutic properties of the iris versicolor are dependent upon the presence of an oleo-resinous principle (*oleum et resina iridis*); for which usage has sanctioned the name

IRIDIN.—By the following process, it may be obtained sufficiently pure for practical purposes. Prepare, from the coarsely powdered root, a saturated tincture (using high proof alcohol), to which add ten per cent of cold distilled water. Then remove the alcohol from the tincture, by means of a suitable still. The residue must be taken from the still, and permitted to stand forty eight hours, during which time the iridin will have separated from the aqueous and soluble portions. This should now be washed in cold distilled water. Drying should be effected by the application of moderate heat, sufficient to remove any remaining aqueous matter; and this completes the process.

Iridin, prepared in this manner, is a soft waxy substance, insoluble in water, completely soluble in alcohol. It cannot be reduced to a powdered state. Mr. Merrell* says, "The iris versi-

* Eclectic Medical Journal, Vol. II, p. 301.

color affords an oleo-resinous substance, in which its medical virtues reside. Dr. John King obtained it as early as 1846, and speaks very highly of it, in some articles in the 'The Reformer' of that year, and thinks it the 'very mercury of the Botanic practice.' He called it *irin*; but, without having heard of his article, I named it *iridin*, forming the name from the genitive instead of the nominative case of the noun, which I still think more proper."

"It seems to consist of two principles in combination—a *resin* and an *oil*,—which may, though with difficulty, be separated, and which together form a soft waxy substance not soluble in water, and which cannot be dried down to a pulverizable state."

PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS AND THERAPEUTIC PROPERTIES. *Iris*, if administered in the green state, is capable of producing violent and unpleasant effects, giving rise to distressing nausea, vomiting, and drastic hydrogogue catharsis. In the dried state, it is much more mild in its operation.

The pulverized root, taken in moderate doses, acts as an efficient *cathartic* of a hydrogogue character. It is also considered *cholagogue*, *diuretic*, *alterative*, and *vermifuge*.

As a hydrogogue and diuretic, it is used and by some highly esteemed in the treatment of dropsies.

Dr. Griffith* says, "It was a favorite remedy with the Southern Indians, and was used by them in most cases requiring purgation. Dr. Elliot of Carolina found it beneficial in dropsy."

It is most highly esteemed, however, as an alterative in the treatment of *syphilitic* and *mercurial diseases*.

The *iridin* may, in all cases, be substituted for the *iris*, as it evidently possesses all the desirable properties of the latter, in a much more eligible form.

DOSE AND MODE OF ADMINISTRATION.—As a cathartic, *iris* may be given in doses varying from gr. v, to ℞j. It should be given in substance or tincture;—water takes up only a portion of its virtues.

The *iridin* may be given in doses, of from gr. j, to gr. ij. It is usually given in the form of pills. The following is considered a very valuable combination.

*Griffith's Medical Botany.

R. Podophyllin, gr. x,
 Capsicum, gr. x,
 Iridin sufficient for pill mass.
 Make pills xx.

From one to two of these will be found to produce a very mild though permanent and efficient cathartic effect, especially valuable in the treatment of syphilis.

MEDICAL REFORM IN MAINE.

[The following is from one of the graduates of our last Medical Class, who, previously to coming under our personal instruction, had spent more than two years in the study of Allopathy, and had attended one Course of Medical Lectures in the Allopathic School at Brunswick, Maine. EDITOR.]

PROF. NEWTON;

Dear Sir,—Permit me to inform you of the very flourishing condition of Physopathy in this region. It is so very cold here, that the doctrine, that “heat is life” *takes* or *has taken* better than any other doctrine of reform. The mention of water freezes people to death. Consequently, hereabouts we have, for medication, only Allopathy, Homœopathy, and Thomsonism. People choose to be bled, blistered, narcotized, and mercurialized, or to have the hot water, hot pepper, and lobelia treatment, or no treatment at all in the form of the pillulets of sugar. Hence, the men who adopt the *good reform* meet with abundance of opposition.

Dr. Wilson has left his field at Waterville to a young man. Dr. Rich at North Dixmont adopts Physopathy for his system. There are only three of us, in this section, including all the towns from Waterville to Bangor. At Belfast, there is a red-hot Thomsonian, who, in sober earnest, declares, that he “should be glad to see any advantage from the advance which is pretended to be made upon Thomson’s system.” Here and there, now and then, we meet with

one of this sort. With this exception, we have but little in the shape of reform. But he who would win must fight.

Dr. Rich of Dixmont informs me, that he intends, if possible, to be at Worcester next Spring, to attend the Lectures.

If I only was fat, and large, and filled with lightning, I should expect excellent success here; but, being only a boy, timid and easily frightened, the bigotry, "humbuggery," bombast, and self-conceit of my courteous "brethren" almost cause me to keep within doors. I, however, feel encouraged.

As yet, I have no reason to regret, that I changed my course last Fall; and, adopting truth instead of error, consented to enter my humble name with reformers. The success which has attended me thus far, more than proves the truth of the remarks, so often made in the Lectures last Spring, viz., that the principles of reform taught in the Worcester Medical School, properly applied, will succeed in the treatment of disease, when all other modes of treatment have failed.

Yours, &c.,

STEPHEN C. ELLIOT.

Unity, Nov. 11th, 1851.

CASES REPORTED.

BY S. C. ELLIOT, M. D., UNITY, MAINE.

The first week I was here, a lady called on me who had been out of health for some years,—had, by several physicians, been declared in consumption, and her case hopeless. Last winter, she was confined to her room and bed for months.

I found, she had been troubled with menorrhagia for years:—also, with cough, much expectoration, general debility, &c.;—had taken medicine of one and another, at different times, but with no benefit. When I first saw her, her cough was severe and very troublesome; her expectoration was profuse,—a teacupful, during the night, of matter so resembling pus in appearance, that I really thought there must be ulceration. Upon applying tests, however, I found that there was but a small quantity pus. There was:

much hoarseness, no appetite, great debility, and prostration of the nervous system. She had cold feet and hands, cramp in the lower limbs, constipation of bowels, flatulence, &c. The catamenia, returning every fortnight, amounted to flooding; and there was excessive leucorrhœa, with pain in the back and hips. Upon examination of the lungs, I found so much soreness through the upper lobe of each, that she could hardly bear percussion sufficient to reveal the sound. As near as I could judge, however, there was no dullness or flatness. Auscultation showed the respiratory murmur natural,—except somewhat modified by a peculiar harshness, which seemed to be in the bronchial tubes. There was no crepitus,—nothing resembling bronchophony. This harshness, or rough sound, did not seem exactly like the harsh respiration described by authors; but was such a roughness as I never listened to,—more distinct in the trachea and large bronchial tubes, and diminished as the extent into the lungs increased. There were pain and soreness in the infra-mammary region.

I commenced the treatment with tonics, alteratives, and cold ablutions, night and morning, to the whole surface, with cold wet compresses about the upper portion of the chest,—also, over the seats of pain in different parts. There were pain and a bearing down sensation in the lower part of the hypogastic region; to which I applied bandages and wet compresses. After two weeks she wore wet compresses, at night, from the neck to the loins, in front, except over the stomach, at which spot they produced a chill. I gave a considerable quantity of Hill's hepatic powder and alkaline or compound powder of rhubarb for the bowels; lobelia in the form of extract pills at night; Mattson's cough powder, in an infusion of catnip at night; alterative syrup, anti-mercurial syrup, syrup of spikenard, hoarhound, boneset, and beth root, made laxative with black root; Beach's pulmonic syrup; a tea of yellow dock, burdock seed, and beth root. At the period of the catamenia, I gave a strong decoction of beth root, with a little capsicum,—allayed the irritability of the nervous system and quieted restlessness, with cyripedium and scutellaria.

There was one other symptom, viz, bloating of the feet and lower limbs, and of the body as high as the waist. I continued mild

diuretics with the syrups. Under this treatment, varied as I judged the circumstances to require, she commenced gaining immediately, and has continued to gain, rapidly, since.

About two months after she commenced taking my medicine, there appeared a very troublesome eruption upon the feet and legs,—also, scrofulous swellings and abscesses under the arms. In two months the catamenia became regular, and have continued so since. The soreness about the chest, also the pain in the back and side, gradually subsided; and now she is well as to those difficulties, but there is some cough yet,—some hoarseness. It is rumored that “she is going to get well.”

The next chronic case was one of dysentery. A young man was attacked at Stillwater. He doctored to the amount of \$40; but got no help, as he stated. The day on which I first saw him, his friends said that he had twenty discharges from his bowels. With your dysentery cordial, cholera mixture, neutralizing mixture, podophyllin, leptandrin, alkaline wash, &c., I sent him to work in a few weeks.

Another case was what I should call a combination of amenorrhœa, dysmenorrhœa, and menorrhagia. The lady had been dosed with the *elixir pro.* of the pharmacopœia, blue pills, calomel, &c.; but, with mother’s cordial, black cohush, blue cohush, unicorn, beth root, laxatives, cathartics, &c., &c., she was well in five weeks.

Another case was that of a lady who had had a severe time in parturition, followed by phlegmasia dolens and a complication of difficulties. She had taken mercury, in the form of blue pills, for some six months, and other medicine, such as the beloved family physician thought best; but she got no help. The physician thought she was going into a decline. So did her friends. They believed “consumption was at the door,” though she had not a particle of cough. The truth was, their medicine did no good. They saw she would die, and they were after something to lay the blame of maltreatment to. After confinement she was left debilitated, and had her catamenia semi-monthly, with menorrhagia. I have given her medicine for two months. She gains steadily, and her friends are now inclined to say, that they think she will be well again.

Another case was that of a lady who has had a “liver complaint”

for three years, together with antimony plasters—croton oil sores, blue pills, calomel, &c., &c. Three neighboring doctors had done their best; and all came to the solemn conclusion, that no medicine would reach her case,—she must die,—would probably die of consumption. The *funny thing*, in this case, was, that they had given pink and senna, cowhage, and *what not* for worms. She had peculiar spasms, rising in the throat, and choking, which all concluded were caused by worms.

Upon making a minute examination, I found, satisfactorily enough to my mind, that all these symptoms were caused by the sympathy of the stomach with the uterus. The lady had, sometime previous, miscarried; and, always, after that, had had very painful menstruation, at first attended with nausea, but finally with choking spasms.

Mother's cordial, beth root, macrotrys, and general tonics removed the *worms*; Beach's irritating plaster applied to the side, a few cathartic doses of podophyllin and leptandrin,—then alterative doses of these, with tonics, nervines, &c., with alterative and anti-mercurial syrups, and an occasional emetic and vapor bath, put her in a condition to believe she had not been so well for some years.

Another case was that of a lady, some fifty years of age. She had been troubled, for twenty years, with habitual costiveness.—When I first saw her, she had not had a natural dejection for years;—had pain and soreness in the left side; in the region of the descending colon,—a pressure upon the rectum, as if something were lying upon the intestine, and other kindred symptoms. There were strong indications of accumulated fæces, and scybala,—also, torpor of liver,—acid secretion in the bowels, &c.

I, at first, administered a powerful cathartic of mandrake. This nearly took her life, as she said; but, also, took away nearly a quart of matter of singular appearance; and with it all pain, soreness, and pressure. I then ordered enemata, highly charged with lobelia. The lady wished to know what was their composition. She said they actually lifted her shoulders. They, also, *lifted* away much of the difficulty. Tonics, and alterative portions of podophyllin, with an occasional enema, have done much for this lady; but, being old, and having disease of so long standing, she will never be rid of all her ailments.

Another case. I was called in July to see a lady who had been afflicted with cough for one year. She had let her family physician do what he could; and, getting no help, she wished to try something else. When I first saw her, her cough was very troublesome, night and day. She expectorated almost a pint, in the day and night,—had no appetite,—and was very much debilitated. Her bowels were sometimes costive, sometimes relaxed, and she suffered much pain and distress.

An examination of her lungs gave flatness or dullness on percussion over the upper lobe of the left lung. There were bronchial respiration, of a tubal character, and bronchophony, with that peculiar crackling which you so often pointed out to me as existing, in tubercular disease. In the upper lobe of the left lung, there was scarcely a trace of the respiratory murmur. In the right lung, there was more or less irritation.

I gave her palliative treatment. She has gained steadily, all the time since I commenced giving her medicine. Her cough is less,—is not troublesome. Her appetite is good. She gains strength. Four weeks ago, I noticed, that there was more of the respiratory murmur in the upper lobe, and that this crackle increased and was to be heard over a larger surface. Last week, this crackle or crepitus was distinctly heard throughout the whole lung. Still she seems to improve. Her pulse is hurried,—her breathing short. I suppose you will decide this to be tubercular, but there is something about this crackle that I do not understand. The respiration is good all through the lung, except the upper lobe. This crackle is all through the lung, and has been increasing for four weeks. There is no increase of expectoration,—no more difficulty of breathing,—and a continued improvement of the general health.

MEDICAL EMPIRICISM.

BY DR. H. G. BARRUS.

According to the primitive sense of the term, we understand an empiric to be a “mountebank,” a “quack;” and the term quack or empiric is usually applied to a practitioner of medicine who has

never received a regular medical education. Such a person is looked upon, as he ever should be, with distrust, by those who are educated in the "healing art;" and is ever considered a dangerous person, undertaking as he does, to diagnose and treat diseases, whilst he is theoretically ignorant in regard to them, and equally so of the appropriateness, powers, and effects of medicinal agents.

Human life is too sacred to be tampered with, or put in jeopardy. Hence, it is important, that the medical adviser should be well skilled in the theory of diseases, so that he may know what he is treating, and not undertake to "doctor by guess," to the great hazard of the patient entrusted to his care.

But medical empiricism is not confined to those who are without the profession. There is a great deal too much of it within. Too many practice it, who, by an unsuspecting public, are supposed to be properly educated and even to condemn everything partaking, in the least degree, of its nature.

In the treatment of diseases, it appears to me, that the business of the physician is to assist, not to force or lead, nature. When the body is affected by disease, nature sets up a curative effort, in order to repair the injury. Oftentimes little if any medicine is required, and the patient recovers through the agency of the "vis medicatrix naturæ." Who will not say, that it requires as much knowledge and skill to tell when to *withhold* medical agents, as when and how to apply them? Injury may be done, as well by interfering with nature in her curative process, as by withholding our medical agents when they are absolutely required. A very excellent writer has remarked, that "it is easier to cheat a man out of his life than of a shilling; and it is almost impossible either to detect or punish the offender." Notwithstanding this, people still shut their eyes, and take upon trust everything which is administered by a medical pretender, without daring to ask him a reason for any part of his conduct. Implicit faith, everywhere else the object of ridicule, is still sacred here. Many of the Faculty are, no doubt, worthy of all the confidence which can be reposed in them; but, as this can never be the character of *every* individual in any profession, it would certainly be for the safety, as well as for the honor of mankind, to have some check upon the conduct of those to whom they entrust so valuable a treasure as health.

Some physicians, when called to the sick bed, think that their medical talents will be questioned, if they do not administer *something* to the patient; and so, instead of waiting for such developments of the disease as shall enable them to determine *what* it is, they begin dosing the sufferer for they know not what,—choosing rather to risk the life of the patient, than to subject their medical knowledge and skill to doubt. This is a species of quackery to which an honorable and dignified physician would never stoop; and the practitioner who would do it, if his course were known, would subject himself to the scorn and disapprobation of his higher-minded brethren; and, if money were his object, it would be far better for him to lose his *fee* than to forfeit their confidence and respect.

Without doubt, the spirit of competition, which exists in the various medical Colleges in the United States, has done much towards instituting a species of quackery in the profession. The object of these Colleges should be, not to turn out the *greatest number* of young doctors, but to endeavor to send out the *best educated* young men, who, in time, when their *elders* in the profession shall have passed away from earth, shall be competent to succeed them, and fill their places with equal honor and fidelity. In the existing state of affairs, too many young men are sent out, with a diploma to practice medicine, who are but partially and imperfectly educated for the profession. For them and the public, it would have been far better, had they completed their studies, before taking upon themselves the responsibilities, and arduous duties of the medical profession. A full and sufficient educational training, in the various branches connected with medical science, coupled with judgment and experience, is absolutely essential to make a good physician; and it should ever be borne in mind, that one can be fitted for practice only by patient investigation, and a determination to know all which can in any way contribute to make him an ornament to the profession.

Though I have perused the "Journal," only to a limited extent, yet I have done this with both pleasure and profit; for I find very many sentiments advanced, in regard to both theory and practice, which receive a ready response in my heart and judgment. Some

of them are sentiments which have addressed themselves to my mind in former years, when studying the elementary principles of medicine. I am happy to see, that the "Journal" takes a high stand in vindicating the character of one of the most useful professions in the world; and, I trust, that the principles and practice of medicine will ever find, in its columns, an able and triumphant defence.

MASSACHUSETTS PHYSO-MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Notice is hereby given, that the Massachusetts Physo-Medical Society will meet in Fitchburgh on Wednesday, January 7th, 1852, and all the members are urgently solicited to attend, as business of importance will be brought up for consideration. The NEW DIPLOMAS will be ready for delivery at that time, and all who are entitled to them are expected to be there to receive them.

GEO. W. CHURCHILL,

Rec. & Cor. Secretary.

CENSORS' MEETING.

The Censors of the Massachusetts Physo-Medical Society will meet at the house of Dr. W. Burnham in the city of Lowell, on Wednesday, Dec. 31st, 1851, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the examination of candidates for the membership of the Society.

CALVIN NEWTON, *Chairman.*

COUNSELORS' MEETING.

The Counsellors of the Massachusetts Physo-Medical Society will hold their annual meeting at the house of Dr. H. H. Brigham in Fitchburg, on Tuesday, Jan. 6th, 1852, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

SETH C. AMES, *President.*

CONNECTICUT PHYSO-MEDICAL SOCIETY.

PROF. NEWTON;—

Dear Sir,—I send herewith a copy of the proceedings of a Convention of Reformed Medical Practitioners of Connecticut, holden at Middletown, on the 8th of October, 1851. Notwithstanding the Convention was held at a season of the year when much sickness usually prevails, yet there was a full attendance. In fact it was fuller than the most sanguine friends had anticipated. The utmost harmony and good feeling prevailed. A spirit of determination was manifested to elevate the standard of medical reform in the state, and to place our cherished system of medical practice upon a firm and reputable basis. A partial organization was effected; and, the Convention adjourned to meet in New Haven, on the 2d Tuesday of May next.

PROCEEDINGS.

The hour having arrived, the Convention was called to order by Doct. J. W. Johnson of Hartford, and the objects of the meeting were briefly announced; when, on motion, Doct. Giles N. Langdon of Bristol was appointed Chairman, and Doct. R. B. Williams of Berlin, Secretary. The following Resolution was then offered, discussed, and passed unanimously.

Resolved,—that we whose names are under-written, Physicians and Students, agree to organize ourselves into a Society, to be known and hailed as the “Connecticut Physo-Medical Society;” and that we hereafter be known by that name.

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Signed by | JOHN W. JOHNSON, | G. N. LANGDON, |
| | ELLSWORTH BURR, | A. S. D. PELTON, |
| | O. H. JEWELL, | MARCUS BROCKWAY, |
| | H. R. BURR, | BENJAMIN WAY, |
| | R. T. CHAFFEE, | L. L. DICKINSON, |
| | E. R. ROBBINS, | F. C. BAILEY, |
| | WM. T. BROWN, | CHAS. E. SCOTT, |
| | GEORGE ANDREWS, | VINCENT L. BALDWIN, |
| | CURTIS R. HOLMES, | SELDEN SPRAGUE, |
| | H. I. BRADLEY, | R. B. WILLIAMS, |
| | H. HEYNEMAN. | |

The following persons, Ellsworth Burr, R. B. Williams, and J. W. Johnson, were appointed to draft a Constitution and By-Laws, and report at the next annual meeting.

On motion it was unanimously resolved, that we extend the right hand of fellowship to all medical reformers, who are in favor of an elevated standard in medical science, and of a thorough instruction of medical students.

The following resolution was fully discussed and unanimously adopted.

Resolved,—that we fully approve of the course of instruction given in the Worcester Medical Institution; and that we will exert ourselves in futhering its interests and prosperity, by recommending to medical students to pursue a course of study in that Institution.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the presiding officers, and the Convention adjourned to meet in New Haven on the 2d Tuesday in May, 1852.

G. N. LANGDON, *President*.

R. B. WILLIAMS, *Secretary*.

Berlin, Conn., Oct. 24, 1851.

S e l e c t i o n s .

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[From the Eclectic Medical Journal.]

TRISMUS NASCENTIUM.

BY W. W. ADAMS, M. D.

My attention was first directed to the above affection by an article in the American Journal of Medical Science, for July 1848, from the pen of J. M. Sims, M. D., of Montgomery, Ala. The day after I received the above No. of the Journal, I was called to see a very plain case. A child of Mr. W., about three weeks old, had been under the treatment of Dr. C. for near two weeks. So

nearly did the appearance and symptoms, in this case, resemble inflammation of the Lungs, that the Dr., (who by the by, is a very candid, intelligent, and judicious, practitioner of the Allopathic school,) had been using every means in his power for the patient's relief, without making any visible impression upon the disease. About the fourteenth or fifteenth day the child was supposed to be dying. Dr. C. was sent for in great haste; he being absent from town, I, was called. I found the child in its mother's lap, lying on its back, with the occiput on her arm, struggling and moaning very feebly, as if in the last agonies of death. I immediately examined, and found the occipital bone pressed entirely under the parietal bones, they forming a very prominent projecting ridge around the superior and lateral portion of the occiput. No time was lost in placing the child on its side, upon a hard pillow. In fifteen or twenty minutes there was a very perceptible change. I then placed my hand on each side of its head, and directed the mother to place her hand under its shoulders, and raise it to the breast. I then pressed gently upon the parietal bones. The child took hold and sucked greedily. Wishing to test the matter thoroughly, I changed one hand under the occiput. It uttered a faint cry and could not close its mouth upon the nipple. Placing my hand again upon the parietalia, I pressed gently as before. It took hold of the breast readily and nursed with as much ease as in the first instance. This was done several times with the same result, the mother and bystanders, the while, beholding the scene, with great wonder. I then directed the child to be laid upon its side on a hard pillow, changing it occasionally, and to have no medicine of any kind. The child rapidly recovered, and in a few days the bone had regained its proper place, and the child was well. Since that time, I have had the satisfaction of relieving a number of cases, and am fully persuaded that a great number of children die of this affection, which, if properly understood by the profession, and proper directions given by the obstetrical practitioners, might be saved. I have never had a case of trismus, where I attended at the birth of a the child. I might enumerate several other cases equally as marked and important as the above; but deem it unnecessary to do any more than allude to some of them.

A gentleman called me, a few evenings since, to see his infant (4 days old) with, as he supposed, violent colic. Seeing some symptoms of trismus, I examined the occiput, and found it slightly depressed. I had it placed upon its side, ordered a portion of oil in two hours, and went home. The next morning the child was relieved, and the skull is now (3rd morning) replaced. In 1849, I was called to see a child of Mrs. G., that had been lingering for

near two months. On examination I found the occipital bone very much depressed, and the brain so much affected, from the long continued pressure by the bone upon it, that the child survived but a few days after I saw it. This case might easily have been relieved, had the difficulty been known to the family physician in proper time. In making examinations, I follow the directions of Dr. S., by passing the finger from the occipital bone across the lambdoidal suture: In several places, a ridge more or less prominent will be felt, as the finger passes over the suture. This will be the only safe mode of examination for the practitioner, as the depression is not always discernible with the eye, when it can always be very readily detected, by passing the finger horizontally across the suture. The infant should be placed so far upon the side of its face, that no part of the occipital bone will touch the pillow; nature will do the rest.

Clinton, Ohio, 1851.

[From the Scalpel.]

PILL PHILANTHROPY;—GRAEFENBERG COMPANY.

“The country gives us proof and precedent of roaring beggars, scheming men, who, with matchless impudence and 'gainst control, enforce their charity.”

The Graefenberg Company of New York, incorporated by the Legislature of the State, capital \$100,000, cures uncountable, and benefits incalculable, propose to annihilate the Profession.!

This is the title of the conquering establishment, before whose exertions the medical profession is to flee like chaff before the wind. Hide your diminished heads, O ye clinique advertisers and medical mountebanks, and slink away from the light of genuine philanthropy and true science.

Listen to their modest announcement,

“Our establishment is now the largest of the kind in the United States; and the demand for our medicines is constantly increasing. The quality of our medicines is fully established in public estimation; and the Seal of the Company is widely known as being a guaranty of the superior excellence of the article upon which it is found. This reputation we are resolved to sustain and extend; until there shall not be a city, town, village, or hamlet in the whole country, where the inhabitants will not know, that at the *Graefenberg Depot* they may find medicines of the purest, safest, cheapest, and most reliable kind. The Patent Medicine business, under our management, is assuming the position it is really en-

titled to. In some form or other, this class of medicines is everywhere found. More money is expended for them than is paid for the services of ordinary medical men. They minister in almost every family, for good or for evil, for sickness or for health. Hence the vast NATIONAL importance of our operations. Instead of unsafe and unreliable articles, we send out none that are not worthy the name and seal of the Company. Through the combined efforts of ourselves and of our large corps of Agents, we shall entirely reform the Patent Medicine trade."

Wonderful exhibition of humanity, philanthropy, and self-sacrificing benevolence! The unparalleled modesty and retiring disposition of these men are beyond belief. They will do much for their fellows, but yet deny the world the privilege of knowing its benefactors, that blessings as well as money may be the fruit of their exertions.

Here them again: "Unscrupulous men, knowing that people demanded something other than physicians' prescriptions for simple diseases, did not hesitate to palm off the most barefaced nostrums, which for a time met with ready sale. A number of scientific chemists and practical physicians consulted together that this might be changed, and that the public might be supplied with skillfully compounded remedies from a reliable source. The result of their deliberations and experiments was the *triumphant organization of the GRAEFENBERG COMPANY!*"

Verily, when we examine the members of the company, we almost believe them to be doctors in earnest. Observe yon well proportioned gentleman, attracting the attention of all, as he passes along Broadway, with such matchless grace and elegance, and who descants so learnedly upon the merits of his philanthropic company, which is honored in having him for its President. Mark the tall and lean specimen of humanity who has lectured on a stump to gaping countrymen on the eve of a political battle; and yet he deserves the title of M. D. quite as much as many of our graduates. Aye, "there's the rub."

See the insinuating expression, and hear the well turned sentences with which the gentleman who travels the country, induces persons to accept the agency for the sale of such wonderful medicines, in behalf of such disinterested men; pocketing, however, the proceeds of his negotiation with a countenance beaming with the truest charity,—that which begins at home. But, when we come to the literary department, Heaven help us! what have we here? Look at the cool assurance with which the would-be literary man does over the certificates and circulars of the company, lest the original

meaning of the authors should be expressed, and ignorant pretension receive a withering rebuke. No one but he can see such evidence of the Company's progression ; and well it is for them that he keeps himself in the back ground, for, in spite of his good disposition, a brazen look of humbug and deception is expressed by his appearance, and he seems as though he had stood for the picture of the poet :

“ Blow, villain, till thy sphered, bias cheeks
Outswell the cholic of puffed Aquillon.”

The manufacturing department has well nigh killed one of its own Professors, to judge by his consumptive and woe-begone expression ; and, take them all in all, we think the Graefenberg Company is amply capable of forming a funeral procession and of firing a volley of pills over the grave of the Academy.

“ All that follow their noses are led by their eyes, save the blind man,” and we desire to remove the scales from the vision of those who believe that any man or body of men, is more reliable than the competent physician who critically examines every case, who has devoted his life to the study of the human frame, and who prescribes, not from or upon general principles, but upon a careful examination of the disease and the system.

We oppose patent medicines, because we believe them to be injurious to the community, and the Graefenberg Company, because they are at the head of the infamous business. The intelligent will choose between the quack and the physician ; the ignorant must suffer ; we shall not forget our duty.

A NEW CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

In the first number of the New Orleans Monthly Medical Register, we find an article by Professor Stone on the virtues of “ Phosphate of Lime in Scrofula and other depraved states of the system,” which is of some moment. It was suggested by an essay in the London Lancet, on the “ physiology and pathology of the oxalate and phosphate of lime, and their relation to the formation of cells.”

“ The conclusions of the author,” says Professor Stone, “ are based upon careful chemical research and results from the use of the remedy. His researches show that in man, as well as in vegetables and inferior animals, phosphate of lime as well as albumen and fat is absolutely essential for the formation of cells, and he considers that many of the pathological states of the system depend upon a deficiency of this salt. The affections in which it is advised are ulcerations dependent upon a general dyscrasia, and

not a mere local affection ; infantile atrophy, in those suffering from rickets and consequent diarrhœa and tuberculous diseases, particularly of the lungs in the early stages."

Struck by this article, Professor Stone tested it, and he thus describes three cases in which its virtues were very obvious. The first was that of a slave, who was admitted to the Professor's Infirmary in July, with a disease of the nose, the whole system showing great progress in scrofulous decay. The usual remedies were unsuccessfully applied until August, when cod-liver oil was used, and the disorganization of the stomach was increased by it. The phosphate of lime was then applied—eight grains three times a day. Its good effects were soon apparent. It and the oil were therefore administered together, and the patient soon was restored to health.

The second case is that of a young lady aged 24. Her disease was one of unmixed phthisis, which had been expected to terminate in the course of a few months fatally. The upper part of both her lungs was filled with tubercles, and in some places they were beginning to soften. The case was evidently a bad one. The treatment of cod-liver oil was at first used, but without marked improvement. The phosphate of lime was then administered with the oil, and the result, as in the case of the negro, was soon apparent. The patient was rapidly getting well.

The third case was that of a child seven years of age, in which phosphate of lime was used with complete success.

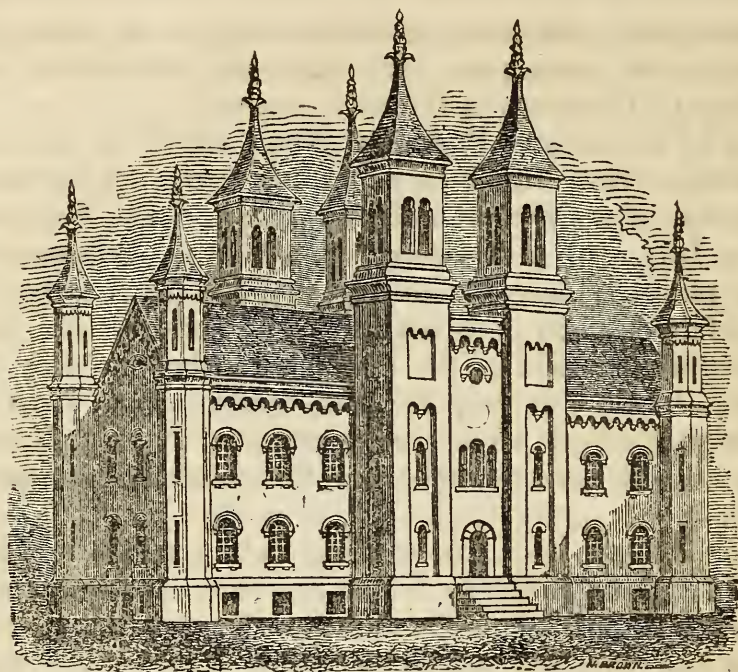
We can only refer briefly to these cases for the purpose of directing attention to the subject. Before the dreadful diseases which they describe, scientific men have stood abashed. That there is some remedy for them we can hardly doubt ; and this may, if a new thing, be the desideratum which science is in search of.—*Mobile Herald and Tribune.*

[From the Eclectic Medical Journal.]

PRECEPT AND EXAMPLE.

There is in this city a Doctor of Medicine, a Professor in a Medical College, and an Editor of a Medical Journal, who admits that he has taken so much Calomel and Opium within the last few years, that he has entirely destroyed the function of taste, to such an extent, that he is not able to distinguish between sugar and salt.

Now if he should be as successful in producing a medicinal effect upon the system of his patients as he has in his own case, we judge that some will be rather "shy" of this modern *Æsculapius*.
N.



[Worcester Medical Institution]

Editorial.

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ALLOPATHY.

Scarcely any thing is more common, of late, among people in this vicinity, than remarks which involve the assertion, that the essential features of Allopathy are materially different now from what they were even only a few years since. That Allopathy, for its manifold phases, may well be named legion is true. Its system, if a system it may be called, is one of experiments. One physician tries this remedy another that; and the same physician is forever varying his prescriptions, in hopes of *hitting* upon something (by accident of course) which shall work, or seem to work the cure.

Now how very different is all this from the practice of the truly scientific physician, who understands the pathology of the disease he is about to treat, and the *modus operandi* of the remedies which he determines to employ! In the latter case, the treatment instituted is selected, in preference to all others, *from principle*. It is selected, because the practitioner understands the relations of

cause and effect. He knows in what the disease consists, or, at least, in what *he believes* it to consist; and he knows, too, the nature of the remedy which he resolves to exhibit. His acquaintance with the laws of organic and animal chemistry, superadded to his knowledge of human physiology and kindred branches of professional science, enables him to understand the relation of the agent used to the tissues concerned, and to take advantage, not merely of ordinary *mechanical* and *chemical laws*, but especially of *vital affinities* and *dynamic forces*.

To return, however, to Allopathy,—though its practices are, in some respects, so indefinitely various, yet there is, almost without exception, on the part of its adherents, a most rigid restriction to the use of those remedies which have, long since, been classed as exclusively officinal. Hence it is, that, when a council or councils of Allopathic physicians are called, they all readily harmonize in recommending a routine of measures, limited to the agents which have been the reliance of the profession for the last three centuries. Many of these agents are of the most destructive tendency, and to these, more particularly, is the sagacity of a medical council generally directed, in search of what will terminate the disease. That the object is, in a sense, often gained, is quite certain; but it very commonly is, not by restoring the patient to health, but by hastening his departure to the land whose genial climate admits of no sickness or death.

Occasionally, it is true, the means employed fail to work the important end, even after the most *heroic* adoption of health's most deadly foes. The vital powers, not quite subdued, struggle against the remedies exhibited; and the patient prolongs a miserable existence, for a season, perhaps long enough to repeat, for a few times, the sound of alarm and warning to the deluded devotees of a fashionable but death-producing medication. An instance of this kind we have in the experience of the writer of a letter recently received by a friend of ours; and from that letter we are permitted to make an interesting extract. *This is a great country*—a land of civil liberty; and we, therefore, cheerfully accord to every person the right of employing what mode of practice and what physician he pleases. Of course, he must bear the consequences. Here is the extract.

“You advise me not to be bled. Mary, what would you have me do to relieve me, when I get so that I cannot step, or rock, or lie down in my bed, but must sit perfectly still in my chair, for three and four days at a time, not even stooping enough to lay my hand on my knee?”

“Now I want to give you a history of my sickness,—how I was taken, and how I have been treated; and you will not wonder, that I am but a shadow of life. One year ago the second day of this month, I was taken with lung fever and pleurisy in the left side, together with inflammation of the bowels. You could hear me breathe, all over the house. I continued so until I was bled twice. I took a portion of calomel, drank cold water and ice, until it produced a sore mouth; and my mouth remained sore for seven long weeks. During three weeks, I never opened my jaws to speak; nor could I open them enough to put a knife blade between my teeth. All the nourishment I took was what I could suck between my teeth; and, when I did open my mouth, my tongue was all eaten in strings by the canker.

“Well, I began to blister,—had three blisters when confined to my bed; and, in three days after I was taken, I could not turn myself in bed. George stood over me all the time, almost, for fourteen days, to lift me and turn me. You may think me wild, perhaps, to say, that, while my mouth was sore, it ran two or three gallons of water. I will give you a specimen of it. In one night, I would wet five towels a yard long, and fill a spit-cup which held a pint, full, with what, on raising me up, would run out of my mouth; and this I continued for five weeks.

“After my fever left me, my troubles all centered in my left side. I have drawn fourteen blisters on my side and shoulder. I have been cupped nearly two hundred times, in all. I have been bled eleven times. I have had caustic sores made, and tartar sores, and croton oil sores, and have worn a seton four months of the time.

“I have had the most skilful doctors, far and near, whom Dr. P. could get to his aid, though he has always had the charge of me. All tell me one story,—that my disease is of the heart,—that the linings of my left lung and of my chest are grown together,—and that there is no cure for me, though I can be made comfortable for a spell. How long we know not; but it is very evident, that I

have not long to live, unless some change takes place soon. Sometimes, I have such distressed spells that I think my time has come.

“ One long year, I have been confined to the house ; and, nine months, Mary, I have been confined to my room,—only out twice in that time. Since the first of June, I have been out some, but cannot walk any at all. Who will wonder that I am nervous. I live on morphine powders. They are all my strength. Without them, I cannot sit up.”

In conclusion,—in defence of our position, that Allopathy, the world over, is essentially the same, and that the above extract presents some of its most important features, we will only advert to the simple fact, that one of the physicians called in counsel, as mentioned above, is a distinguished Professor in an Allopathic Medical College in New England.

CO-OPERATION.

We would again remind our friends, that united effort is essential to the most rapid advancement of that cause in which we and they have a common interest,—we mean the cause of scientific medicine. The Journal is the only advocate of this cause, published in New England ; and, therefore, has no ordinary claims for an extensive patronage.

In conducting this publication, we, as many know, have made liberal sacrifices. From time to time, we have increased our editorial labor and have incurred additional expense, in order to give our readers a work comprising valuable matter in a tasteful dress. From the intelligent and thinking portion of the community, we have received remarks of the most commendatory character. The work is designed specially for the profession, but is perused with deep interest by many non-professional readers.

As we have made arrangements for still other improvements to appear in the next volume, and in doing so have subjected ourselves to increased expense, we confidently look to our friends to aid us in securing an extended circulation. The Journal will con-

tinue unblenchingly to defend the position, that innocuous and sanative agents only are proper to be employed in the treatment of disease.

Through the assistance of correspondents, professional and non-professional, the current and the past volume of the Journal have been filled mainly with original matter. We have the promise of continued and increased aid, for the year to come. In the next volume, our readers may expect communications from some of the ablest physicians and writers in the country. Early in the year, we intend to visit Europe; and, while we have provided for our place to be filled at home, during our absence, we shall yet supply a large portion of the editorial matter ourselves. We, also, anticipate securing the correspondence of eminent European writers.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

MEDICAL SCHOOLS.—Our Rochester and Syracuse neighbors are at *loggerheads*. "A plain statement of facts" (a pamphlet of sixteen pages) was, some time since, issued by a part of the Faculty of Central Medical College, containing an exposition of certain difficulties existing between some of the members of the two Faculties. In reply, another "plain statement of facts," of similar size, has been issued by the antagonistic party. The spirit of each of these is sharply belligerent, but it does not become us to decide where truth lies.

At Cincinnati, the Schools, in the language of a correspondent, are still "in a desperate *ferment*." Notwithstanding the "*muss*" they are in, we are glad to learn that the "prognosis" for good Classes with them is favorable.

By the "Weekly Memphis Enquirer," we learn, that the Introductory Lecture to the sixth Course of Lectures in the Botanico-Medical College of Memphis was delivered on Monday evening, November 3d, by Prof. Gale; and, that the School is in a very prosperous condition.

BUCHANAN'S JOURNAL OF MAN.—The October number of this unique Journal is on our table. It is filled with much that is new and interesting, as well to the popular, as to the professional reader.

NEW ENGLAND

BOTANIC

MEDICAL & SURGICAL

JOURNAL.

MONTHLY.

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CALVIN NEWTON, M. D.,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.  
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Vol. V.

No. 1.  
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"Seize upon Truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground."

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WORCESTER.

PRINTED BY HENRY J. HOWLAND,  
199 Main Street, Up Stairs.

## The Friends and Patrons of the WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION

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C. NEWTON, *President.*

---

### New England Thomsonian Depot.

Messrs. WILLARD MESSER, Jr., WM. S. BANKER, and DANIEL LEE HALE, having purchased the entire stock of Drugs, Botanic Medicines, Shaker Herbs, &c., of the New England Thomsonian Depot, formerly kept by Daniel Lee Hale, but recently under the direction of Drs. Osgood and Pike, have formed a co-partnership, under the firm of

## MESSER, BANKER, & CO.,

for the transaction of a general Thomsonian business.

They have all kinds of Medicines, put up in small packages, with full directions for family use; a supply of which can, at all times, be had, on the most favorable terms.

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NO. 49 WASHINGTON STREET, ALBANY.

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A. MOSHER & CO.

The above *Compounds* may be had at the corner of Front and Carlton Streets, Worcester, Mass.



## Receipts for the Journal.

|                  |             |                    |            |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|
| Harriet Hancock, | Dec. 1850.  | Peter Stotesbury,  | Dec. 1851. |
| H. H. Brigham,   | " "         | P. S. Leaming,     | " "        |
| N. H. Murphy,    | " "         | A. C. Logan,       | " "        |
| Reuben Green,    | " "         | Nathaniel Brooks,  | " "        |
| James H. Small,  | " "         | Win. E. Underwood, | " "        |
| E. A. Allen,     | " "         | Daniel Havens,     | " "        |
| James L. Gilder, | " "         | F. W. Emmons,      | " "        |
| W. C. Staple,    | " "         | John Plimpton,     | " "        |
| R. R. Post,      | July, 1851. | Sarah Leonard,     | " "        |
| Augustus Sumner, | Dec, "      | James M. Warren,   | " "        |
| O. B. Lyman,     | " "         | John Saxton,       | " "        |
| John S. Andrews, | " "         | L. N. Rugg,        | " "        |
| John M. Seaver,  | " "         |                    |            |

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## Dr. E. J. Mattocks' Buena Vista Pills.

*Purely Vegetable.*

In offering this medicine to the public, we introduce the most mild, easy, and certain cathartic ever known; not the least griping or drastic effects attending their operation. We do not pretend to cure every form of disease with these pills, neither do we expect to raise the dead, or kill the living; but we do know that these pills will cure diseases of the liver, in any form; such as acute or chronic inflammation, jaundice in its worst stages, dyspepsia, constipated bowels, headache, heartburn, flatulency, and in fevers they are the only medicine needed. They will break the most malignant type, if taken in its first stage, according to the directions accompanying each box: they will also remove all female obstructions immediately; and in rheumatism and gout they are an infalible remedy if persevered in. In all affections of the kidneys and urinary organs, we can recommend them as a perfectly safe and efficacious remedy—gravel, chronic inflammation of the kidneys, or bladder stricture can be cured in a short time with these pills. As a general cathartic, they are the best ever offered to the public, because they strengthen the bowels and leave the system in a healthy state, operating without the least griping or pain.

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**COMPOUND EXTRACT OF ROOTS,**  
*For Making Root Beer.*

By following the directions, this article may be formed into a most healthful and pleasant beverage, that will more fully quench thirst, without producing a deleterious effect, than any other article in use. It acts as a PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD and the other Fluids of the Human System; and instead of giving a momentary excitement, it imparts a gentle stimulant power to the whole body. As a substitute for spirituous or malt liquors, mineral waters, or even coffee and tea, its virtues are truly astonishing, and well worthy of the high praises that have been bestowed on it by all who have given it a fair trial. It is particularly useful in all Scorbatic Affections, Diseases of the Skin, &c.

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An experience of more than twenty years, in the practice, preparation, and compounding of Botanic Medicines, from the very best and purest materials in the market, has afforded him just grounds to flatter himself, that his Medicines, after a fair trial, will compete with any which may be offered to the friends of the Botanic cause, within the whole range of our country.

It is of great importance, that Practitioners, and others, using Botanic Medicines, should be apprised, that all the articles manufactured at his establishment are *pulverized,—not ground*,—between an upper and nether mill-stone; as the latter process heats, and consequently injures, if it does not destroy the medical virtues of all articles submitted to such an operation.

On hand all the various Medical Works on the Botanic System, together with a general assortment of Glass Ware, Syringes, and all the articles connected with the business. Those wishing pure Medicines can be supplied on the most reasonable terms by  
 EPH'M. LARRABEE.  
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**Dr. Skinner's Clarified Oil of Cod-Fish Liver,**

For the cure of Consumption, Scrofula, Rheumatism, &c. The medicinal virtues of this valuable Oil are truly one of the greatest discoveries of the age. Consumption and Scrofula will yield to its influence in nine cases out of every ten.

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*Druggists and the Profession supplied at the usual discount.*



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*Extracted from the Green Root.*

*Whence are the occasional failures of Sarsaparilla?* The present popularity of this in valuable medicine makes the above a frequent question; and it may not be improper to state, in this card, the most common causes of disappointment in the use of the medicine. *First*, there are only a few species of Sarsaparilla that contain the *peculiar* virtues, and it is well known, that many varieties are found in market, and are used by manufacturers. *Secondly*, the virtues of Sarsaparilla are exceedingly volatile, and are soon impaired by age; while but very little discrimination is generally made in its selection. *Thirdly*, the virtues are extremely liable to be impaired and even entirely lost by the preparation of the syrup or extract.

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The attention of physicians is particularly invited to a trial of this article; as the proprietors pledge their sacred honour, that the article here offered, is the *Pure unadulterated* extract from one single species of the *Smilax Sarsaparilla*, taken from the root, while *green and fresh from the ground*. Let physicians use it in their practice. They will be able to satisfy both themselves and their patients of its intrinsic value as a curative agent, and confirm the testimony of many distinguished in the profession, who have already used it with great success in the most obstinate diseases.

This Sarsaparilla is put up in large bottles with the words Bush's Smilax Sarsaparilla blown in the glass;—and will be consigned to responsible dealers at Eight Dollars per dozen. **Retail price one dollar per bottle, or six bottles for five dollars.**

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**JOB T. DICKENS, M. D.,**

**Thomsonian Botanic Physician & Surgeon.**

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**Residence, No. 8, Pleasant Street,**

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## **Magnetic Remedies of Dr. H. H. Sherwood.**

**CAUTION.**

The subscribers are under the necessity of cautioning the public against spurious imitations of the well known Magnetic Remedies of the late Henry Hall Sherwood, M. D. manufactured under another name, and represented to be made in the same manner as the genuine articles. The genuine remedies of Dr. Sherwood can be rightly prepared only by ourselves, from the receipt which we hold from his sole executrix, (bequeathed to her exclusively by his recorded will,) and all representations to the contrary are wholly false. They are always accompanied by Dr. Sherwood's valuable treatise on the Motive Power of the Human System, the copy-right of which is in our sole possession, duly secured according to law.

With regard to any pretended knowledge by other persons of Dr. Sherwood's Remedies, it can only deceive the credulous and unwary. Further than the general information given in his published works as to the leading articles in these remedies, Dr. Sherwood communicated nothing to others, as he assured his executrix in the strongest manner shortly before his death; and, even were it possible for any one to discover their entire ingredients, the knowledge would be wholly useless without long, minute, and elaborate instructions in the laboratory itself, and also repeated personal observation of the whole process of manufacture—the process being altogether too intricate and peculiar to be communicated in writing, and requiring the same personal experience and practice as has been alone received by ourselves.

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SECOND EDITION, REVISED, WITH IMPORTANT ADDITIONS.

I. Anatomy, with a Steel Engraving of the Human Skeleton, back and front view, and a number of Wood Illustrations.

II. The Old School Practice.

III. Vegetable Materia Medica, with twenty-four beautifully colored Illustrations.

IV. Compounds.

V. Description of Diseases, Treatment, &c.

VI. Guide for Women, or Simplified Treatise of Child Birth; Description of Diseases of Females and Infants, &c.

It is generally conceded, that there is no better Botanic Work than this for families. Every Botanic Physician also should have a copy of it in his library. It has received great favor in England, and is publicly announced there, by some of the educated and prominent Physicians, as their Guide of Practice.

For sale by **WILLIAM JOHNSON,**  
the Publisher and Proprietor, at the New England Botanic Depot, rear of 47, Hanover Street, Boston, Mass. Also an extensive assortment of Botanic Medicines, and every thing that appertains to an establishment of the kind, very low, for cash or approved credit.

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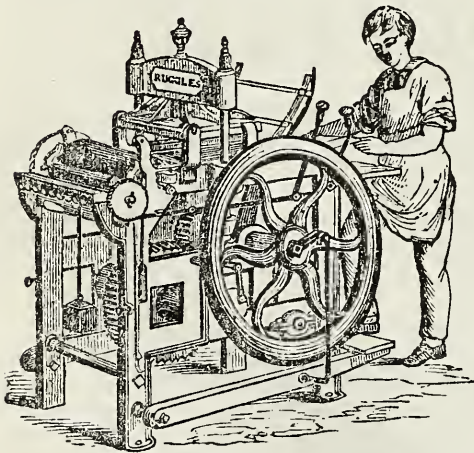
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The course of study required by this Institution is intended to occupy three full years; and candidates for the regular degree of M. D. must have attended two full Courses of Medical Lectures in some established Medical College, one of which must have been in this Institution. They must present satisfactory testimonials of good moral character; must have a competent literary education; and must well sustain an examination in the various branches of medical study, as contained in our Course of Lectures, and in the text-books which we recommend, or equivalents.

The following are the principal authors recommended:—

- On Anatomy*—Morton, Wilson, Quain, Wistar, Paxton, and Harrison.
- On Surgery*—Pancoast, Druitt, Liston, Cooper, Velpeau, and Castle.
- On Physiology*—Carpenter, Oliver, Muller, and Dunglison.
- On Pathology*—Gross, Chomel, Gallup, and Watson.
- On Materia Medica*—Kost, Pereira, and Wood and Bache.
- On Auscultation and Percussion*—Laennec, Williams, Gerhard, Bowditch, and Watson.
- On Theory and Practice*—Watson, Mackintosh, Elliotson and Stewartson, Kost, Mattson, Howard, Worthy, Comfort, Smith, Curtis, and Thomson.
- On the Institutes of Medicine*—Gallup and Curtis.
- On Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to Women and Children*—Churchill, Eberle, Chailly, Maygrier, Velpeau, Beach, and Curtis.
- On Medical Jurisprudence*—Beck and Williams.
- On Chemistry*—Gray, Fownes, and Turner.
- On Botany*—Eaton, Bigelow, Gray, and Wood.

The following are the members of the Faculty:—

- C. NEWTON, M. D., *Professor of General and Special Pathology.*
- E. M. PARRITT, M. D., *Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.*
- WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*
- E. H. STOCKWELL, M. D., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*
- JOSEPH BROWN, M. D., *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*
- MICHAEL GABBENT, M. D., *Professor of Theory and Practice.*

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The text-books recommended are consulted *eclectically*;—*authoritatively*, indeed, so far as they are descriptive of actual conditions, as in Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and the like; but otherwise *with careful discrimination*,—the fundamental peculiarity of what is taught in this Institution being, that there is no necessity for employing poisons of any kind, as medicinal agents; and that the object, in exhibiting any remedy, should be to sustain and not to depress the vital powers.

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C. NEWTON, *President.*

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## The New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal

Is published on the 1st of every month, by C. Newton, M. D., at the corner of Front and Carlton Streets, Worcester, Mass. Each number contains thirty-two pages octavo, besides the cover, and the numbers of one year constitute a volume. Terms,—to subscribers paying in advance, \$1,00 per year. Those delaying payment three months, will be charged \$1,25; and those delaying six months, \$1,50. As the price, in comparison to the amount of matter afforded, is exceedingly low, it is but reasonable that advance payment be insisted on, or that a fair equivalent for delay be required. The paper has received numerous testimonials of high approbation, and has now obtained an extensive circulation, not only in New England, but also in the South and the West. It is designed for DOMESTIC as well as PROFESSIONAL use, and should be in every family. All remittances and communications pertaining to it, should be directed, *post paid*, to the Editor. Any person forwarding, *post paid*, the names of four subscribers, and remitting \$4, shall receive a fifth copy gratis.



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NEW ENGLAND

BOTANIC

MEDICAL & SURGICAL

JOURNAL.

MONTHLY.

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CALVIN NEWTON, M. D.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
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Vol. V.

No. 2.
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"Seize upon Truth wherever found,  
On Christian or on Heathen ground."

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| | Dec. 1850. | | Dec. 1851. |
|--------------------|-------------|--|------------|
| Rufus Stowe, | Dec. 1850. | Wm. T. Park, | Dec. 1851. |
| A. P. Hale, | " " | A. L. Whitehall, | " " |
| Silas Alden, | " " | Thomas Whitehall, | " " |
| M. F. Bassett, | " " | Jonathan Swane, | " " |
| Richard Matthews, | July, 1851. | Smith R. Watson, | " " |
| Abiel Bottom, | Dec. | Edward Bemis, | " " |
| William H. Miller, | " " | Miss E. Smith, | " " |
| W. B. Pike, | " " | Jason Taylor, | " " |
| Franklin Gilman, | " " | Adolphus Morse, | " " |
| D. F. Witherbee, | " " | Ellsworth Burr, | " " |
| G. F. Elliott, | " " | Robert Vaughan, | " " |
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| A. B. Wescott, | " " | P. S. Leaming, | " " |
| Charles Ballard, | " " | A. C. Logan, | " " |
| Lewis M. Benson, | " " | Nathaniel Brooks, | " " |
| Sumner Parker, | " " | Wm. E. Underwood, | " " |
| A. H. Heywood, | " " | Daniel Havens, | " " |
| Willis Johnson, | " " | F. W. Emmons, | " " |
| Isaac Davis, | " " | In a part of our last issue the last eleven of | |
| L. W. Sturtevant, | " " | the above names were wrongly credited, | |
| E. A. Burns, | " " | by mistake. | |

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In offering this medicine to the public, we introduce the most mild, easy, and certain cathartic ever known; not the least griping or drastic effects attending their operation. We do not pretend to cure every form of disease with these pills, neither do we expect to raise the dead, or kill the living; but we do know that these pills will cure diseases of the liver, in any form; such as acute or chronic inflammation, jaundice in its worst stages, dyspepsia, constipated bowels, headache, heartburn, flatulency, and in fevers they are the only medicine needed. They will break the most malignant type, if taken in its first stage, according to the directions accompanying each box: they will also remove all female obstructions immediately; and in rheumatism and gout they are an infalible remedy if persevered in. In all affections of the kidneys and urinary organs, we can recommend them as a perfectly safe and efficacious remedy—gravel, chronic inflammation of the kidneys, or bladder stricture can be cured in a short time with these pills. As a general cathartic, they are the best ever offered to the public, because they strengthen the bowels and leave the system in a healthy state, operating without the least griping or pain.

Manufactured and sold at wholesale and retail, by the proprietor, Dr. E. J. MATTOCKS, at his Medical Dispensary, No. 24 Fifth Street, Troy, N. Y., and sold by agents throughout the United States.

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ATKINSON'S
COMPOUND EXTRACT OF ROOTS,
For Making Root Beer.

By following the directions, this article may be formed into a most healthful and pleasant beverage, that will more fully quench thirst, without producing a deleterious effect, than any other article in use. It acts as a PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD and the other Fluids of the Human System; and instead of giving a momentary excitement, it imparts a gentle stimulant power to the whole body. As a substitute for spirituous or malt liquors, mineral waters, or even coffee and tea, its virtues are truly astonishing, and well worthy of the high praises that have been bestowed on it by all who have given it a fair trial. It is particularly useful in all Scorbutic Affections, Diseases of the Skin, &c.

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An experience of more than twenty years, in the practice, preparation, and compounding of Botanic Medicines, from the very best and purest materials in the market, has afforded him just grounds to flatter himself, that his Medicines, after a fair trial, will compete with any which may be offered to the friends of the Botanic cause, within the whole range of our country.

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May, 1847.

EPH'M. LARRABEE.

Dr. Skinner's Clarified Oil of Cod-Fish Liver,

For the cure of Consumption, Scrofula, Rheumatism, &c. The medicinal virtues of this valuable Oil are truly one of the greatest discoveries of the age. Consumption and Scrofula will yield to its influence in nine cases out of every ten.

Sold by Dr. S. at his office, 69 1-2 Cornhill (up stairs) Boston, wholesale and retail. Large bottles 75 cents—small ones 37 1-2 cents. Descriptive pamphlets and cases of cures, in this city and in the country, to be had gratis at this office. The Oil is recommended and approved by most of the physicians of Boston.

Druggists and the Profession supplied at the usual discount.

Bush's Smilax or Spanish Sarsaparilla.

Extracted from the Green Root.

Whence are the occasional failures of Sarsaparilla? The present popularity of this invaluable medicine makes the above a frequent question; and it may not be improper to state, in this card, the most common causes of disappointment in the use of the medicine. *First*, there are only a few species of Sarsaparilla that contain the *peculiar* virtues, and it is well known, that many varieties are found in market, and are used by manufacturers. *Secondly*, the virtues of Sarsaparilla are exceedingly volatile, and are soon impaired by age; while but very little discrimination is generally made in its selection. *Thirdly*, the virtues are extremely liable to be impaired and even entirely lost by the preparation of the syrup or extract.

The proprietors of this preparation are happy now to offer, to the afflicted public, an article in which all the causes of failure have been studiously avoided; and they cannot fail to maintain the credit of this incomparably valuable medicine. The recent discovery of the true Smilax Sarsaparilla in the south, by Prof. I. M. Comings, has put us in possession of the genuine root in a fresh state; and a new method of preparation, discovered by the proprietors, enables them to offer to the purchaser a superior article of extract of Sarsaparilla.

The attention of physicians is particularly invited to a trial of this article; as the proprietors pledge their sacred honour, that the article here offered, is the *Pure unadulterated* extract from one single species of the *Smilax Sarsaparilla*, taken from the root, while *green and fresh from the ground*. Let physicians use it in their practice. They will be able to satisfy both themselves and their patients of its intrinsic value as a curative agent, and confirm the testimony of many distinguished in the profession, who have already used it with great success in the most obstinate diseases.

This Sarsaparilla is put up in large bottles with the words Bush's Smilax Sarsaparilla blown in the glass;—and will be consigned to responsible dealers at Eight Dollars per dozen. **Retail price one dollar per bottle, or six bottles for five dollars.**

Prepared and sold by BUSH & CO., Worcester, Mass.;

and sold by C. Newton, M. D., corner of Front and Carlton Sts., and by Comings and Nichols, Pleasant St., Worcester, Mass. **All orders punctually attended to.**

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**Residence, No. 8, Pleasant Street,
Newburyport, Mass.**

Magnetic Remedies of Dr. H. H. Sherwood.

CAUTION.

The subscribers are under the necessity of cautioning the public against spurious imitations of the well known Magnetic Remedies of the late Henry Hall Sherwood, M. D. manufactured under another name, and represented to be made in the same manner as the genuine articles. The genuine remedies of Dr. Sherwood can be rightly prepared only by ourselves, from the receipt which we hold from his sole executrix, (bequeathed to her exclusively by his recorded will,) and all representations to the contrary are wholly false. They are always accompanied by Dr. Sherwood's valuable treatise on the Motive Power of the Human System, the copy-right of which is in our sole possession, duly secured according to law.

With regard to any pretended knowledge by other persons of Dr. Sherwood's Remedies, it can only deceive the credulous and unwary. Further than the general information given in his published works as to the leading articles in these remedies, Dr. Sherwood communicated nothing to others, as he assured his executrix in the strongest manner shortly before his death; and, even were it possible for any one to discover their entire ingredients, the knowledge would be wholly useless without long, minute, and elaborate instructions in the laboratory itself, and also repeated personal observation of the whole process of manufacture—the process being altogether too intricate and peculiar to be communicated in writing, and requiring the same personal experience and practice as has been alone received by ourselves.

These remedies are more successful in the cure of Chronic Diseases than any others known to the Medical profession. All communications should be addressed to

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SECOND EDITION, REVISED, WITH IMPORTANT ADDITIONS.

I. Anatomy, with a Steel Engraving of the Human Skeleton, back and front view, and a number of Wood Illustrations.

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IV. Compounds.

V. Description of Diseases, Treatment, &c.

VI. Guide for Women, or Simplified Treatise of Child Birth; Description of Diseases of Females and Infants, &c.

It is generally conceded, that there is no better Botanic Work than this for families. Every Botanic Physician also should have a copy of it in his library. It has received great favor in England, and is publicly announced there, by some of the educated and prominent Physicians, as their Guide of Practice.

For sale by
WILLIAM JOHNSON,
the Publisher and Proprietor, at the New England Botanic Depot, rear of 47, Hanover Street, Boston, Mass. Also an extensive assortment of Botanic Medicines, and every thing that appertains to an establishment of the kind, very low, for cash or approved credit.

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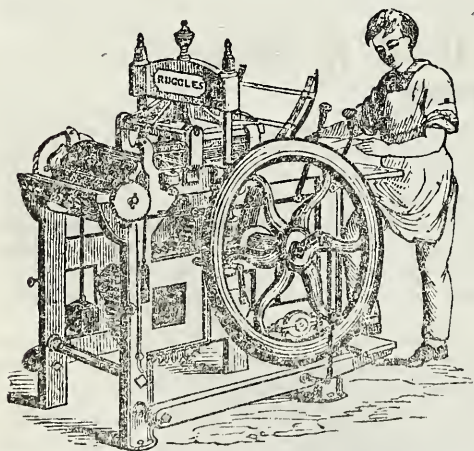
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embracing all the different works upon the Reformed Practice, together with a great variety of miscellaneous articles, usually kept in such an establishment.

The above medicines are put up in their simple or compound state, pulverized or ground to meet the wants of the purchaser.

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of superior quality, for medicinal purposes only. Very especial attention is devoted to this branch of the business, in order to furnish liquors, that may be relied upon for their purity.

The Friends and Patrons of the WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION

Are hereby informed, that Prof. Parritt, our agent, being under the necessity of returning to Ohio before completing the business of his agency, will enter on the labor again in the month of February next. He has already succeeded in raising an amount sufficient to warrant the immediate erection of the College building, though further subscriptions will be required to meet the whole expense.

The numerous friends, in different places, therefore, who are disappointed in the opportunity to subscribe at present, will bear in mind, that, in February or during the spring months, they will be privileged to learn by experience the blessedness of imparting, from their abundance, to the wants of an Institution which promises to do much towards removing the woes of this fallen world. We trust, that the magnitude of the expected subscriptions will not suffer by the delay. We hope, that they will, in due time, be given, *with liberal interest.*

C. NEWTON, *President.*

New England Thomsonian Depot.

Messrs. WILLARD MESSER, Jr., WM. S. BANKER, and DANIEL LEE HALE, having purchased the entire stock of Drugs, Botanic Medicines, Shaker Herbs, &c., of the New England Thomsonian Depot, formerly kept by Daniel Lee Hale, but recently under the direction of Drs. Osgood and Pike, have formed a co-partnership, under the firm of

MESSER, BANKER, & CO.,

for the transaction of a general Thomsonian business.

They have all kinds of Medicines, put up in small packages, with full directions for family use; a supply of which can, at all times, be had, on the most favorable terms.

In addition to the above, their stock will embrace a full and complete assortment of Shaker Herbs; all the standard Botanic Works, as well as the most approved authors on Anatomy, Physiology, and other collateral branches of Medicine; Dental and Obstetrical Instruments, Syringes of all kinds, Catheters, Respirators, Trusses, Abdominal Supporters, &c., &c.

Their facilities for obtaining the various articles in the crude state, are such, that they are enabled to offer greater inducements to Dealers and Consumers, than any other similar Establishment in the United States.

Masters of Vessels will be supplied with Medicine Chests, properly arranged, with all the requisite remedial agents; to enable them to combat disease, in all its most terrific forms, in every part of the world.

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a new, and one of the best remedies for the removal and permanent cure of diseases arising from an impure state of the blood.

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As the list of subscribers to the Journal has materially changed since its first issue, and as this volume was taken by many who did not choose longer to continue their subscriptions, we hope that our friends will be able to supply for us the want above indicated. Some effort, on their part, to do so will be a favor thankfully received. [Ed. Jour.]

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Mr. O. B. SCOTT, of Pierpont Manor, N. Y., is an accredited agent for the New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal, to receive subscriptions and monies in our behalf. [Ed. Jour.]

NOTICE.

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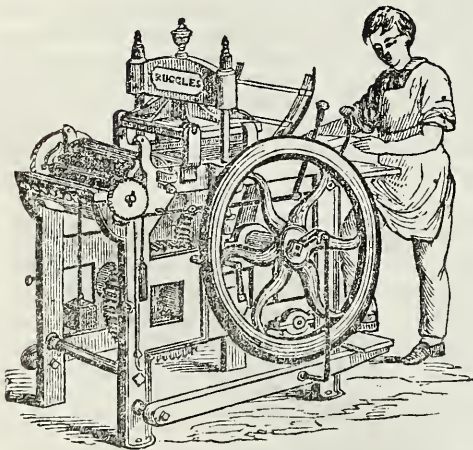
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Invite the attention of Druggists, Physicians, and all Dealers in Medicines, to their Establishment, where may be found a full and complete assortment, of

Botanic Medicines, Syringes, Druggist's Glass Ware, Essential

Oils, Extracts, Spices, and Medical Books,

embracing all the different works upon the Reformed Practice, together with a great variety of miscellaneous articles, usually kept in such an establishment.

The above medicines are put up in their simple or compound state, pulverized or ground to meet the wants of the purchaser.

PERSONAL AND PARTICULAR ATTENTION

is devoted to the manufacture and preparation of all their Medicines. The process is carried on, under their own immediate observation; and is such as to insure, to the purchaser, their full medicinal properties.

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of superior quality, for medicinal purposes only. Very especial attention is devoted to this branch of the business, in order to furnish liquors, that may be relied upon for their purity

Worcester Medical Institution.

COURSE OF STUDY, &c.

The course of study required by this Institution is intended to occupy three full years ; and candidates for the regular degree of M. D. must have attended two full Courses of Medical Lectures in some established Medical College, one of which must have been in this Institution. They must present satisfactory testimonials of good moral character ; must have a competent literary education ; and must well sustain an examination in the various branches of medical study, as contained in our Course of Lectures, and in the text-books which we recommend, or equivalents.

The following are the principal authors recommended :—

- On Anatomy*—Morton, Wilson, Quain, Wistar, Paxton, and Harrison.
- On Surgery*—Pancoast, Druiitt, Liston, Cooper, Velpeau, and Castle.
- On Physiology*—Carpenter, Oliver, Muller, and Dunglison.
- On Pathology*—Gross, Chomel, Gallup, and Thomson.
- On Materia Medica*—Kost, Pereira, and Wood and Bache.
- On Auscultation and Percussion*—Laennec, Williams, Gerhard, Bowditch, and Watson.
- On Theory and Practice*—Watson, Mackintosh, Elliotson and Stewartson, Kost, Mattson, Howard, Worthy, Comfort, Smith, Curtis, and Thomson.
- On the Institutes of Medicine*—Gallup and Curtis.
- On Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to Women and Children*—Churchill, Eberle, Chailly, Maygrier, Velpeau, Beach, and Curtis.
- On Medical Jurisprudence*—Beck and Williams.
- On Chemistry*—Gray, Fownes, and Turner.
- On Botany*—Eaton, Bigelow, Gray, and Wood.

The following are the members of the Faculty :—

- C. NEWTON, M. D., *Professor of General and Special Pathology.*
- E. M. PARRITT, M. D., *Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.*
- WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*
- MICHAEL GABBERT, M. D., *Professor of Theory and Practice.*
- G. W. MORROW, M. D., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*
- MARSHALL CALKINS, M. D., *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*
- S. ROGERS, M. D., *Professor of Hydro-therapeutics.*

The next Course of Lectures will commence on the first Thursday in March, 1851, and continue sixteen weeks. The fee for a full Course is \$60, in advance, with a matriculation fee of \$3. Of those who have attended two full Courses at other Medical Colleges, \$10 only are required. Graduates will be charged, in addition, \$18 for a Diploma. Good board can be had for \$2,25 per week.

The text-books recommended are consulted *eclectically* ;—*authoritatively*, indeed, so far as they are descriptive of actual conditions, as in Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and the like ; but otherwise *with careful discrimination*,—the fundamental peculiarity of what is taught in this Institution being, that there is no necessity for employing poisons of any kind, as medicinal agents ; and that the object, in exhibiting any remedy, should be to sustain and not to depress the vital powers.

Quite extensive accessions have, of late, been made to the Anatomical and Chemical Apparatus, Library, &c. The Faculty of the Institution now constitute a full and eminently able Board of Instruction ; and the facilities to be enjoyed by students are, in every way, ample. Dissections, surgical operations, illustrations, and experiments, are conducted in the most advantageous and instructive manner.

As, however, it is the aim of the Trustees of this Institution to render it pre-eminent for advantages afforded, any donations in money, or preparations adapted to facilitate illustrative teaching, in any of the departments, are respectfully and earnestly solicited.

C. NEWTON, *President.*

The New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal

Is published on the 1st of every month, by C. Newton, M. D., at the corner of Front and Carlton Streets, Worcester, Mass. Each number contains thirty-two pages octavo, besides the cover, and the numbers of one year constitute a volume. Terms,—to subscribers paying in advance, \$1,00 per year. Those delaying payment three months, will be charged \$1,25 ; and those delaying six months, \$1,50. As the price, in comparison to the amount of matter afforded, is exceedingly low, it is but reasonable that advance payment be insisted on, or that a fair equivalent for delay be required. The paper has received numerous testimonials of high approbation, and has now obtained an extensive circulation, not only in New England, but also in the South and the West. It is designed for domestic as well as professional use, and should be in every family. All remittances and communications pertaining to it, should be directed, *post paid*, to the Editor. Any person forwarding, *post paid*, the names of four subscribers, and remitting \$4, shall receive a fifth copy gratis.

NEW ENGLAND

BOTANIC

MEDICAL & SURGICAL

JOURNAL.

MONTHLY.

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**CALVIN NEWTON, M. D.,**  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.  
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**Vol. V.**

**No. 4.**  
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"Seize upon Truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground."

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**WORCESTER.**  
**PRINTED BY HENRY J. HOWLAND,**  
199 Main Street, Up Stairs.



## The Friends and Patrons of the WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION

Are hereby informed, that Prof. Parritt, our agent, being under the necessity of returning to Ohio before completing the business of his agency, will enter on the labor again in the month of February next. He has already succeeded in raising an amount sufficient to warrant the immediate erection of the College building, though further subscriptions will be required to meet the whole expense.

The numerous friends, in different places, therefore, who are disappointed in the opportunity to subscribe at present, will bear in mind, that, in February or during the spring months, they will be privileged to learn by experience the blessedness of imparting, from their abundance, to the wants of an Institution which promises to do much towards removing the woes of this fallen world. We trust, that the magnitude of the expected subscriptions will not suffer by the delay. We hope, that they will, in due time, be given, *with liberal interest.*

C. NEWTON, *President.*

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### New England Thomsonian Depot.

Messrs. WILLARD MESSER, Jr., WM. S. BANKER, and DANIEL LEE HALE, having purchased the entire stock of Drugs, Botanic Medicines, Shaker Herbs, &c., of the New England Thomsonian Depot, formerly kept by Daniel Lee Hale, but recently under the direction of Drs. Osgood and Pike, have formed a co-partnership, under the firm of

## MESSER, BANKER, & CO.,

for the transaction of a general Thomsonian business.

They have all kinds of Medicines, put up in small packages, with full directions for family use; a supply of which can, at all times, be had, on the most favorable terms.

In addition to the above, their stock will embrace a full and complete assortment of Shaker Herbs; all the standard Botanic Works, as well as the most approved authors on Anatomy, Physiology, and other collateral branches of Medicine; Dental and Obstetrical Instruments, Syringes of all kinds, Catheters, Respirators, Trusses, Abdominal Supporters, &c., &c.

Their facilities for obtaining the various articles in the crude state, are such, that they are enabled to offer greater inducements to Dealers and Consumers, than any other similar Establishment in the United States.

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a new, and one of the best remedies for the removal and permanent cure of diseases arising from an impure state of the blood.

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## Receipts for the Journal.

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|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| J. V. Wilson,      | Dec., 1850. | Nathaniel Stowell,   | Dec., 1851. |
| Charles Smith,     | “ “         | Hiram Bassett,       | “ “         |
| G. W. Maltby,      | June, 1851. | M. C. Woolcutt,      | “ “         |
| R. Van Houten,     | July, “     | John L. Martin,      | “ “         |
| L. H. Borden,      | Oct., “     | Benj. F. Paddleford, | “ “         |
| David Forshee,     | Dec., “     | Wm. F. Barton,       | “ “         |
| John G. Benedict,  | “ “         | Wm. J. Summer,       | “ “         |
| Abraham F. Hervey, | “ “         | W. B. Morrow,        | “ “         |
| Joel Hall,         | “ “         | John Dennis,         | “ “         |
| Eli Sprague,       | “ “         | Charles Thurber,     | “ “         |
| David Ford,        | “ “         | H. Y. Simpson,       | “ “         |
| George W. Bascomb, | “ “         | John Bradley,        | “ “         |
| E. M. Banning,     | “ “         | Wm. G. Johnson,      | “ “         |
| S. C. Wetherby,    | “ “         | James M. Palmer,     | “ “         |
| Isaac S. Alger,    | “ “         | H. W. Stillman,      | “ “         |
| Jesse Thomson,     | “ “         | H. D. Langworthy,    | “ “         |
| A. A. Gifford,     | “ “         | H. G. Knowles,       | “ “         |
| N. P. Lockling,    | “ “         | Stephen D. Slayton,  | “ “         |
| Noah Shepardson,   | “ “         | George M. Buttrick,  | “ “         |
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E. S. McCLELLAN.

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By the Editor, *fifty copies* of the first volume of the N. E. Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal. For every *complete* copy of this volume, forwarded to us and not badly defaced, we will pay fifty cents.

As the list of subscribers to the Journal has materially changed since its first issue, and as this volume was taken by many who did not choose longer to continue their subscriptions, we hope that our friends will be able to supply for us the want above indicated. Some effort, on their part, to do so will be a favor thankfully received. [Ed. Jour.]

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In offering this medicine to the public, we introduce the most mild, easy, and certain cathartic ever known; not the least griping or drastic effects attending their operation. We do not pretend to cure every form of disease with these pills, neither do we expect to raise the dead, or kill the living; but we do know that these pills will cure diseases of the liver, in any form; such as acute or chronic inflammation, jaundice in its worst stages, dyspepsia, constipated bowels, headache, heartburn, flatulency, and in fevers they are the only medicine needed. They will break the most malignant type, if taken in its first stage, according to the directions accompanying each box: they will also remove all female obstructions immediately; and in rheumatism and gout they are an infallible remedy if persevered in. In all affections of the kidneys and urinary organs, we can recommend them as a perfectly safe and efficacious remedy—gravel, chronic inflammation of the kidneys, or bladder stricture can be cured in a short time with these pills. As a general cathartic, they are the best ever offered to the public, because they strengthen the bowels and leave the system in a healthy state, operating without the least griping or pain.

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It is of great importance, that Practitioners, and others, using Botanic Medicines, should be apprised, that all the articles manufactured at his establishment are pulverized,—not ground,—between an upper and nether mill-stone; as the latter process heats, and consequently injures, if it does not destroy the medical virtues of all articles submitted to such an operation.

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May, 1847.

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With regard to any pretended knowledge by other persons of Dr. Sherwood's Remedies, it can only deceive the credulous and unwary. Further than the general information given in his published works as to the leading articles in these remedies, Dr. Sherwood communicated nothing to others, as he assured his executrix in the strongest manner shortly before his death; and, even were it possible for any one to discover their entire ingredients, the knowledge would be wholly useless without long, minute, and elaborate instructions in the laboratory itself, and also repeated personal observation of the whole process of manufacture—the process being altogether too intricate and peculiar to be communicated in writing, and requiring the same personal experience and practice as has been alone received by ourselves.

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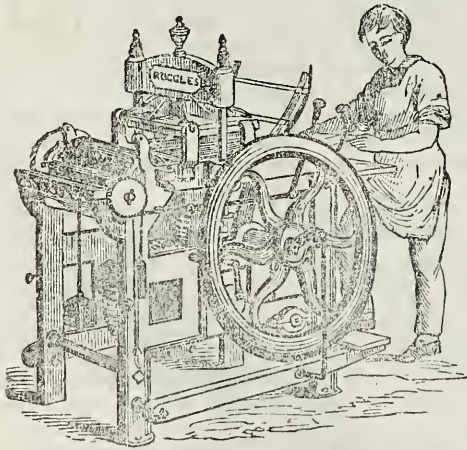
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## Receipts for the Journal.

|                       |             |                     |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| S. Hally,             | Dec., 1850. | A. S. Wetherell,    | Dec., 1851. |
| W. Stripling,         | " "         | J. F. Foster,       | " "         |
| Seth C. Ames,         | " "         | John Weathersbee,   | " "         |
| Merrick Wallace,      | " 1851.     | Simeon Avery,       | " "         |
| B. O. & G. C. Wilson, | " "         | Burton Bates,       | " "         |
| Seth Fisher,          | " "         | John B. Turnipseed, | " "         |
| Michael Gabbert,      | " "         | Geo. W. Stotesbury, | " "         |
| Stephen W. Woodruff,  | " "         | David Bagley,       | " "         |

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At the office of C. NEWTON, M. D., Worcester, Mass.

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By the Editor, *fifty copies* of the first volume of the N. E. Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal. For every *complete* copy of this volume, forwarded to us and not badly defaced, we will pay fifty cents.

As the list of subscribers to the Journal has materially changed since its first issue, and as this volume was taken by many who did not choose longer to continue their subscriptions, we hope that our friends will be able to supply for us the want above indicated. Some effort, on their part, to do so will be a favor thankfully received. [ED. JOUR.]

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## Dr. E. J. Mattocks' Buena Vista Pills.

*Purely Vegetable.*

In offering this medicine to the public, we introduce the most mild, easy, and certain cathartic ever known; not the least griping or drastic effects attending their operation. We do not pretend to cure every form of disease with these pills, neither do we expect to raise the dead, or kill the living; but we do know that these pills will cure diseases of the liver, in any form; such as acute or chronic inflammation, jaundice in its worst stages, dyspepsia, constipated bowels, headache, heartburn, flatulency, and in fevers they are the only medicine needed. They will break the most malignant type, if taken in its first stage, according to the directions accompanying each box: they will also remove all female obstructions immediately; and in rheumatism and gout they are an infalible remedy if persevered in. In all affections of the kidneys and urinary organs, we can recommend them as a perfectly safe and efficacious remedy—gravel, chronic inflammation of the kidneys, or bladder stricture can be cured in a short time with these pills. As a general cathartic, they are the best ever offered to the public, because they strengthen the bowels and leave the system in a healthy state, operating without the least griping or pain.

Manufactured and sold at wholesale and retail, by the proprietor, Dr. E. J. MATTOCKS, at his Medical Dispensary, No. 24 Fifth Street, Troy, N. Y., and sold by agents throughout the United States.



**ATKINSON'S  
COMPOUND EXTRACT OF ROOTS,  
For Making Root Beer.**

By following the directions, this article may be formed into a most healthful and pleasant beverage, that will more fully quench thirst, without producing a deleterious effect, than any other article in use. It acts as a PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD and the other Fluids of the Human System; and instead of giving a momentary excitement, it imparts a gentle stimulant power to the whole body. As a substitute for spirituous or malt liquors, mineral waters, or even coffee and tea, its virtues are truly astonishing, and well worthy of the high praises that have been bestowed on it by all who have given it a fair trial. It is particularly useful in all Scorbutic Affections, Diseases of the Skin, &c.

Sold Wholesale and Retail at  
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No. 216 GREENWICH ST. BETWEEN BARCLAY & ROBINSON STS.,  
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*Whence are the occasional failures of Sarsaparilla?* The present popularity of this invaluable medicine makes the above a frequent question; and it may not be improper to state, in this card, the most common causes of disappointment in the use of the medicine: *First*, there are only a few species of Sarsaparilla that contain the *peculiar* virtues, and it is well known, that many varieties are found in market, and are used by manufacturers. *Secondly*, the virtues of Sarsaparilla are exceedingly volatile, and are soon impaired by age; while but very little discrimination is generally made in its selection. *Thirdly*, the virtues are extremely liable to be impaired and even entirely lost by the preparation of the syrup or extract.

The proprietors of this preparation are happy now to offer, to the afflicted public, an article in which all the causes of failure have been studiously avoided; and they cannot fail to maintain the credit of this incomparably valuable medicine. The recent discovery of the true Smilax Sarsaparilla in the south, by Prof. I. M. Comings, has put us in possession of the genuine root in a fresh state; and a new method of preparation, discovered by the proprietors, enables them to offer to the purchaser a superior article of extract of Sarsaparilla.

The attention of physicians is particularly invited to a trial of this article; as the proprietors pledge their sacred honour, that the article here offered, is the *Pure unadulterated* extract from one single species of the *Smilax Sarsaparilla*, taken from the root, while *green and fresh from the ground*. Let physicians use it in their practice. They will be able to satisfy both themselves and their patients of its intrinsic value as a curative agent, and confirm the testimony of many distinguished in the profession, who have already used it with great success in the most obstinate diseases.

This Sarsaparilla is put up in large bottles with the words Bush's Smilax Sarsaparilla blown in the glass;—and will be consigned to responsible dealers at Eight Dollars per dozen. **Retail price one dollar per bottle, or six bottles for five dollars.**

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### CAUTION.

The subscribers are under the necessity of cautioning the public against spurious imitations of the well known Magnetic Remedies of the late Henry Hall Sherwood, M. D. manufactured under another name, and represented to be made in the same manner as the genuine articles. The genuine remedies of Dr. Sherwood can be rightly prepared only by ourselves, from the receipt which we hold from his sole executrix, (bequeathed to her exclusively by his recorded will,) and all representations to the contrary are wholly false. They are always accompanied by Dr. Sherwood's valuable treatise on the Motive Power of the Human System, the copy-right of which is in our sole possession, duly secured according to law.

With regard to any pretended knowledge by other persons of Dr. Sherwood's Remedies, it can only deceive the credulous and unwary. Further than the general information given in his published works as to the leading articles in these remedies, Dr. Sherwood communicated nothing to others, as he assured his executrix in the strongest manner shortly before his death; and, even were it possible for any one to discover their entire ingredients, the knowledge would be wholly useless without long, minute, and elaborate instructions in the laboratory itself, and also repeated personal observation of the whole process of manufacture—the process being altogether too intricate and peculiar to be communicated in writing, and requiring the same personal experience and practice as has been alone received by ourselves.

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Mr. O. B. SCOTT, of Pierrepont Manor, N. Y., is an accredited agent for the New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal, to receive subscriptions and monies in our behalf. [Ed. Jour.]



NOTICE.

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SECOND EDITION, REVISED, WITH IMPOTANT ADDITIONS.

- I. Anatomy, with a Steel Engraving of the Human Skeleton, back and front view, and a number of Wood Illustrations.
- II. The Old School Practice.
- III. Vegetable Materia Medica, with twenty-four beautifully colored Illustrations.
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- V. Description of Diseases, Treatment, &c.
- VI. Guide for Women, or Simplified Treatise of Child Birth; Description of Diseases of Females and Infants, &c.

It is generally conceded, that there is no better Botanic Work than this for families. Every Botanic Physician also should have a copy of it in his library. It has received great favor in England, and is publicly announced there, by some of the educated and prominent Physicians, as their Guide of Practice.

For sale by  
**WILLIAM JOHNSON,**  
the Publisher and Proprietor, at the New England Botanic Depot, rear of 47, Hanover Street, Boston, Mass. Also an extensive assortment of Botanic Medicines, and every thing that appertains to an establishment of the kind, very low, for cash or approved credit.

**Thomsonian Infirmary and Medicine Store.**

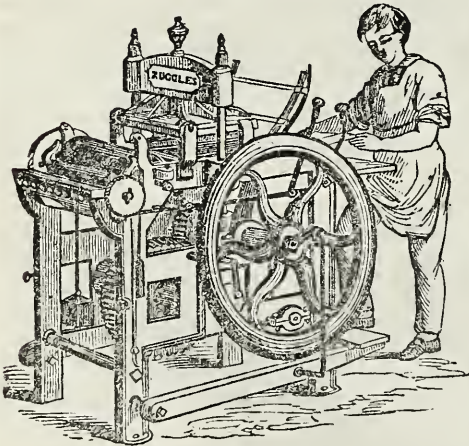
DR. WILLIAM CLARK may be consulted at his Infirmary, Nos. 80 and 82, Carver Street, BOSTON.

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Invite the attention of Druggists, Physicians, and all Dealers in Medicines, to their Establishment, where may be found a full and complete assortment, of

**Botanic Medicines, Syringes, Druggist's Glass Ware, Essential  
Oils, Extracts, Spices, and Medical Books,**

embracing all the different works upon the Reformed Practice, together with a great variety of miscellaneous articles, usually kept in such an establishment.

The above medicines are put up in their simple or compound state, pulverized or ground to meet the wants of the purchaser.

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of superior quality, for medicinal purposes only. Very especial attention is devoted to this branch of the business, in order to furnish liquors, that may be relied upon for their purity



# Worcester Medical Institution.

## COURSE OF STUDY, &c.

The course of study required by this Institution is intended to occupy three full years; and candidates for the regular degree of M. D. must have attended two full Courses of Medical Lectures in some established Medical College, one of which must have been in this Institution. They must present satisfactory testimonials of good moral character; must have a competent literary education; and must well sustain an examination in the various branches of medical study, as contained in our Course of Lectures, and in the text-books which we recommend, or equivalents.

The following are the principal authors recommended:—

*On Anatomy*—Morton, Wilson, Quain, Wistar, Paxton, and Harrison.

*On Surgery*—Pancoast, Druitt, Liston, Cooper, Velpeau, and Castle.

*On Physiology*—Carpenter, Oliver, Muller, and Dunglison.

*On Pathology*—Gross, Chomel, Gallup, and Watson.

*On Materia Medica*—Kost, Pereira, and Wood and Bache.

*On Auscultation and Percussion*—Laennec, Williams, Gerhard, Bowditch, and Watson.

*On Theory and Practice*—Watson, Mackintosh, Elliotson and Stewartson, Kost, Mattson, Howard, Worthy, Comfort, Smith, Curtis, and Thomson.

*On the Institutes of Medicine*—Gallup and Curtis.

*On Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to Women and Children*—Churchill, Eberle, Chailly, Maygrier, Velpeau, Beach, and Curtis.

*On Medical Jurisprudence*—Beck and Williams.

*On Chemistry*—Gray, Fownes, and Turner.

*On Botany*—Eaton, Bigelow, Gray, and Wood.

The following are the members of the Faculty:—

C. NEWTON, M. D., *Professor of General and Special Pathology.*

E. M. PARRITT, M. D., *Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.*

WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*

MICHAEL GABBERT, M. D., *Professor of Theory and Practice.*

G. W. MORROW, M. D., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

E. S. McCLELLAN, M. D., *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*

S. ROGERS, M. D., *Professor of Hydro-therapeutics.*

The next Course of Lectures will commence on the first Thursday in March, 1851, and continue sixteen weeks. The fee for a full Course is \$60, in advance, with a matriculation fee of \$3. Of those who have attended two full Courses at other Medical Colleges, \$10 only are required. Graduates will be charged, in addition, \$18 for a Diploma. Good board can be had for \$2,25 per week.

The text-books recommended are consulted *eclectically*;—*authoritatively*, indeed, so far as they are descriptive of actual conditions, as in Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and the like; but otherwise *with careful discrimination*,—the fundamental peculiarity of what is taught in this Institution being, that there is no necessity for employing poisons of any kind, as medicinal agents; and that the object, in exhibiting any remedy, should be to sustain and not to depress the vital powers.

Quite extensive accessions have, of late, been made to the Anatomical and Chemical Apparatus, Library, &c. The Faculty of the Institution now constitute a full and eminently able Board of Instruction; and the facilities to be enjoyed by students are, in every way, ample. Dissections, surgical operations, illustrations, and experiments, are conducted in the most advantageous and instructive manner.

As, however, it is the aim of the Trustees of this Institution to render it pre-eminent for advantages afforded, any donations in money, or preparations adapted to facilitate illustrative teaching, in any of the departments, are respectfully and earnestly solicited.

C. NEWTON, *President.*

## The New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal

Is published on the 1st of every month, by C. Newton, M. D., at the corner of Front and Carlton Streets, Worcester, Mass. Each number contains thirty-two pages octavo, besides the cover, and the numbers of one year constitute a volume. Terms,—to subscribers paying in advance, \$1,00 per year. Those delaying payment three months, will be charged \$1,25; and those delaying six months, \$1,50. As the price, in comparison to the amount of matter afforded, is exceedingly low, it is but reasonable that advance payment be insisted on, or that a fair equivalent for delay be required. The paper has received numerous testimonials of high approbation, and has now obtained an extensive circulation, not only in New England, but also in the South and the West. It is designed for DOMESTIC as well as PROFESSIONAL use, and should be in every family. All remittances and communications pertaining to it, should be directed, *post paid*, to the Editor. Any person forwarding, *post paid*, the names of four subscribers, and remitting \$4, shall receive a fifth copy gratis.

**NEW ENGLAND**

**BOTANIC**

**MEDICAL & SURGICAL**

**JOURNAL.**

**MONTHLY.**

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CALVIN NEWTON, M. D.,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
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Vol. V.

No. 6.
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**"Seize upon Truth wherever found,  
On Christian or on Heathen ground."**

—————  
**WORCESTER.**

**PRINTED BY HENRY J. HOWLAND,**

**199 Main Street, Up Stairs.**



## The Friends and Patrons of the WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION

Are hereby informed, that Prof. Parritt, our agent, being under the necessity of returning to Ohio before completing the business of his agency, will enter on the labor again in the month of February next. He has already succeeded in raising an amount sufficient to warrant the immediate erection of the College building, though further subscriptions will be required to meet the whole expense.

The numerous friends, in different places, therefore, who are disappointed in the opportunity to subscribe at present, will bear in mind, that, in February or during the spring months, they will be privileged to learn by experience the blessedness of imparting, from their abundance, to the wants of an Institution which promises to do much towards removing the woes of this fallen world. We trust, that the magnitude of the expected subscriptions will not suffer by the delay. We hope, that they will, in due time, be given, *with liberal interest.*

C. NEWTON, *President.*

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### New England Thomsonian Depot.

Messrs. WILLARD MESSER, Jr., WM. S. BANKER, and DANIEL LEE HALE, having purchased the entire stock of Drugs, Botanic Medicines, Shaker Herbs, &c., of the New England Thomsonian Depot, formerly kept by Daniel Lee Hale, but recently under the direction of Drs. Osgood and Pike, have formed a co-partnership, under the firm of

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### Receipts for the Journal.

|                       |             |                   |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Seth C. Ames,         | Dec., 1850. | Curtis R. Holmes, | Dec., 1851. |
| Jacob Wilson,         | " 1851.     | David Calkins,    | " "         |
| Alexander Batcheller, | " "         | Alva Curtis,      | " "         |
| Oliver H. Jewell,     | " "         | Aaron Ordway,     | " "         |
| Benjamin Way,         | " "         | Royal Cummings,   | " "         |
| Horace Jacobs,        | " "         |                   |             |

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## Central Medical College, Rochester, N. Y.

The next annual Course of Lectures in this Institution will commence on the first Monday in November, 1851, and continue sixteen weeks. In issuing this announcement, the Board of Trustees have the gratification of adverting to the unparalleled success of the School, during the past six courses of instruction, as affording undoubted evidence of its appreciation by the public, its permanent establishment, and future prosperity. The Faculty have received renewed assurances from that portion of the profession among whom their labors have been cast, and who have had an opportunity of judging, that their course meets their cordial approbation, and will be sustained.

Central Medical College is permanently located in the city of Rochester; which, from its central position, convenience of access, large population, wealth and morality, must be acknowledged as the most desirable location in the State. In consequence of the number of ladies who have attended during the three last terms, and at the request of others, who propose attending the next session, the Board of Trustees have established a Female Department, which is in charge of Mrs. L. N. Fowler, M. D., who, from her spirit of investigation, and scientific medical acquirements, has obtained a wide-spread and merited popularity.

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- O. DAVIS, M. D., Prof. of Obstetrics.
- S. M. DAVIS, M. D., Prof. of Principles and Practice of Physic.
- W. W. HADLEY, M. D., Prof. of Materia Medica, Therapeutics, & Pharmacy.
- A. K. EATON, A. M., M. D., Prof. of Chemistry.
- W. BEACH, M. D., Emeritus Prof. of the Principles and Practice of Medicine.
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FEES.—Aggregate cost of Professors' Tickets, \$60; Demonstrator's Fee, \$5; Matriculation Fee, \$5; Graduation Fee, \$15. Good Board can be obtained at \$2 and \$2.25 per week. Graduates of Medicine in reputable Collegess, Clergymen, and Theological Students will be admitted to the Lectures on the payment of the Matriculation Fee. Students are advised to furnish themselves with text books;—Old School works, as well as Reform publications,—all will be consulted eclectically. For further information address

WM. W. HADLEY, Dean of the Faculty, Rochester, N. Y.

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The attention of physicians is particularly invited to a trial of this article; as the proprietors pledge their sacred honour, that the article here offered, is the *Pure unadulterated* extract from one single species of the *Smilax Sarsaparilla*, taken from the root, while *green and fresh from the ground*. Let physicians use it in their practice. They will be able to satisfy both themselves and their patients of its intrinsic value as a curative agent, and confirm the testimony of many distinguished in the profession, who have already used it with great success in the most obstinate diseases.

This Sarsaparilla is put up in large bottles with the words Bush's Smilax Sarsaparilla blown in the glass;—and will be consigned to responsible dealers at Eight Dollars per dozen. **Retail price one dollar per bottle, or six bottles for five dollars.**

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### CAUTION.

The subscribers are under the necessity of cautioning the public against spurious imitations of the well known Magnetic Remedies of the late Henry Hall Sherwood, M. D. manufactured under another name, and represented to be made in the same manner as the genuine articles. The genuine remedies of Dr. Sherwood can be rightly prepared only by ourselves, from the recipe which we hold from his sole executrix, (bequeathed to her exclusively by his recorded will,) and all representations to the contrary are wholly false. They are always accompanied by Dr. Sherwood's valuable treatise on the Motive Power of the Human System, the copy-right of which is in our sole possession, duly secured according to law.

With regard to any pretended knowledge by other persons of Dr. Sherwood's Remedies, it can only deceive the credulous and unwary. Further than the general information given in his published works as to the leading articles in these remedies, Dr. Sherwood communicated nothing to others, as he assured his executrix in the strongest manner shortly before his death; and, even were it possible for any one to discover their entire ingredients, the knowledge would be wholly useless without long, minute, and elaborate instructions in the laboratory itself, and also repeated personal observation of the whole process of manufacture—the process being altogether too intricate and peculiar to be communicated in writing, and requiring the same personal experience and practice as has been alone received by ourselves.

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**Mattson's American Vegetable Practice, or Family Guide.**

SECOND EDITION, REVISED, WITH IMPOTANT ADDITIONS.

- I. Anatomy, with a Steel Engraving of the Human Skeleton, back and front view, and a number of Wood Illustrations.
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**Dr. E. J. Mattocks' Buena Vista Pills.**

*Purely Vegetable.*

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The course of study required by this Institution is intended to occupy three full years; and candidates for the regular degree of M. D. must have attended two full Courses of Medical Lectures in some established Medical College, one of which must have been in this Institution. They must present satisfactory testimonials of good moral character; must have a competent literary education; and must well sustain an examination in the various branches of medical study, as contained in our Course of Lectures, and in the text-books which we recommend, or equivalents.

The following are the principal authors recommended:—

*On Anatomy*—Morton, Wilson, Harrison, and Pancoast's Wistar.

*On Surgery*—Hill, Druitt, Liston, Castle, and Pancoast.

*On Physiology*—Carpenter and Oliver.

*On Pathology*—Chomel and Williams.

*On Materia Medica*—Kost, Pereira, and Wood and Bache.

*On Auscultation and Percussion*—Gerhard and Bowditch.

*On Theory and Practice*—Howard, Mattson, Beach, and Watson.

*On the Institutes of Medicine*—Gallup.

*On Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to Women and Children*—Beach, Churchill, Chailly, and Maygrier.

*On Medical Jurisprudence*—Beck and Dean.

*On Chemistry*—Fownes and Turner.

*On Botany*—Wood, and Eaton and Gray.

The following are the members of the Faculty:—

C. NEWTON, M. D., *Professor of General and Special Pathology.*

E. M. PARRITT, M. D., *Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.*

WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*

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G. W. MORROW, M. D., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

E. S. McCLELLAN, M. D., *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*

S. ROGERS, M. D., *Professor of Hydro-therapeutics.*

The tuition, in this Institution, for the Course of Lectures first attended, is \$60, in advance. The same is charged for the second Course. Subsequent ones are gratuitous. For students, however, who have attended two full Courses at other Medical Colleges, but none in this, the tuition is \$10, only. To graduates of other Medical Colleges, it is gratuitous. A matriculation fee of \$5 is required, in advance, of every student who has not attended a previous Course in this Institution. Graduates are charged, in addition, \$18, for a Diploma.

The next Course of Lectures will commence on the first Thursday in March, 1852, and will continue sixteen weeks. Good board can be had, during the Term, for \$2,50 per week.

The text-books recommended are consulted *eclectically*;—*authoritatively*, indeed, so far as they are descriptive of actual conditions, as in Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and the like; but otherwise *with careful discrimination*,—a peculiarity of what is taught in this Institution being, that all medication should be both innocent and sanative.

From time to time, accessions are being made to the Anatomical and Chemical Apparatus, Library, &c. The Faculty of the Institution now constitute a full and eminently able Board of Instruction; and the facilities to be enjoyed by students are, in every way, ample. Dissections, surgical operations, illustrations, and experiments, are conducted in the most advantageous and instructive manner.

As, however, it is the aim of the Trustees of this Institution to render it pre-eminent for advantages afforded, any donations in money, or preparations adapted to facilitate illustrative teaching, in any of the departments, are respectfully and earnestly solicited.

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## The New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal

Is published on the 1st of every month, by C. Newton, M. D., at the corner of Front and Carlton Streets, Worcester, Mass. Each number contains thirty-two pages octavo, besides the cover, and the numbers of one year constitute a volume. Terms,—to subscribers paying in advance, \$1,00 per year. Those delaying payment three months, will be charged \$1,25; and those delaying six months, \$1,50. As the price, in comparison to the amount of matter afforded, is exceedingly low, it is but reasonable that advance payment be insisted on, or that a fair equivalent for delay be required. The paper has received numerous testimonials of high approbation, and has now obtained an extensive circulation, not only in New England, but also in the South and the West. It is designed for DOMESTIC as well as PROFESSIONAL use, and should be in every family. All remittances and communications pertaining to it, should be directed, *post paid*, to the Editor. Any person forwarding, *post paid*, the names of four subscribers, and remitting \$4, shall receive a fifth copy gratis.

NEW ENGLAND

BOTANIC

MEDICAL & SURGICAL

JOURNAL.

MONTHLY.

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CALVIN NEWTON, M. D.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
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Vol. V.

No. 7.
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"Seize upon Truth wherever found,  
On Christian or on Heathen ground."

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WORCESTER.
PRINTED BY HENRY J. HOWLAND,
199 Main Street, Up Stairs.

The Friends and Patrons of the WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTE

Are hereby informed, that Prof. Parritt, our agent, being under the necessity of returning to Ohio before completing the business of his agency, will enter on the labor again in the month of February next. He has already succeeded in raising an amount sufficient to warrant the immediate erection of the College building, though further subscriptions will be required to meet the whole expense.

The numerous friends, in different places, therefore, who are disappointed in the opportunity to subscribe at present, will bear in mind, that, in February or during the spring months, they will be privileged to learn by experience the blessedness of imparting, from their abundance, to the wants of an Institution which promises to do much towards removing the woes of this fallen world. We trust, that the magnitude of the expected subscriptions will not suffer by the delay. We hope, that they will, in due time, be given, *with liberal interest.*

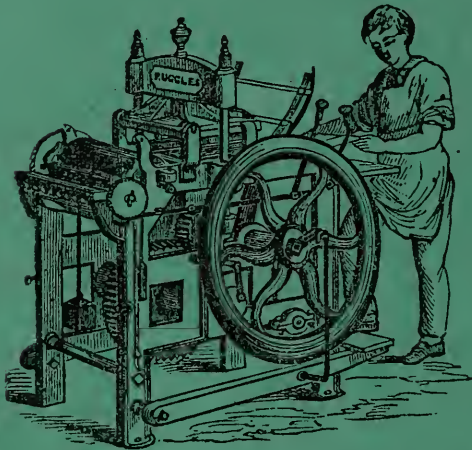
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The next annual Course of Lectures in this Institution will commence on the first Monday in November, 1851, and continue sixteen weeks. In issuing this announcement, the Board of Trustees have the gratification of adverting to the unparalleled success of the School, during the past six courses of instruction, as affording undoubted evidence of its appreciation by the public, its permanent establishment, and future prosperity. The Faculty have received renewed assurances from that portion of the profession among whom their labors have been cast, and who have had an opportunity of judging, that their course meets their cordial approbation, and will be sustained.

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Oils, Extracts, Spices, and Medical Books,

embracing all the different works upon the Reformed Practice, together with a great variety of miscellaneous articles, usually kept in such an establishment.

The above medicines are put up in their simple or compound state, pulverized or ground to meet the wants of the purchaser.

PERSONAL AND PARTICULAR ATTENTION,

is devoted to the manufacture and preparation of all their Medicines. The process is carried on, under their own immediate observation; and is such as to insure, to the purchaser, their full medicinal properties.

BRANDY, WINES, AND OTHER LIQUORS,

of superior quality, for medicinal purposes only. Very especial attention is devoted to this branch of the business, in order to furnish liquors, that may be relied upon for their purity

Worcester Medical Institution.

COURSE OF STUDY, &c.

The course of study required by this Institution is intended to occupy three full years; and candidates for the regular degree of M. D. must have attended two full Courses of Medical Lectures in some established Medical College, one of which must have been in this Institution. They must present satisfactory testimonials of good moral character; must have a competent literary education; and must well sustain an examination in the various branches of medical study, as contained in our Course of Lectures, and in the text-books which we recommend, or equivalents.

The following are the principal authors recommended:—

- On Anatomy*—Morton, Wilson, Harrison, and Pancoast's *Wistar*.
- On Surgery*—Hill, Druitt, Liston, Castle, and Pancoast.
- On Physiology*—Carpenter and Oliver.
- On Pathology*—Chomel and Williams.
- On Materia Medica*—Kost, Pereira, and Wood and Bache.
- On Auscultation and Percussion*—Gerhard and Bowditch.
- On Theory and Practice*—Howard, Mattson, Beach, and Watson.
- On the Institutes of Medicine*—Gallup.
- On Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to Women and Children*—Beach, Churchill, Chailly, and Maygrier.
- On Medical Jurisprudence*—Beck and Dean.
- On Chemistry*—Fownes and Turner.
- On Botany*—Wood, and Eaton and Gray.

The following are the members of the Faculty:—

- C. NEWTON, M. D., *Professor of General and Special Pathology.*
- E. M. PARRITT, M. D., *Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.*
- WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*
- MICHAEL GABBERT, M. D., *Professor of Theory and Practice.*
- G. W. MORROW, M. D., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*
- E. S. McCLELLAN, M. D., *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*
- S. ROGERS, M. D., *Professor of Hydro-therapeutics.*

The tuition, in this Institution, for the Course of Lectures first attended, is \$60, in advance. The same is charged for the second Course. Subsequent ones are gratuitous. For students, however, who have attended two full Courses at other Medical Colleges, but none in this, the tuition is \$10, only. To graduates of other Medical Colleges, it is gratuitous. A matriculation fee of \$5 is required, in advance, of every student who has not attended a previous Course in this Institution. Graduates are charged, in addition, \$18, for a Diploma.

The next Course of Lectures will commence on the first Thursday in March, 1852, and will continue sixteen weeks. Good board can be had, during the Term, for \$2,50 per week.

The text-books recommended are consulted *eclectically*;—*authoritatively*, indeed, so far as they are descriptive of actual conditions, as in Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and the like; but otherwise *with careful discrimination*,—a peculiarity of what is taught in this Institution being, that all medication should be both innocent and sanative.

From time to time, accessions are being made to the Anatomical and Chemical Apparatus, Library, &c. The Faculty of the Institution now constitute a full and eminently able Board of Instruction; and the facilities to be enjoyed by students are, in every way, ample. Dissections, surgical operations, illustrations, and experiments, are conducted in the most advantageous and instructive manner.

As, however, it is the aim of the Trustees of this Institution to render it pre-eminent for advantages afforded, any donations in money, or preparations adapted to facilitate illustrative teaching, in any of the departments, are respectfully and earnestly solicited.

C. NEWTON, *President.*

The New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal

Is published on the 1st of every month, by C. Newton, M. D., at the corner of Front and Carlton Streets, Worcester, Mass. Each number contains thirty-two pages octavo, besides the cover, and the numbers of one year constitute a volume. Terms,—to subscribers paying in advance, \$1,00 per year. Those delaying payment three months, will be charged \$1,25; and those delaying six months, \$1,50. As the price, in comparison to the amount of matter afforded, is exceedingly low, it is but reasonable that advance payment be insisted on, or that a fair equivalent for delay be required. The paper has received numerous testimonials of high approbation, and has now obtained an extensive circulation, not only in New England, but also in the South and the West. It is designed for DOMESTIC as well as PROFESSIONAL use, and should be in every family. All remittances and communications pertaining to it, should be directed, *post paid*, to the Editor. Any person forwarding, *post paid*, the names of four subscribers, and remitting \$4, shall receive a fifth copy gratis.

NEW ENGLAND

BOTANIC

MEDICAL & SURGICAL

JOURNAL.

MONTHLY.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Vol. V.

No. 8.

"Seize upon Truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground."

WORCESTER.
PRINTED BY HENRY J. HOWLAND,
199 Main Street, Up Stairs.

ECLECTIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Located in Philadelphia.

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THOMAS COOKE M. D., Dean.
No. 31, North Sixth Street, Philadelphia.

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In one of the finest and most flourishing villages in New England, where the practice is permanently established, and a good business will be at once secured.

✉ Enquire at this office.

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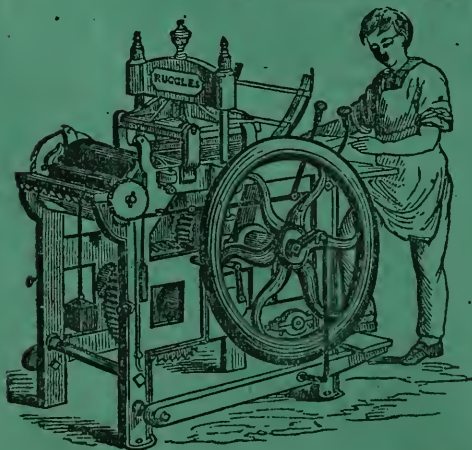
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C. NEWTON, *President*.

Thomsonian Infirmary and Medicine Store.

DR. WILLIAM CLARK may be consulted at his Infirmary, Nos. 80 and 82, Carver Street, BOSTON.

HENRY J. HOWLAND, 199 Main Street, (2d Story,) Worcester, CONTINUES TO DO ALL KINDS OF



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in the best manner, at short notice, and
at very low prices, for **Cash**,

SUCH AS

Business, Visiting and Wedding
CARDS,

Billets, Invitations, Circulars, Bill
Heads, Handbills, Labels of all kinds,
Concert Bills and Programmes, Shop
Bills, Railroad Orders and Receipts,
Blank Checks, Notes, Deeds, War-
rants, Tax Bills, &c. &c.

BOOKS and PAMPHLETS, large or small.

Also, Bank, Insurance and Railroad Printing, all kinds.

Receipts for the Journal

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| Augustus Banning, | Dec. 1851. | John Kost, | Dec. 1851. |
| J. C. Knapp, | “ “ | S. Thompson Jr., | “ “ |
| Moses Bixby, | “ “ | W. A. Fisher, | “ “ |
| O. B. Scott, | “ “ | W. H. Carter, | “ “ |
| Virginia D. Hodges, | “ “ | Reuben Barron, | “ “ |

C. Newton, M. D. & F. H. Kelley, M. D.,

Having effected a co partnership in business, will, from this date, prosecute the practice of

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Under the firm of

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It is due to Dr. Kelley to say, that he has enjoyed the most ample facilities for thoroughly acquainting himself with both the Old and the New System of practice,—for learning the imperfections of the one, and the superiority of the other. To him more especially will be committed the department of Surgery, as his opportunities to qualify himself for this branch have been pre-eminently; and his experience and skill, as an operator, entitle him to more than ordinary favor.

☞ Tumors, Hydrocele, Fistulæ, Herniæ, Diseases of the Eye and Ear, &c., will be scientifically and successfully treated.

Worcester, June 19, 1851.

Central Medical College, Rochester, N. Y.

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Central Medical College is permanently located in the city of Rochester; which, from its central position, convenience of access, large population, wealth and morality, must be acknowledged as the most desirable location in the State. In consequence of the number of ladies who have attended during the three last terms, and at the request of others, who propose attending the next session, the Board of Trustees have established a Female Department, which is in charge of Mrs. L. N. Fowler, M. D., who, from her spirit of investigation, and scientific medical acquirements, has obtained a wide-spread and merited popularity.

FACULTY.

- L. C. BOLLEY, M. D., Prof. of General, Descriptive, & Surgical Anatomy.
- LEVI REUBEN, M. D., Prof. of Physiology, Pathology, & Forensic Medicine.
- O. DAVIS, M. D., Prof. of Obstetrics.
- S. M. DAVIS, M. D., Prof. of Principles and Practice of Physic
- W. W. HADLEY, M. D., Prof. of Materia Medica, Therapeutics, & Pharmacy.
- A. K. EATON, A. M., M. D., Prof. of Chemistry.
- W. BEACH, M. D., Emeritus Prof. of the Principles and Practice of Medicine.
- J. H. TILDEN, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.
- LORENZO N. JONES, Janitor.

FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

MRS. L. N. FOWLER, M. D., Prof. of Midwifery and diseases of women and children.

FEES—Aggregate cost of Professors' Tickets, \$60; Demonstrator's Fee, \$5; Matriculation Fee, \$5; Graduation Fee, \$15. Good Board can be obtained at \$2 and \$2.25 per week. Graduates of Medicine in reputable Colleges, Clergymen, and Theological Students will be admitted to the Lectures on the payment of the Matriculation Fee. Students are advised to furnish themselves with text books;—Old School works, as well as Reform publications,—all will be consulted eclectically. For further information address

WM. W. HADLEY, Dean of the Faculty, Rochester, N. Y.

ATKINSON'S COMPOUND EXTRACT OF ROOTS, *For Making Root Beer.*

By following the directions, this article may be formed into a most healthful and pleasant beverage, that will more fully quench thirst, without producing a deleterious effect, than any other article in use. It acts as a PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD and the other Fluids of the Human System; and instead of giving a momentary excitement, it imparts a gentle stimulant power to the whole body. As a substitute for spirituous or malt liquors, mineral waters, or even coffee and tea, its virtues are truly astonishing, and well worthy of the high praises that have been bestowed on it by all who have given it a fair trial. It is particularly useful in all Scorbutic Affections, Diseases of the Skin, &c.

Sold Wholesale and Retail at
DR. A. ATKINSON'S BOTANIC LABORATORY AND MEDICINE STORE,
No. 216 GREENWICH ST. BETWEEN BARCLAY & ROBINSON STS.,
New York City.

Laboratory of Thomsonian Botanic Medicine, *No. 20, South Calvert St....BALTIMORE.*

THE first mill erected in the United States for the special purpose of preparing Thomsonian Botanic Medicines.

The subscriber has the largest and most complete assortment of Botanic Medicines in the United States, comprising all the various Compounds and other articles recommended by Dr. S. Thomson, besides an extensive variety of other approved Botanic Medicines. Having erected his Steam Mills expressly for the above Medicines, he is enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrants his Medicines to be genuine and pure, prepared in the best manner, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities, as he does not admit any thing of that nature about his establishment.

An experience of more than twenty years, in the practice, preparation, and compounding of Botanic Medicines, from the very best and purest materials in the market, has afforded him just grounds to flatter himself, that his Medicines, after a fair trial, will compete with any which may be offered to the friends of the Botanic cause, within the whole range of our country.

☞ It is of great importance, that Practitioners, and others, using Botanic Medicines, should be apprised, that all the articles manufactured at his establishment are *pulverized,—not ground,—*between an upper and nether mill-stone; as the latter process heats, and consequently injures, if it does not destroy the medical virtues of all articles submitted to such an operation.

On hand all the various Medical Works on the Botanic System, together with a general assortment of Glass Ware, Syringes, and all the articles connected with the business. Those wishing pure Medicines can be supplied on the most reasonable terms by

EPH'M. LARRABEE.

May, 1847.

Dr. Skinner's Clarified Oil of Cod-Fish Liver,

For the cure of Consumption, Scrofula, Rheumatism, &c. The medicinal virtues of this valuable Oil are truly one of the greatest discoveries of the age. Consumption and Scrofula will yield to its influence in nine cases out of every ten.

Sold by Dr. S. at his office, 60 1-2 Cornhill (up stairs) Boston, wholesale and retail. Large bottles 75 cents—small ones 37 1-2 cents. Descriptive pamphlets and cases of cures, in this city and in the country, to be had gratis at this office. The Oil is recommended and approved by most of the physicians of Boston.

Druggists and the Profession supplied at the usual discount.

J. Jackson, M. D., Botanic Physician, *No. 102, Court Street...BOSTON.*

House No. 42, Poplar Street. Calls in the city and country attended to.

☞ Botanic Medicines, wholesale and retail.

Bush's Smilax or Spanish Sarsaparilla.

Extracted from the Green Root.

Whence are the occasional failures of Sarsaparilla? The present popularity of this in valuable medicine makes the above a frequent question; and it may not be improper to state, in this card, the most common causes of disappointment in the use of the medicine. *First*, there are only a few species of Sarsaparilla that contain the *peculiar* virtues, and it is well known, that many varieties are found in market, and are used by manufacturers. *Secondly*, the virtues of Sarsaparilla are exceedingly volatile, and are soon impaired by age; while but very little discrimination is generally made in its selection. *Thirdly*, the virtues are extremely liable to be impaired and even entirely lost by the preparation of the syrup or extract.

The proprietors of this preparation are happy now to offer, to the afflicted public, an article in which all the causes of failure have been studiously avoided; and they cannot fail to maintain the credit of this incomparably valuable medicine. The recent discovery of the true Smilax Sarsaparilla in the south, by Prof. I. M. Comings, has put us in possession of the genuine root in a fresh state; and a new method of preparation, discovered by the proprietors, enables them to offer to the purchaser a superior article of extract of Sarsaparilla.

The attention of physicians is particularly invited to a trial of this article; as the proprietors pledge their sacred honour, that the article here offered, is the *Pure unadulterated* extract from one single species of the *Smilax Sarsaparilla*, taken from the root, while *green and fresh from the ground*. Let physicians use it in their practice. They will be able to satisfy both themselves and their patients of its intrinsic value as a curative agent, and confirm the testimony of many distinguished in the profession, who have already used it with great success in the most obstinate diseases.

This Sarsaparilla is put up in large bottles with the words Bush's Smilax Sarsaparilla blown in the glass;—and will be consigned to responsible dealers at Eight Dollars per dozen. **Retail price one dollar per bottle, or six bottles for five dollars.**

Prepared and sold by BUSH & CO., Worcester, Mass.;

and sold by C. Newton, M. D., corner of Front and Carlton Sts., and by Comings and Nichols, Pleasant St., Worcester, Mass. **All orders punctually attended to.**

JOB T. DICKENS, M. D.,

Thomsonian Botanic Physician & Surgeon.

BOTANIC MEDICINES WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Residence, No. 8, Pleasant Street,

Newburyport, Mass.

Magnetic Remedies of Dr. H. H. Sherwood.

CAUTION.

The subscribers are under the necessity of cautioning the public against spurious imitations of the well known Magnetic Remedies of the late Henry Hall Sherwood, M. D. manufactured under another name, and represented to be made in the same manner as the genuine articles. The genuine remedies of Dr. Sherwood can be rightly prepared only by ourselves, from the receipt which we hold from his sole executrix, (bequeathed to her exclusively by his recorded will,) and all representations to the contrary are wholly false. They are always accompanied by Dr. Sherwood's valuable treatise on the Motive Power of the Human System, the copy-right of which is in our sole possession, duly secured according to law.

With regard to any pretended knowledge by other persons of Dr. Sherwood's Remedies, it can only deceive the credulous and unwary. Further than the general information given in his published works as to the leading articles in these remedies, Dr. Sherwood communicated nothing to others, as he assured his executrix in the strongest manner shortly before his death; and, even were it possible for any one to discover their entire ingredients, the knowledge would be wholly useless without long, minute, and elaborate instructions in the laboratory itself, and also repeated personal observation of the whole process of manufacture—the process being altogether too intricate and peculiar to be communicated in writing, and requiring the same personal experience and practice as has been alone received by ourselves.

These remedies are more successful in the cure of Chronic Diseases than any others known to the Medical profession. All communications should be addressed to

H. H. SHERWOOD'S Successors, 102 Chambers st. New York.

AGENCY.

Mr. O. B. SCOTT, of Pierrepont Manor, N. Y., is an accredited agent for the New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal, to receive subscriptions and monies in our behalf. [Ed. Jour.]

NOTICE.

Mattson's American Vegetable Practice, or Family Guide.

SECOND EDITION, REVISED, WITH IMPOTANT ADDITIONS.

- I. Anatomy, with a Steel Engraving of the Human Skeleton, back and front view, and a number of Wood Illustrations.
- II. The Old School Practice.
- III. Vegetable Materia Medica, with twenty-four beautifully colored Illustrations.
- IV. Compounds.
- V. Description of Diseases, Treatment, &c.
- VI. Guide for Women, or Simplified Treatise of Child Birth; Description of Diseases of Females and Infants, &c.

It is generally conceded, that there is no better Botanic Work than this for families. Every Botanic Physician also should have a copy of it in his library. It has received great favor in England, and is publicly announced there, by some of the educated and prominent Physicians, as their Guide of Practice.

For sale by **WILLIAM JOHNSON,**
the Publisher and Proprietor, at the New England Botanic Depot, rear of 47, Hanover Street, Boston, Mass. Also an extensive assortment of Botanic Medicines, and every thing that appertains to an establishment of the kind, very low, for cash or approved credit.

Dr. E. J. Mattocks' Buena Vista Pills.

Purely Vegetable.

In offering this medicine to the public, we introduce the most mild, easy, and certain cathartic ever known; not the least griping or drastic effects attending their operation. We do not pretend to cure every form of disease with these pills, neither do we expect to raise the dead, or kill the living; but we do know that these pills will cure diseases of the liver, in any form; such as acute or chronic inflammation, jaundice in its worst stages, dyspepsia, constipated bowels, headache, heartburn, flatulency, and in fevers they are the only medicine needed. They will break the most malignant type; if taken in its first stage, according to the directions accompanying each box: they will also remove all female obstructions immediately; and in rheumatism and gout they are an infalible remedy if persevered in. In all affections of the kidneys and urinary organs, we can recommend them as a perfectly safe and efficacious remedy—gravel, chronic inflammation of the kidneys, or bladder stricture can be cured in a short time with these pills. As a general cathartic, they are the best ever offered to the public, because they strengthen the bowels and leave the system in a healthy state, operating without the least griping or pain.

Manufactured and sold at wholesale and retail, by the proprietor, Dr. E. J. MATTOCKS, at his Medical Dispensary, No. 24 Fifth Street, Troy, N. Y., and sold by agents throughout the United States.

CONCENTRATED MEDICINES.

For sale, at the lowest cash prices, the various new preparations which I have been engaged in manufacturing and introducing to the profession;—among which are

Podophyllin, Leptandrin, Macrotrin, Iridin,
Sanguinarin, Myricin, Xanthoxylin, Ptelein, Cypripedin, Fluid
Ext. of Lobelia Seed, &c.,

At his office of C NEWTON, M. D., Worcester, Mass

E. S. McGUIRAN.

WANTED,

By the Editor, *fifty copies* of the first volume of the N. E. Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal. For every *complete* copy of this volume, forwarded to us and not badly defaced, we will pay fifty cents.

As the list of subscribers to the Journal has materially changed since its first issue, and as this volume was taken by many who did not choose longer to continue their subscriptions, we hope that our friends will be able to supply for us the want above indicated. Some effort, on their part, to do so will be a favor thankfully received. [Ed. Jour.]

Concentrated Medicines.

The subscribers have just received from Cincinnatti a variety of

CONCENTRATED MEDICINES.

PRICE, ONE DOLLAR PER OUNCE.

Orders by mail, or otherwise, promptly filled.

B. O. & G. C. WILSON.

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No. 18, Central Street, Seven Doors from Kilby Street,
BOSTON, MASS.

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Invite the attention of Druggists, Physicians, and all Dealers in Medicines, to their Establishment, where may be found a full and complete assortment, of

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ECLECTIC MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

**Chartered in 1845, Total No. of Matriculants
from 1845 to 1851, 1054.**

The Seventh Winter Session of this College will commence on the first Monday of November, 1851, and continue four months. The Chairs of the Faculty will be arranged as follows:

- I. G. JONES, M. D., *Prof. of Theory and Practice of Medicine.*
R. S. NEWTON, M. D., *Prof. of Surgery.*
B. L. HILL, M. D., *Prof. of Obstetrics and "Diseases of Women and Children."*
Z. FREEMAN, M. D., *Prof. of Special, Surgical and Pathological Anatomy.*
J. R. BUCHANAN, M. D., *Prof. of Physiology and Institutes of Medicine.*
L. E. JONES, M. D., *Prof. of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Medical Botany.*
J. MILTON SANDERS, M. D., *Prof. of Chemistry, Pharmacy and Toxicology.*
O. E. NEWTON M. D., *Demonstrator of Anatomy, and Surgical Prosector.*

A gratuitous preliminary Course of Lectures will commence on the second Monday of October. At the same time the Demonstrator's rooms will be opened, with every facility for the study of Anatomy.

TERMS. Tickets to a full Course of Lectures (until graduation,) \$100 in advance, or a well-endorsed note for \$125. To a single Course of Lectures, \$60 in advance, or a well-endorsed note for \$70. Matriculation ticket, \$5—Graduation, \$15—Demonstrator's ticket, \$5. It is recommended that Students (especially candidates for graduation) attend the session at an early period, as a full and regular attendance on the Lectures will be expected. Anatomical material can be had in abundance, and furnished at rates sufficiently reasonable to guarantee a full supply for every student. Board costs from \$2, to \$2,50 per week. Students sometimes board themselves for much less. Students, upon their arrival in the city, will call at the office of PROF. R. S. NEWTON, on Seventh street, between Vine and Race. For further particulars, address Dr. R. S. NEWTON, or
JOS. R. BUCHANAN, M. D., *Dean.*

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G. NEWTON, *President.*

Receipts for the Journal.

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| J. W. Johnson, | Dec., 1851. | O. G. Fisher, | Dec., 1851. |
| M. Brockway, | “ “ | Luther Becher, | “ “ |
| Henry G. Knowles, | “ “ | Orin Belcher, | “ “ |
| Henry D Langworthy, | “ “ | Edward C. Wilder, | “ “ |
| H. F. Gardner, | “ “ | L. B. Hoag, | July, 1852. |

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Under the firm of

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- J. H. TILDEN, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.
- LORENZO N. JONES, Janitor.

FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

MRS. L. N. FOWLER, M. D., Prof. of Midwifery and diseases of women and children

FEES — Aggregate cost of Professors' Tickets, \$60; Demonstrator's Fee, \$5; Matriculation Fee, \$5; Graduation Fee, \$15. Good Board can be obtained at \$2 and \$2.25 per week. Graduates of Medicine in reputable Colleges, Clergymen, and Theological Students will be admitted to the Lectures on the payment of the Matriculation Fee. Students are advised to furnish themselves with text books;—Old School works, as well as Reform publications,—all will be consulted electrically. For further information address

WM. W. HADLEY, Dean of the Faculty, Rochester, N. Y.

ATKINSON'S COMPOUND EXTRACT OF ROOTS, *For Making Root Beer.*

By following the directions, this article may be formed into a most healthful and pleasant beverage, that will more fully quench thirst, without producing a deleterious effect, than any other article in use. It acts as a PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD and the other Fluids of the Human System; and instead of giving a momentary excitement, it imparts a gentle stimulant power to the whole body. As a substitute for spirituous or malt liquors, mineral waters, or even coffee and tea, its virtues are truly astonishing, and well worthy of the high praises that have been bestowed on it by all who have given it a fair trial. It is particularly useful in all Scorbatic Affections, Diseases of the Skin, &c.

Sold Wholesale and Retail at
DR. A. ATKINSON'S BOTANIC LABORATORY AND MEDICINE STORE,
No. 216 GREENWICH ST. BETWEEN BARCLAY & ROBINSON STS.,
New York City.

Laboratory of Thomsonian Botanic Medicine, *No. 20, South Calvert St....BALTIMORE.*

THE first mill erected in the United States for the special purpose of preparing Thomsonian Botanic Medicines.

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An experience of more than twenty years, in the practice, preparation, and compounding of Botanic Medicines, from the very best and purest materials in the market, has afforded him just grounds to flatter himself, that his Medicines, after a fair trial, will compete with any which may be offered to the friends of the Botanic cause, within the whole range of our country.

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On hand all the various Medical Works on the Botanic System, together with a general assortment of Glass Ware, Syringes, and all the articles connected with the business. Those wishing pure Medicines can be supplied on the most reasonable terms by

EPH'M. LARRABEE.

May, 1847.

Dr. Skinner's Clarified Oil of Cod-Fish Liver,

For the cure of Consumption, Scrofula, Rheumatism, &c. The medicinal virtues of this valuable Oil are truly one of the greatest discoveries of the age. Consumption and Scrofula will yield to its influence in nine cases out of every ten.

Sold by Dr. S. at his office, 60 1-2 Cornhill (up stairs) Boston, wholesale and retail. Large bottles 75 cents—small ones 37 1-2 cents. Descriptive pamphlets and cases of cures, in this city and in the country, to be had gratis at this office. The Oil is recommended and approved by most of the physicians of Boston.

Druggists and the Profession supplied at the usual discount.

J. Jackson, M. D., Botanic Physician, *No. 102, Court Street....BOSTON.*

House No. 42, Poplar Street. Calls in the city and country attended to.

Botanic Medicines, wholesale and retail.

Bush's Smilax or Spanish Sarsaparilla.

Extracted from the Green Root.

Whence are the occasional failures of Sarsaparilla? The present popularity of this in valuable medicine makes the above a frequent question; and it may not be improper to state, in this card, the most common causes of disappointment in the use of the medicine. *First*, there are only a few species of Sarsaparilla that contain the *peculiar* virtues, and it is well known, that many varieties are found in market, and are used by manufacturers. *Secondly*, the virtues of Sarsaparilla are exceedingly volatile, and are soon impaired by age; while but very little discrimination is generally made in its selection. *Thirdly*, the virtues are extremely liable to be impaired and even entirely lost by the preparation of the syrup or extract.

The proprietors of this preparation are happy now to offer, to the afflicted public, an article in which all the causes of failure have been studiously avoided; and they cannot fail to maintain the credit of this incomparably valuable medicine. The recent discovery of the true Smilax Sarsaparilla in the south, by Prof. L. M. Comings, has put us in possession of the genuine root in a fresh state; and a new method of preparation, discovered by the proprietors, enables them to offer to the purchaser a superior article of extract of Sarsaparilla.

The attention of physicians is particularly invited to a trial of this article; as the proprietors pledge their sacred honour, that the article here offered, is the *Pure unadulterated* extract from one single species of the *Smilax Sarsaparilla*, taken from the root, while *green and fresh from the ground*. Let physicians use it in their practice. They will be able to satisfy both themselves and their patients of its intrinsic value as a curative agent, and confirm the testimony of many distinguished in the profession, who have already used it with great success in the most obstinate diseases.

This Sarsaparilla is put up in large bottles with the words Bush's Smilax Sarsaparilla blown in the glass:—and will be consigned to responsible dealers at Eight Dollars per dozen. **Retail price one dollar per bottle, or six bottles for five dollars.**

Prepared and sold by BUSH & CO., Worcester, Mass.;

and sold by C. Newton, M. D., corner of Front and Carlton Sts., and by Comings and Nichols, Pleasant St., Worcester, Mass. **All orders punctually attended to.**

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Thomsonian Botanic Physician & Surgeon.

BOTANIC MEDICINES WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Residence, No. 8, Pleasant Street,

Newburyport, Mass.

Magnetic Remedies of Dr. H. H. Sherwood.

CAUTION.

The subscribers are under the necessity of cautioning the public against spurious imitations of the well known Magnetic Remedies of the late Henry Hall Sherwood, M. D. manufactured under another name, and represented to be made in the same manner as the genuine articles. The genuine remedies of Dr. Sherwood can be rightly prepared only by ourselves, from the receipt which we hold from his sole executrix, (bequeathed to her exclusively by his recorded will,) and all representations to the contrary are wholly false. They are always accompanied by Dr. Sherwood's valuable treatise on the Motive Power of the Human System, the copy-right of which is in our sole possession, duly secured according to law.

With regard to any pretended knowledge by other persons of Dr. Sherwood's Remedies, it can only deceive the credulous and unwary. Further than the general information given in his published works as to the leading articles in these remedies, Dr. Sherwood communicated nothing to others, as he assured his executrix in the strongest manner shortly before his death; and, even were it possible for any one to discover their entire ingredients, the knowledge would be wholly useless without long, minute, and elaborate instructions in the laboratory itself, and also repeated personal observation of the whole process of manufacture—the process being altogether too intricate and peculiar to be communicated in writing, and requiring the same personal experience and practice as has been alone received by ourselves.

These remedies are more successful in the cure of Chronic Diseases than any others known to the Medical profession. All communications should be addressed to

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AGENCY.

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Mattson's American Vegetable Practice, or Family Guide.

SECOND EDITION, REVISED, WITH IMPOTANT ADDITIONS.

- I. Anatomy, with a Steel Engraving of the Human Skeleton, back and front view, and a number of Wood Illustrations.
- II. The Old School Practice.
- III. Vegetable Materia Medica, with twenty-four beautifully colored Illustrations.
- IV. Compounds.
- V. Description of Diseases, Treatment, &c.
- VI. Guide for Women, or Simplified Treatise of Child Birth; Description of Diseases of Females and Infants, &c.

It is generally conceded, that there is no better Botanic Work than this for families. Every Botanic Physician also should have a copy of it in his library. It has received great favor in England, and is publicly announced there, by some of the educated and prominent Physicians, as their Guide of Practice.

For sale by **WILLIAM JOHNSON**,
the Publisher and Proprietor, at the New England Botanic Depot, rear of 47, Hanover Street, Boston, Mass. Also an extensive assortment of Botanic Medicines, and every thing that appertains to an establishment of the kind, very low, for cash or approved credit.

Dr. E. J. Mattocks' Buena Vista Pills.*Purely Vegetable.*

In offering this medicine to the public, we introduce the most mild, easy, and certain cathartic ever known; not the least griping or drastic effects attending their operation. We do not pretend to cure every form of disease with these pills, neither do we expect to raise the dead, or kill the living; but we do know that these pills will cure diseases of the liver, in any form; such as acute or chronic inflammation, jaundice in its worst stages, dyspepsia, constipated bowels, headache, heartburn, flatulency, and in fevers they are the only medicine needed. They will break the most malignant type, if taken in its first stage, according to the directions accompanying each box: they will also remove all female obstructions immediately; and in rheumatism and gout they are an infalible remedy if persevered in. In all affections of the kidneys and urinary organs, we can recommend them as a perfectly safe and efficacious remedy—gravel, chronic inflammation of the kidneys, or bladder stricture can be cured in a short time with these pills. As a general cathartic, they are the best ever offered to the public, because they strengthen the bowels and leave the system in a healthy state, operating without the least griping or pain.

Manufactured and sold at wholesale and retail, by the proprietor, Dr. E. J. MATTOCKS, at his Medical Dispensary, No. 24 Fifth Street, Troy, N. Y., and sold by agents throughout the United States

CONCENTRATED MEDICINES.

For sale, at the lowest cash prices, the various new preparations which I have been engaged in manufacturing and introducing to the profession;—among which are

Podophyllin, Leptandrin, Macrotrin, Iridin,
Sanguinarin, Myricin, Xanthoxylin, Ptelein, Cypripedin, Fluid
Ext. of Lobelia Seed, &c.,

At his office of C NEWTON, M D., Worcester, Mass

E. S. McCLELLAN.

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Concentrated Medicines.

The subscribers have just received from Cincinnatti a variety of

CONCENTRATED MEDICINES,

PRICE, ONE DOLLAR PER OUNCE.

Orders by mail, or otherwise, promptly filled.

B. O. & G. C. WILSON.

No. 18, Central Street, Boston.

BOTANIC AND THOMSONIAN LABORATORY,

No. 18, Central Street, Seven Doors from Kilby Street,
BOSTON, MASS.

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B. O. & G. C. WILSON,

Invite the attention of Druggists, Physicians, and all Dealers in Medicines, to their Establishment, where may be found a full and complete assortment, of

**Botanic Medicines, Syringes, Druggist's Glass Ware, Essential
Oils, Extracts, Spices, and Medical Books,**

embracing all the different works upon the Reformed Practice, together with a great variety of miscellaneous articles, usually kept in such an establishment.

The above medicines are put up in their simple or compound state, pulverized or ground to meet the wants of the purchaser.

PERSONAL AND PARTICULAR ATTENTION

is devoted to the manufacture and preparation of all their Medicines. The process is carried on, under their own immediate observation; and is such as to insure, to the purchaser, their full medicinal properties.

BRANDY, WINES, AND OTHER LIQUORS,

of superior quality, for medicinal purposes only. Very especial attention is devoted to this branch of the business, in order to furnish liquors, that may be relied upon for their purity

Thomsonian Infirmary and Medicine Store.

DR. WILLIAM CLARK may be consulted at his Infirmary, Nos. 80 and 82,
Carver Street, BOSTON.

ECLECTIC MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

Chartered in 1845, Total No. of Matriculants
from 1845 to 1851, 1054.

The Seventh Winter Session of this College will commence on the first Monday of November, 1851, and continue four months. The Chairs of the Faculty will be arranged as follows:

- I. G. JONES, M. D., *Prof. of Theory and Practice of Medicine.*
R. S. NEWTON, M. D., *Prof. of Surgery.*
B. L. HILL, M. D., *Prof. of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children.*
Z. FREEMAN, M. D., *Prof. of Special, Surgical and Pathological Anatomy.*
J. R. BUCHANAN, M. D., *Prof. of Physiology and Institutes of Medicine.*
L. E. JONES, M. D., *Prof. of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Medical Botany.*
J. MILTON SANDERS, M. D., *Prof. of Chemistry, Pharmacy and Toxicology.*
O. E. NEWTON M. D., *Demonstrator of Anatomy, and Surgical Prosector.*

A gratuitous preliminary Course of Lectures will commence on the second Monday of October. At the same time the Demonstrator's rooms will be opened, with every facility for the study of Anatomy.

TERMS. Tickets to a full Course of Lectures (until graduation,) \$100 in advance, or a well-endorsed note for \$125. To a single Course of Lectures, \$60 in advance, or a well-endorsed note for \$70. Matriculation ticket, \$5—Graduation, \$15—Demonstrator's ticket, \$5. It is recommended that Students (especially candidates for graduation) attend the session at an early period, as a full and regular attendance on the Lectures will be expected. Anatomical material can be had in abundance, and furnished at rates sufficiently reasonable to guarantee a full supply for every student. Board costs from \$2, to \$2,50 per week. Students sometimes board themselves for much less. Students, upon their arrival in the city, will call at the office of PROF. R. S. NEWTON, on Seventh street, between Vine and Race. For further particulars, address Dr. R. S. NEWTON, or

JOS. R. BUCHANAN, M. D., *Dean.*

ECLECTIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Located in Philadelphia.

The first Annual Course of Lectures of this Institution, will commence, under the most favorable auspices, on the 27th of October next. All students in medicine, who may prefer *Philadelphia* for a *thorough Course of Eclectic or Reformed Medical Instruction*, are respectfully invited to correspond with the Dean of the Faculty, (post paid,) for any information they may desire on the subject.

THOMAS COOKE M. D., *Dean.*

No. 31, North Sixth Street, Philadelphia.

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BOTANIC PHYSICIAN WANTED.

In one of the finest and most flourishing villages in New England, where the practice is permanently established, and a good business will be at once secured.

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C. Newton, M. D. & F. H. Kelley, M. D.,

Having effected a co-partnership in business, will, from this date, prosecute the practice of

MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

Under the firm of

NEWTON & KELLEY.

The increasing professional duties devolving on Dr. Newton have rendered it imperative on him to engage a partner in business; and he has accordingly associated with himself one eminently qualified to disseminate the principles of the liberal school of medicine.

It is due to Dr. Kelley to say, that he has enjoyed the most ample facilities for thoroughly acquainting himself with both the Old and the New System of practice,—for learning the imperfections of the one, and the superiority of the other. To him more especially will be committed the department of Surgery, as his opportunities to qualify himself for this branch have been pre-eminent; and his experience and skill, as an operator, entitle him to more than ordinary favor.

☞ Tumors, Hydrocele, Fistulæ, Herniæ, Diseases of the Eye and Ear, &c., will be scientifically and successfully treated.

Worcester, June 19, 1851.

Receipts for the Journal.

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|
| Lafayette Gabbert, | Dec. 1851. | J. P. Hodgdon, | Dec., 1851. |
| Lycurgus W. Gabbert, | “ “ | Wm. Young, | “ “ |
| Thad. Wilson, | “ “ | H. P. Huntton, | “ “ |
| Thomas Corbett, | “ “ | D. S. Jones, | “ “ |
| I. A. Witherby, | “ “ | J. E. Todd, | July, 1852. |
| A. T. Wilmarth, | “ “ | Daniel Tuttle, | Dec., “ |

NOTICE.

DOCT. B. MORTON would inform his friends, and the public generally, that he has removed from the city of Gardiner in Maine, to Oglensburgh in New York; where he is prepared to practice Medicine on the Physo-medical or Reformed system of Practice. He, also, keeps on hand a large assortment of Botanic Medicines, both simples and compounds, to accommodate customers; at wholesale or retail, as low as can be bought in northern New York.

A RARE CHANCE

For a Botanic Physician, Druggist, or others.

For sale, the Stock and Fixtures of a Botanic and Allopathic Drug Store in New York city, the owner wishing to retire from business. On a thoroughfare; business good and increasing, and in a shape to be easily trebled with proper care; well fitted up; Croton, Gas, and Beer fixtures in store; rent moderate; a large number of valuable recipes and a hand mill included in sale. All reasonable instruction given. Price \$1100,00—(Insured for \$1000,00.) Terms cash. This is a rare chance, and a thorough going man may make a fortune. Address, *post paid*, R. F. HIBBARD, 112 John St. New York.

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W. BEACH, M. D., Emeritus Prof. of the Principles and Practice of Medicine.
J. H. TILDEN, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.
LORENZO N. JONES, Janitor.

FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

MRS. L. N. FOWLER, M. D., Prof. of Midwifery and diseases of women and children.

FEES.—Aggregate cost of Professors' Tickets, \$60; Demonstrator's Fee, \$5; Matriculation Fee, \$5; Graduation Fee, \$15. Good Board can be obtained at \$2 and \$2,25 per week. Graduates of Medicine in reputable Colleges, Clergymen, and Theological Students will be admitted to the Lectures on the payment of the Matriculation Fee. Students are advised to furnish themselves with text books;—Old School works, as well as Reform publications,—all will be consulted eclectically. For further information address

WM. W. HADLEY, Dean of the Faculty, Rochester, N. Y.

Mattson's American Vegetable Practice, or Family Guide.

SECOND EDITION, REVISED, WITH IMPOTANT ADDITIONS.

I. Anatomy, with a Steel Engraving of the Human Skeleton, back and front view, and a number of Wood Illustrations.

II. The Old School Practice.

III. Vegetable Materia Medica, with twenty-four beautifully colored Illustrations.

IV. Compounds.

V. Description of Diseases, Treatment, &c.

VI. Guide for Women, or Simplified Treatise of Child Birth; Description of Diseases of Females and Infants, &c.

It is generally conceded, that there is no better Botanic Work than this for families. Every Botanic Physician also should have a copy of it in his library. It has received great favor in England, and is publicly announced there, by some of the educated and prominent Physicians, as their Guide of Practice.

For sale by
WILLIAM JOHNSON,
the Publisher and Proprietor, at the New England Botanic Depot, rear of 47, Hanover Street, Boston, Mass. Also an extensive assortment of Botanic Medicines, and every thing that appertains to an establishment of the kind, very low, for cash or approved credit.

Concentrated Medicines.

The subscribers have just received from Cincinnatti a variety of

CONCENTRATED MEDICINES,

PRICE, ONE DOLLAR PER OUNCE.

Orders by mail, or otherwise, promptly filled.

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No. 18, Central Street, Boston.

BOTANIC AND THOMSONIAN LABORATORY,

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Invite the attention of Druggists, Physicians, and all Dealers in Medicines, to their Establishment, where may be found a full and complete assortment, of

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BRANDY, WINES, AND OTHER LIQUORS,

of superior quality, for medicinal purposes only. Very especial attention is devoted to this branch of the business, in order to furnish liquors, that may be relied upon for their purity

Thomsonian Infirmary and Medicine Store.

DR. WILLIAM CLARK may be consulted at his Infirmary, Nos. 80 and 82, *Carver Street*, Boston.

Worcester Medical Institution.

COURSE OF STUDY, &c.

The course of study required by this Institution is intended to occupy three full years; and candidates for the regular degree of M. D. must have attended two full Courses of Medical Lectures in some established Medical College, one of which must have been in this Institution. They must present satisfactory testimonials of good moral character; must have a competent literary education; and must well sustain an examination in the various branches of medical study, as contained in our Course of Lectures, and in the text-books which we recommend, or equivalents.

The following are the principal authors recommended:—

On Anatomy—Morton, Wilson, Harrison, and Pancoast's Wistar.

On Surgery—Hill, Druitt, Liston, Castle, and Pancoast.

On Physiology—Carpenter and Oliver.

On Pathology—Chomel and Williams.

On Materia Medica—Kost, Pereira, and Wood and Bache.

On Auscultation and Percussion—Gerhard and Bowditch.

On Theory and Practice—Howard, Mattson, Beach, and Watson.

On the Institutes of Medicine—Gallup.

On Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to Women and Children—Beach, Churchill, Chailly, and Maygrier.

On Medical Jurisprudence—Beck and Dean.

On Chemistry—Fownes and Turner.

On Botany—Wood, and Eaton and Gray.

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E. M. PARRITT, M. D., *Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.*

WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*

MICHAEL GABBERT, M. D., *Professor of Theory and Practice.*

G. W. MORROW, M. D., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

E. S. McCLELLAN, M. D., *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*

S. ROGERS, M. D., *Professor of Hydro-therapeutics.*

The tuition, in this Institution, for the Course of Lectures first attended, is \$60, in advance. The same is charged for the second Course. Subsequent ones are gratuitous. For students, however, who have attended two full Courses at other Medical Colleges, but none in this, the tuition is \$10, only. To graduates of other Medical Colleges, it is gratuitous. A matriculation fee of \$5 is required, in advance, of every student who has not attended a previous Course in this Institution. Graduates are charged, in addition, \$18, for a Diploma.

The next Course of Lectures will commence on the first Thursday in March, 1852, and will continue sixteen weeks. Good board can be had, during the Term, for \$2,50 per week.

The text-books recommended are consulted *eclectically*;—*authoritatively*, indeed, so far as they are descriptive of actual conditions, as in Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and the like; but otherwise *with careful discrimination*,—a peculiarity of what is taught in this Institution being, that all medication should be both innocent and sanative.

From time to time, accessions are being made to the Anatomical and Chemical Apparatus, Library, &c. The Faculty of the Institution now constitute a full and eminently able Board of Instruction; and the facilities to be enjoyed by students are, in every way, ample. Dissections, surgical operations, illustrations, and experiments, are conducted in the most advantageous and instructive manner.

As, however, it is the aim of the Trustees of this Institution to render it pre-eminent for advantages afforded, any donations in money, or preparations adapted to facilitate illustrative teaching, in any of the departments, are respectfully and earnestly solicited.

C. NEWTON, *President.*

The New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal

Is published on the 1st of every month, by C. Newton, M. D., at the corner of Front and Carlton Streets, Worcester, Mass. Each number contains thirty-two pages octavo, besides the cover, and the numbers of one year constitute a volume. Terms,—to subscribers paying in advance, \$1,00 per year. Those delaying payment three months, will be charged \$1,25; and those delaying six months, \$1,50. As the price, in comparison to the amount of matter afforded, is exceedingly low, it is but reasonable that advance payment be insisted on, or that a fair equivalent for delay be required. The paper has received numerous testimonials of high approbation, and has now obtained an extensive circulation, not only in New England, but also in the South and the West. It is designed for domestic as well as professional use, and should be in every family. All remittances and communications pertaining to it, should be directed, *post paid*, to the Editor. Any person forwarding, *post paid*, the names of four subscribers, and remitting \$4, shall receive a fifth copy gratis.

NEW ENGLAND

B O T A N I C

MEDICAL & SURGICAL

J O U R N A L .

MONTHLY.

CALVIN NEWTON, M. D.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Vol. V.

No. 11.

"Seize upon Truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground."

WORCESTER.
PRINTED BY HENRY J. HOWLAND,
199 Main Street, Up Stairs.

ECLECTIC MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

Chartered in 1845, Total No. of Matriculants
from 1845 to 1851, 1054.

The Seventh Winter Session of this College will commence on the first Monday of November, 1851, and continue four months. The Chairs of the Faculty will be arranged as follows:

- I. G. JONES, M. D., *Prof. of Theory and Practice of Medicine.*
R. S. NEWTON, M. D., *Prof. of Surgery.*
B. L. HILL, M. D., *Prof. of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children.*
Z. FREEMAN, M. D., *Prof. of Special, Surgical and Pathological Anatomy.*
J. R. BUCHANAN, M. D., *Prof. of Physiology and Institutes of Medicine.*
L. E. JONES, M. D., *Prof. of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Medical Botany.*
J. MILTON SANDERS, M. D., *Prof. of Chemistry, Pharmacy and Toxicology.*
O. E. NEWTON M. D., *Demonstrator of Anatomy, and Surgical Prosector.*

A gratuitous preliminary Course of Lectures will commence on the second Monday of October. At the same time the Demonstrator's rooms will be opened, with every facility for the study of Anatomy.

TERMS. Tickets to a full Course of Lectures (until graduation,) \$100 in advance, or a well-endorsed note for \$125. To a single Course of Lectures, \$60 in advance, or a well-endorsed note for \$70. Matriculation ticket, \$5—Graduation, \$15—Demonstrator's ticket, \$5. It is recommended that Students (especially candidates for graduation) attend the session at an early period, as a full and regular attendance on the Lectures will be expected. Anatomical material can be had in abundance, and furnished at rates sufficiently reasonable to guarantee a full supply for every student. Board costs from \$2, to \$2,50 per week. Students sometimes board themselves for much less. Students, upon their arrival in the city, will call at the office of PROF. R. S. NEWTON, on Seventh street, between Vine and Race. For further particulars, address Dr. R. S. NEWTON, or
JOS. R. BUCHANAN, M. D., *Dean.*

ECLECTIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Located in Philadelphia.

The first Annual Course of Lectures of this Institution, will commence, under the most favorable auspices, on the 27th of October next. All students in medicine, who may prefer Philadelphia for a thorough Course of Eclectic or Reformed Medical Instruction, are respectfully invited to correspond with the Dean of the Faculty, (post paid,) for any information they may desire on the subject.

THOMAS COOKE M. D., *Dean.*

No. 31, North Sixth Street, Philadelphia.

RARE CHANCE.

BOTANIC PHYSICIAN WANTED.

In one of the finest and most flourishing villages in New England, where the practice is permanently established, and a good business will be at once secured.

☞ Enquire at this office.

C. Newton, M. D. & F. H. Kelley, M. D.,

Having effected a co-partnership in business, will, from this date, prosecute the practice of

MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

Under the firm of

NEWTON & KELLEY.

The increasing professional duties devolving on Dr. Newton have rendered it imperative on him to engage a partner in business; and he has accordingly associated with himself one eminently qualified to disseminate the principles of the liberal school of medicine.

It is due to Dr. Kelley to say, that he has enjoyed the most ample facilities for thoroughly acquainting himself with both the Old and the New System of practice,—for learning the imperfections of the one, and the superiority of the other. To him more especially will be committed the department of Surgery, as his opportunities to qualify himself for this branch have been pre-eminent; and his experience and skill, as an operator, entitle him to more than ordinary favor.

☞ Tumors, Hydrocele, Fistulæ, Herniæ, Diseases of the Eye and Ear, &c., will be scientifically and successfully treated.

Worcester, June 19, 1851.

Receipts for the Journal.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| Willmarth Hindes, | Dec., 1851. | D. C. Gordon, | Dec., 1851. |
| M. F. Marble, | “ “ | Nath. Johnson, | “ “ |
| W. D. Vinall, | “ “ | James H. Small, | “ “ |
| Selden Sprague, | “ “ | A. W. Dam, | “ “ |
| Hiram Bartholomew, | “ “ | Volney Ross, | April, 1852. |
| A. W. Dillingham, | “ “ | Ebenezer Childs, | June, “ |
| S. P. Hubbard, | “ “ | E. Webster, | “ “ |
| Joseph Cheever, | “ “ | E. R. Robbins, | Oct. “ |
| A. C. Stiles, | “ “ | Mr. Wilkins, | “ “ |
| Geo. S. Macomber, | “ “ | Geo. W. Crane, | Dec. “ |
| N. G. Ladd, | “ “ | James Howarth, | “ “ |

NOTICE.

DOCT. B. MORTON would inform his friends, and the public generally, that he has removed from the city of Gardiner in Maine, to Ogdensburgh in New York; where he is prepared to practice Medicine on the Physo-medical or Reformed system of Practice. He, also, keeps on hand a large assortment of Botanic Medicines, both simples and compounds, to accommodate customers; at wholesale or retail, as low as can be bought in northern New York.

A RARE CHANCE

For a Botanic Physician, Druggist, or others.

For sale, the Stock and Fixtures of a Botanic and Allopathic Drug Store in New York city, the owner wishing to retire from business. On a thoroughfare; business good and increasing, and in a shape to be easily trebled with proper care; well fitted up; Croton, Gas, and Beer fixtures in store; rent moderate; a large number of valuable recipes and a hand mill included in sale. All reasonable instruction given. Price \$1100,00—(Insured for \$1000,00.) Terms cash. This is a rare chance, and a thorough going man may make a fortune. Address, *post paid*, R. F. HIBBARD, 112 John St. New York.

WANTED,

By the Editor, *fifty copies* of the first volume of the N. E. Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal. For every *complete* copy of this volume; forwarded to us and not badly defaced, we will pay fifty cents.

As the list of subscribers to the Journal has materially changed since its first issue, and as this volume was taken by many who did not choose longer to continue their subscriptions, we hope that our friends will be able to supply for us the want above indicated. Some effort, on their part, to do so will be a favor thankfully received. [ED. JOUR.]

Dr. E. J. Mattocks' Buena Vista Pills.

Purely Vegetable.

In offering this medicine to the public, we introduce the most mild, easy, and certain cathartic ever known; not the least griping or drastic effects attending their operation. We do not pretend to cure every form of disease with these pills, neither do we expect to raise the dead, or kill the living; but we do know that these pills will cure diseases of the liver, in any form; such as acute or chronic inflammation, jaundice in its worst stages, dyspepsia, constipated bowels, headache, heartburn, flatulency, and in fevers they are the only medicine needed. They will break the most malignant type, if taken in its first stage; according to the directions accompanying each box: they will also remove all female obstructions immediately; and in rheumatism and gout they are an infalible remedy if persevered in. In all affections of the kidneys and urinary organs, we can recommend them as a perfectly safe and efficacious remedy—gravel, chronic inflammation of the kidneys, or bladder stricture can be cured in a short time with these pills. As a general cathartic, they are the best ever offered to the public, because they strengthen the bowels and leave the system in a healthy state, operating without the least griping or pain.

Manufactured and sold at wholesale and retail, by the proprietor, Dr. E. J. MATTOCKS, at his Medical Dispensary, No. 24 Fifth Street, Troy, N. Y., and sold by agents throughout the United States.

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For Making Root Beer.**

By following the directions, this article may be formed into a most healthful and pleasant beverage, that will more fully quench thirst, without producing a deleterious effect, than any other article in use. It acts as a PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD and the other Fluids of the Human System; and instead of giving a momentary excitement, it imparts a gentle stimulant power to the whole body. As a substitute for spirituous or malt liquors, mineral waters, or even coffee and tea, its virtues are truly astonishing, and well worthy of the high praises that have been bestowed on it by all who have given it a fair trial. It is particularly useful in all Scorbutic Affections, Diseases of the Skin, &c.

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An experience of more than twenty years, in the practice, preparation, and compounding of Botanic Medicines, from the very best and purest materials in the market, has afforded him just grounds to flatter himself, that his Medicines, after a fair trial, will compete with any which may be offered to the friends of the Botanic cause, within the whole range of our country.

☞ It is of great importance, that Practitioners, and others, using Botanic Medicines, should be apprised, that all the articles manufactured at his establishment are *pulverized*,—*not ground*,—between an upper and nether mill-stone; as the latter process heats, and consequently injures, if it does not destroy the medical virtues of all articles submitted to such an operation.

On hand all the various Medical Works on the Botanic System, together with a general assortment of Glass Ware, Syringes, and all the articles connected with the business. Those wishing pure Medicines can be supplied on the most reasonable terms by

EPH'M. LARRABEE.

May, 1847.

**J. Jackson, M. D., Botanic Physician,
No. 102, Court Street...BOSTON.**

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Mr. O. B. SCOTT, of Pierrepont Manor, N. Y., is an accredited agent for the w England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal, to receive subscriptions monies in our behalf. [Ed. Jour.]

NOTICES.

Bush's Smilax or Spanish Sarsaparilla.

Extracted from the Green Root.

Whence are the occasional failures of Sarsaparilla? The present popularity of this invaluable medicine makes the above a frequent question; and it may not be improper to state, in this card, the most common causes of disappointment in the use of the medicine. *First*, there are only a few species of Sarsaparilla that contain the *peculiar* virtues, and it is well known, that many varieties are found in market, and are used by manufacturers. *Secondly*, the virtues of Sarsaparilla are exceedingly volatile, and are soon impaired by age; while but very little discrimination is generally made in its selection. *Thirdly*, the virtues are extremely liable to be impaired and even entirely lost by the preparation of the syrup or extract.

The proprietors of this preparation are happy now to offer, to the afflicted public, an article in which all the causes of failure have been studiously avoided; and they cannot fail to maintain the credit of this incomparably valuable medicine. The recent discovery of the true Smilax Sarsaparilla in the south, by Prof. I. M. Comings, has put us in possession of the genuine root in a fresh state; and a new method of preparation, discovered by the proprietors, enables them to offer to the purchaser a superior article of extract of Sarsaparilla.

The attention of physicians is particularly invited to a trial of this article; as the proprietors pledge their sacred honour, that the article here offered, is the *Pure unadulterated* extract from one single species of the *Smilax Sarsaparilla*, taken from the root, while *green and fresh from the ground*. Let physicians use it in their practice. They will be able to satisfy both themselves and their patients of its intrinsic value as a curative agent, and confirm the testimony of many distinguished in the profession, who have already used it with great success in the most obstinate diseases.

This Sarsaparilla is put up in large bottles with the words Bush's Smilax Sarsaparilla blown in the glass;—and will be consigned to responsible dealers at Eight Dollars per dozen. **Retail price one dollar per bottle, or six bottles for five dollars.**

Prepared and sold by BUSH & CO., Worcester, Mass.;

and sold by C. Newton, M. D., corner of Front and Carlton Sts., and by Comings and Nichols, Pleasant St., Worcester, Mass. **All orders punctually attended to.**

JOB T. DICKENS, M. D.,

Thomsonian Botanic Physician & Surgeon.

BOTANIC MEDICINES WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

**Residence, No. 8, Pleasant Street,
Newburyport, Mass.**

Magnetic Remedies of Dr. H. H. Sherwood.

CAUTION.

The subscribers are under the necessity of cautioning the public against spurious imitations of the well known Magnetic Remedies of the late Henry Hall Sherwood, M. D. manufactured under another name, and represented to be made in the same manner as the genuine articles. The genuine remedies of Dr. Sherwood can be rightly prepared only by ourselves, from the recipe which we hold from his sole executrix, (bequeathed to her exclusively by his recorded will,) and all representations to the contrary are wholly false. They are always accompanied by Dr. Sherwood's valuable treatise on the Motive Power of the Human System, the copy-right of which is in our sole possession, duly secured according to law.

With regard to any pretended knowledge by other persons of Dr. Sherwood's Remedies, it can only deceive the credulous and unwary. Further than the general information given in his published works as to the leading articles in these remedies, Dr. Sherwood communicated nothing to others, as he assured his executrix in the strongest manner shortly before his death; and, even were it possible for any one to discover their entire ingredients, the knowledge would be wholly useless without long, minute, and elaborate instructions in the laboratory itself, and also repeated personal observation of the whole process of manufacture—the process being altogether too intricate and peculiar to be communicated in writing, and requiring the same personal experience and practice as has been alone received by ourselves.

These remedies are more successful in the cure of Chronic Diseases than any others known to the Medical profession. All communications should be addressed to
H. H. SHERWOOD'S Successors, 102 Chambers st. New York.

NOTICE.

Central Medical College, Rochester, N. Y.

The next annual Course of Lectures in this Institution will commence on the first Monday in November, 1851, and continue sixteen weeks. In issuing this announcement, the Board of Trustees have the gratification of adverting to the unparalleled success of the School, during the past six courses of instruction, as affording undoubted evidence of its appreciation by the public, its permanent establishment, and future prosperity. The Faculty have received renewed assurances from that portion of the profession among whom their labors have been cast, and who have had an opportunity of judging, that their course meets their cordial approbation, and will be sustained.

Central Medical College is permanently located in the city of Rochester; which, from its central position, convenience of access, large population, wealth and morality, must be acknowledged as the most desirable location in the State. In consequence of the number of ladies who have attended during the three last terms, and at the request of others, who propose attending the next session, the Board of Trustees have established a Female Department, which is in charge of Mrs. L. N. Fowler, M. D., who, from her spirit of investigation, and scientific medical acquirements, has obtained a wide-spread and merited popularity.

FACULTY.

- L. C. DOLLEY, M. D., Prof. of General, Descriptive, & Surgical Anatomy.
LEVI REUBEN, M. D., Prof. of Physiology, Pathology, & Forensic Medicine.
O. DAVIS, M. D., Prof. of Obstetrics.
S. M. DAVIS, M. D., Prof. of Principles and Practice of Physic
W. W. HADLEY, M. D., Prof. of Materia Medica, Therapeutics, & Pharmacy.
A. K. EATON, A. M., M. D., Prof. of Chemistry.
W. BEACH, M. D., Emeritus Prof. of the Principles and Practice of Medicine.
J. H. TILDEN, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.
LORENZO N. JONES, Janitor.

FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

MRS. L. N. FOWLER, M. D., Prof. of Midwifery and diseases of women and children.

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WM. W. HADLEY, Dean of the Faculty, Rochester, N. Y.

Hattson's American Vegetable Practice, or Family Guide.

SECOND EDITION, REVISED, WITH IMPOTANT ADDITIONS.

- I. Anatomy, with a Steel Engraving of the Human Skeleton, back and front view, and a number of Wood Illustrations.
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The following are the principal authors recommended:—

- On Anatomy*—Morton, Wilson, Harrison, and Pancoast's Wistar.
- On Surgery*—Hill, Druiitt, Liston, Castle, and Pancoast.
- On Physiology*—Carpenter and Oliver.
- On Pathology*—Chomel and Williams.
- On Materia Medica*—Kost, Pereira, and Wood and Bache.
- On Auscultation and Percussion*—Gerhard and Bowditch.
- On Theory and Practice*—Howard, Mattson, Beach, and Watson.
- On the Institutes of Medicine*—Gallup.
- On Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to Women and Children*—Beach, Churchill, Chaffly, and Maygrier.
- On Medical Jurisprudence*—Beck and Dean.
- On Chemistry*—Fownes and Turner.
- On Botany*—Wood, Eaton, and Gray.

The following are the members of the Faculty:—

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- E. M. PARRITT, M. D., *Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.*
- WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*
- MICHAEL GABBERT, M. D., *Professor of Theory and Practice.*
- G. W. MORROW, M. D., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*
- E. S. MCCLELLAN, M. D., *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*
- S. ROGERS, M. D., *Professor of Hydro-therapeutics.*

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NEW ENGLAND

BOTANIC

MEDICAL & SURGICAL

JOURNAL.

MONTHLY.

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**CALVIN NEWTON, M. D.,**  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.  
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**Vol. V.**

**No. 12.**  
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"Seize upon Truth wherever found,
On Christian or on Heathen ground."

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**WORCESTER.**  
PRINTED BY HENRY J. HOWLAND,  
199 Main Street, Up Stairs.



## ECLECTIC MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

Chartered in 1845, Total No. of Matriculants  
from 1845 to 1851, 1054.

The Seventh Winter Session of this College will commence on the first Monday of November, 1851, and continue four months. The Chairs of the Faculty will be arranged as follows:

- I. G. JONES, M. D., *Prof. of Theory and Practice of Medicine.*  
R. S. NEWTON, M. D., *Prof. of Surgery.*  
B. L. HILL, M. D., *Prof. of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children.*  
Z. FREEMAN, M. D., *Prof. of Special, Surgical and Pathological Anatomy.*  
J. R. BUCHANAN, M. D., *Prof. of Physiology and Institutes of Medicine.*  
L. E. JONES, M. D., *Prof. of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Medical Botany.*  
J. MILTON SANDERS, M. D., *Prof. of Chemistry, Pharmacy and Toxicology.*  
O. E. NEWTON M. D., *Demonstrator of Anatomy, and Surgical Prosector.*

A gratuitous preliminary Course of Lectures will commence on the second Monday of October. At the same time the Demonstrator's rooms will be opened, with every facility for the study of Anatomy.

TERMS. Tickets to a full Course of Lectures (until graduation,) \$100 in advance, or a well-endorsed note for \$125. To a single Course of Lectures, \$60 in advance, or a well-endorsed note for \$70. Matriculation ticket, \$5—Graduation, \$15—Demonstrator's ticket, \$5. It is recommended that Students (especially candidates for graduation) attend the session at an early period, as a full and regular attendance on the Lectures will be expected. Anatomical material can be had in abundance, and furnished at rates sufficiently reasonable to guarantee a full supply for every student. Board costs from \$2, to \$2,50 per week. Students sometimes board themselves for much less. Students, upon their arrival in the city, will call at the office of PROF. R. S. NEWTON, on Seventh street, between Vine and Race. For further particulars, address Dr. R. S. NEWTON, or  
JOS. R. BUCHANAN, M. D., *Dean.*

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## ECLECTIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA. Located in Philadelphia.

The first Annual Course of Lectures of this Institution, will commence, under the most favorable auspices, on the 27th of October next. All students in medicine, who may prefer *Philadelphia* for a thorough Course of *Eclectic or Reformed Medical Instruction*, are respectfully invited to correspond with the Dean of the Faculty, (post paid,) for any information they may desire on the subject. THOMAS COOKE M. D., *Dean.*

No. 31, North Sixth Street, Philadelphia.

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## RARE CHANCE.

### BOTANIC PHYSICIAN WANTED.

In one of the finest and most flourishing villages in New England, where the practice is permanently established, and a good business will be at once secured.

☞ Enquire at this office.

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## C. Newton, M. D. & F. H. Kelley, M. D.,

Having effected a co-partnership in business, will, from this date, prosecute the practice of

## MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

Under the firm of

## NEWTON & KELLEY.

The increasing professional duties devolving on Dr. Newton have rendered it imperative on him to engage a partner in business; and he has accordingly associated with himself one eminently qualified to disseminate the principles of the liberal school of medicine.

\* It is due to Dr. Kelley to say, that he has enjoyed the most ample facilities for thoroughly acquainting himself with both the Old and the New System of practice,—for learning the imperfections of the one, and the superiority of the other. To him more especially will be committed the department of Surgery, as his opportunities to qualify himself for this branch have been pre-eminent; and his experience and skill, as an operator, entitle him to more than ordinary favor.

☞ Tumors, Hydrocele, Fistulæ, Herniæ, Diseases of the Eye and Ear, &c., will be scientifically and successfully treated.

Worcester, June 19, 1851.

## Receipts for the Journal.

|               |             |                      |             |
|---------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Daniel Davis, | Dec., 1851. | Jesse B. Spiers,     | Dec., 1851. |
| N. Brown,     | " "         | A. S. Pelton,        | " "         |
| J. S. Hale,   | " "         | Augustus Sumner,     | " 1852.     |
| B. Keith,     | " "         | Thomas T. Greenwood, | " "         |

## NOTICE.

DOCT. B. MORTON would inform his friends, and the public generally, that he has removed from the city of Gardiner in Maine, to Ogdensburgh in New York; where he is prepared to practice Medicine on the Physo-medical or Reformed system of Practice. He, also, keeps on hand a large assortment of Botanic Medicines, both simples and compounds, to accommodate customers; at wholesale or retail, as low as can be bought in northern New York.

## A RARE CHANCE

### For a Botanic Physician, Druggist, or others.

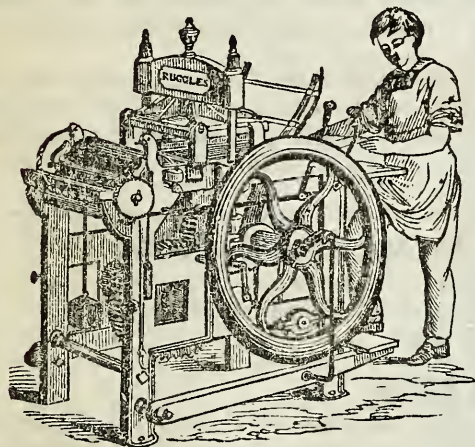
For sale, the Stock and Fixtures of a Botanic and Allopathic Drug Store in New York city, the owner wishing to retire from business. On a thoroughfare; business good and increasing, and in a shape to be easily trebled with proper care; well fitted up; Croton, Gas, and Beer fixtures in store; rent moderate; a large number of valuable recipes and a hand mill included in sale. All reasonable instruction given. Price \$1100,00—(Insured for \$1000,00.) Terms cash. This is a rare chance, and a thosough going man may make a fortune. Address, *post paid*, R. F. HIBBARD, 112 John St. New York.

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Bills, Railroad Orders and Receipts,  
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Also, **Bank, Insurance, and Railroad Printing, all kinds.**

Ladies and Gentlemen wishing to have any kind of Printing done, cannot do better than to call at 199 MAIN STREET.

Wood Tickets, Milk Bills, and Stage Way Bills, constantly for sale.



NOTICES.

**ATKINSON'S  
COMPOUND EXTRACT OF ROOTS,  
For Making Root Beer.**

By following the directions, this article may be formed into a most healthful and pleasant beverage, that will more fully quench thirst, without producing a deleterious effect, than any other article in use. It acts as a PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD and the other Fluids of the Human System; and instead of giving a momentary excitement, it imparts a gentle stimulant power to the whole body. As a substitute for spirituous or malt liquors, mineral waters, or even coffee and tea, its virtues are truly astonishing, and well worthy of the high praises that have been bestowed on it by all who have given it a fair trial. It is particularly useful in all Scorbatic Affections, Diseases of the Skin, &c.

Sold Wholesale and Retail at

DR. A. ATKINSON'S BOTANIC LABORATORY AND MEDICINE STORE,

No. 216 GREENWICH ST. BETWEEN BARCLAY & ROBINSON STS.,

New York City.

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**Laboratory of Thomsonian Botanic Medicine,**

*No. 20, South Calvert St.....BALTIMORE.*

THE first mill erected in the United States for the special purpose of preparing Thomsonian Botanic Medicines.

The subscriber has the largest and most complete assortment of Botanic Medicines in the United States, comprising all the various Compounds and other articles recommended by Dr. S. Thomson, besides an extensive variety of other approved Botanic Medicines. Having erected his Steam Mills expressly for the above Medicines, he is enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrants his Medicines to be genuine and pure, prepared in the best manner, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities, as he does not admit any thing of that nature about his establishment.

An experience of more than twenty years, in the practice, preparation, and compounding of Botanic Medicines, from the very best and purest materials in the market, has afforded him just grounds to flatter himself, that his Medicines, after a fair trial, will compete with any which may be offered to the friends of the Botanic cause, within the whole range of our country.

☞ It is of great importance, that Practitioners, and others, using Botanic Medicines, should be apprised, that all the articles manufactured at his establishment are *pulverized,—not ground,—*between an upper and nether mill-stone; as the latter process heats, and consequently injures, if it does not destroy the medical virtues of all articles submitted to such an operation.

On hand all the various Medical Works on the Botanic System, together with a general assortment of Glass Ware, Syringes, and all the articles connected with the business. Those wishing pure Medicines can be supplied on the most reasonable terms by

EPH'M. LARRABEE.

May, 1847.

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*No. 102, Court Street....BOSTON.*

House No. 42, Poplar Street. Calls in the city and country attended to.

☞ Botanic Medicines, wholesale and retail.

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**WANTED,**

By the Editor, *fifty copies* of the first volume of the N. E. Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal. For every *complete* copy of this volume, forwarded to us and not badly defaced, we will pay fifty cents.

As the list of subscribers to the Journal has materially changed since its first issue, and as this volume was taken by many who did not choose longer to continue their subscriptions, we hope that our friends will be able to supply for us the want above indicated. Some effort, on their part, to do so will be a favor thankfully received. [Ed. Jour.]

NOTICES.

**Bush's Smilax or Spanish Sarsaparilla.**

*Extracted from the Green Root.*

*Whence are the occasional failures of Sarsaparilla?* The present popularity of this invaluable medicine makes the above a frequent question; and it may not be improper to state, in this card, the most common causes of disappointment in the use of the medicine. *First*, there are only a few species of Sarsaparilla that contain the *peculiar* virtues, and it is well known, that many varieties are found in market, and are used by manufacturers. *Secondly*, the virtues of Sarsaparilla are exceedingly volatile, and are soon impaired by age; while but very little discrimination is generally made in its selection. *Thirdly*, the virtues are extremely liable to be impaired and even entirely lost by the preparation of the syrup or extract.

The proprietors of this preparation are happy now to offer, to the afflicted public, an article in which all the causes of failure have been studiously avoided; and they cannot fail to maintain the credit of this incomparably valuable medicine. The recent discovery of the true Smilax Sarsaparilla in the south, by Prof. I. M. Comings, has put us in possession of the genuine root in a fresh state; and a new method of preparation, discovered by the proprietors, enables them to offer to the purchaser a superior article of extract of Sarsaparilla.

The attention of physicians is particularly invited to a trial of this article; as the proprietors pledge their sacred honour, that the article here offered, is the *Pure unadulterated* extract from one single species of the *Smilax Sarsaparilla*, taken from the root, while *green and fresh from the ground*. Let physicians use it in their practice. They will be able to satisfy both themselves and their patients of its intrinsic value as a curative agent, and confirm the testimony of many distinguished in the profession, who have already used it with great success in the most obstinate diseases.

This Sarsaparilla is put up in large bottles with the words Bush's Smilax Sarsaparilla blown in the glass;—and will be consigned to responsible dealers at Eight Dollars per dozen. **Retail price one dollar per bottle, or six bottles for five dollars.**

**Prepared and sold by BUSH & CO., Worcester, Mass.;**

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**Thomsonian Botanic Physician & Surgeon.**

**BOTANIC MEDICINES WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.**

**Residence, No. 8, Pleasant Street,**

*Newburyport, Mass.*

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**Magnetic Remedies of Dr. H. H. Sherwood.**

**CAUTION.**

The subscribers are under the necessity of cautioning the public against spurious imitations of the well known Magnetic Remedies of the late Henry Hall Sherwood, M. D. manufactured under another name, and represented to be made in the same manner as the genuine articles. The genuine remedies of Dr. Sherwood can be rightly prepared only by ourselves, from the receipt which we hold from his sole executrix, (bequeathed to her exclusively by his recorded will,) and all representations to the contrary are wholly false. They are always accompanied by Dr. Sherwood's valuable treatise on the Motive Power of the Human System, the copy-right of which is in our sole possession, duly secured according to law.

With regard to any pretended knowledge by other persons of Dr. Sherwood's Remedies, it can only deceive the credulous and unwary. Further than the general information given in his published works as to the leading articles in these remedies, Dr. Sherwood communicated nothing to others, as he assured his executrix in the strongest manner shortly before his death; and, even were it possible for any one to discover their entire ingredients, the knowledge would be wholly useless without long, minute, and elaborate instructions in the laboratory itself, and also repeated personal observation of the whole process of manufacture—the process being altogether too intricate and peculiar to be communicated in writing, and requiring the same personal experience and practice as has been alone received by ourselves.

These remedies are more successful in the cure of Chronic Diseases than any others known to the Medical profession. All communications should be addressed to

H. H. SHERWOOD'S Successors, 102 Chambers st. New York.



NOTICE.

**Central Medical College, Rochester, N. Y.**

The next annual Course of Lectures in this Institution will commence on the first Monday in November, 1851, and continue sixteen weeks. In issuing this announcement, the Board of Trustees have the gratification of adverting to the unparalleled success of the School, during the past six courses of instruction, as affording undoubted evidence of its appreciation by the public, its permanent establishment, and future prosperity. The Faculty have received renewed assurances from that portion of the profession among whom their labors have been cast, and who have had an opportunity of judging, that their course meets their cordial approbation, and will be sustained.

Central Medical College is permanently located in the city of Rochester; which, from its central position, convenience of access, large population, wealth and morality, must be acknowledged as the most desirable location in the State. In consequence of the number of ladies who have attended during the three last terms, and at the request of others, who propose attending the next session, the Board of Trustees have established a Female Department, which is in charge of Mrs. L. N. Fowler, M. D., who, from her spirit of investigation, and scientific medical acquirements, has obtained a wide-spread and merited popularity.

**FACULTY.**

- L. C. DOLLEY, M. D., Prof. of General, Descriptive, & Surgical Anatomy.  
LEVI REUBEN, M. D., Prof. of Physiology, Pathology, & Forensic Medicine.  
O. DAVIS, M. D., Prof. of Obstetrics.  
S. M. DAVIS, M. D., Prof. of Principles and Practice of Physic  
W. W. HADLEY, M. D., Prof. of Materia Medica, Therapeutics, & Pharmacy.  
A. K. EATON, A. M., M. D., Prof. of Chemistry.  
W. BEACH, M. D., Emeritus Prof. of the Principles and Practice of Medicine.  
J. H. TILDEN, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.  
LORENZO N. JONES, Janitor.

**FEMALE DEPARTMENT.**

MRS. L. N. FOWLER, M. D., Prof. of Midwifery and diseases of women and children.

**FEES.**—Aggregate cost of Professors' Tickets, \$60; Demonstrator's Fee, \$5; Matriculation Fee, \$5; Graduation Fee, \$15. Good Board can be obtained at \$2 and \$2,25 per week. Graduates of Medicine in reputable Colleges, Clergymen, and Theological Students will be admitted to the Lectures on the payment of the Matriculation Fee. Students are advised to furnish themselves with text books;—Old School works, as well as Reform publications,—all will be consulted eclectically. For further information address

WM. W. HADLEY, Dean of the Faculty, Rochester, N. Y.

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**Mattson's American Vegetable Practice, or Family Guide.**

SECOND EDITION, REVISED, WITH IMPOTANT ADDITIONS.

- I. Anatomy, with a Steel Engraving of the Human Skeleton, back and front view, and a number of Wood Illustrations.  
II. The Old School Practice.  
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It is generally conceded, that there is no better Botanic Work than this for families. Every Botanic Physician also should have a copy of it in his library. It has received great favor in England, and is publicly announced there, by some of the educated and prominent Physicians, as their Guide of Practice.

For sale by **WILLIAM JOHNSON**, the Publisher and Proprietor, at the New England Botanic Depot, rear of 47, Hanover Street, Boston, Mass. Also an extensive assortment of Botanic Medicines, and every thing that appertains to an establishment of the kind, very low, for cash or approved credit.

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**AGENCY.**

Mr. O. B. SCOTT, of Pierrepont Manor, N. Y., is an accredited agent for the New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal, to receive subscriptions and monies in our behalf. [Ed. Jour.]

# Concentrated Medicines.

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Invite the attention of Druggists, Physicians, and all Dealers in Medicines, to their Establishment, where may be found a full and complete assortment, of

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**Oils, Extracts, Spices and Medical Books,**

embracing all the different works upon the Reform Practice, together with a great variety of miscellaneous articles, usually kept in such an establishment.

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# Worcester Medical Institution.

## COURSE OF STUDY, &c.

The course of study required by this Institution is intended to occupy three full years; and candidates for the regular degree of M. D. must have attended two full Courses of Medical Lectures in some established Medical College, one of which must have been in this Institution. They must present satisfactory testimonials of good moral character; must have a competent literary education; and must well sustain an examination in the various branches of medical study, as contained in our Course of Lectures, and in the text-books which we recommend, or equivalents.

The following are the principal authors recommended:—

*On Anatomy*—Morton, Wilson, Harriou, and Pancoast's Wistar.

*On Surgery*—Hill, Druitt, Liston, Cattle, and Pancoast.

*On Physiology*—Carpenter and Olive.

*On Pathology*—Chomel and Williams.

*On Materia Medica*—Kost, Pereira, and Wood and Bache.

*On Auscultation and Percussion*—Gehard and Bowditch.

*On Theory and Practice*—Howard, Mtison, Leach, and Watson.

*On the Institutes of Medicine*—Gallu.

*On Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to Women and Children*—Beach, Churchill, Chailly, and Maygrier.

*On Medical Jurisprudence*—Beck and Dean.

*On Chemistry*—Fownes and Turner.

*On Botany*—Wood, Eaton, and Gray.

The following are the members of the Faculty:—

C. NEWTON, M. D., *Professor of General and Special Pathology.*

E. M. PARRITT, M. D., *Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.*

WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*

MICHAEL GABBERT, M. D., *Professor of Theory and Practice.*

G. W. MORROW, M. D., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

E. S. McCLELLAN, M. D., *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*

S. ROGERS, M. D., *Professor of Hæro-therapeutics.*

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