THE CONCLUDING TASK OF THE DISCIPLES OF HOMCEOPATHY

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The Concluding Task of the Disciples of Homœopathy by Marmaduke B. Sampson

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MARMADUKE B. SAMPSON

THE CONCLUDING TASK OF THE DISCIPLES OF HOMŒOPATHY

Trieste



THE

CONCLUDING TASK

OF THE .

DISCIPLES OF HOMCEOPATHY:

AN ADDRESS,

DBUIVEBED TO

THE MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH HOMCEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION ;

TOGETHER WITH

A REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS,

CONKRCTED WITH THE

Formation of a Candon Bamæopathic Baspital.



FUBLISHED UNDER THE SUPERINTENDENCE OF THE BRITISH ROMCEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION.

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PREFACE.

THE present volume contains a report of two General Meetings of the British Homœopathic Association, held respectively on the 22nd of August and the 10th of October last, for the purpose of establishing a London Homœopathic Hospital.

The success which attended the proceedings at these meetings, and the important step in connexion with the advancement of Homœopathy to which they have led, will, it is believed, cause the subscribers to the Association to feel pleasure at becoming possessed of a record of them in a complete shape.

In accordance with the views adopted at the meeting of the 10th of October, to the effect that it would not be expedient to call upon the friends of Homœopathy to continue their contributions to the Association, now that a Hospital was about to be formed which would require all the pecuniary aid they might be disposed to afford, the issue of this volume will terminate the labours of the Association.

In looking back to the nature and consequences of these labours, the Committee can only repeat expressions of satisfaction which they have already used. The proposal to form a Homeopathic Association originated with their Chairman and

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Honorary Secretary in 1845, and was attended with immediate success; but the British Homeopathic Association was not created until 1847, when the co-operation of the British Homeopathic Society (consisting of about forty of the leading practitioners of Homeopathy in Great Britain,) was obtained. The objects proposed at the time of this union were the distribution of a book to such parties as might be willing to transmit to the Committee annually a subscription of half-acrown; to circulate tracts and addresses as far as the remaining funds would allow; and, finally, to adopt proceedings for founding a Hospital on certain definite conditions.

At the commencement the number of subscribers was under 400; on the 31st of December last, when the subscriptions for 1849 expired, the number was between 1400 and 1500; and the way in which the intentions first contemplated have all been accomplished, will be seen from the following pages. It will there be observed that every result which the Committee desired has been realized to a degree far beyond their anticipations; and this termination is rendered more gratifying by the fact that not a single measure has at any time been taken by them without the sanction of a unanimous vote from the various members of their body who may have been present on each occasion.

In conclusion, and in the same spirit of unanimity, it only remains for the Committee to urge all who have been connected with the Association to spare no efforts to extend the efficiency of the Hospital, which has now been organized, and which

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they have to announce will be opened for the reception of patients on the 10th of April next. Its executive comprises nearly all those gentlemen who have been members of the Committee of the Association ; and its medical officers, in conformity . with the original arrangements of the Association, will consist of such of the members of the British Homeopathic Society as may be able and willing to serve. This Society, while it exercises the strictest scrutiny with respect to the diplomas of its members, is open to all respectable and properly qualified practitioners ; and it is therefore felt that the constitution of the Hospital will be found to contain every element calculated to ensure permanence, and to command not only the confidence of the public, but also the respect of the profession.

The Committee have to regret that the heavy outlay attendant upon two public meetings, the distribution of notices and cards, the charges for reporting, and the issue in November last of a pamphlet of forty-two pages to all the members, containing some portion of the matter which is now presented entire; together with the expenses connected with the circulation of 8000 copies of a pamphlet on the cholera during the ravages of that disease last autumn, and the ordinary cost of circulars, tracts, etc., have, as will be seen from a balance-sheet appended, rendered the funds of the Association inadequate to the expense of binding the present volume in the same manner as the last. They feel, however, that every subscriber to the Association will gladly recognize the important end, to secure which this circumstance has been occasioned.

London, March, 1850.

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