

**ERUPTIVE FEVERS: SCARLET FEVER,
MEASLES, SMALL-POX, ETC., BEING
A COURSE OF LECTURES ON THE
EXANTHEMATA, DELIVERED AT THE
LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL**

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WILLIAM VALLANCEY DRURY

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A COURSE OF LECTURES ON THE EXANTHEMATA.

DELIVERED AT THE LONDON HOMOEOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

BY

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P R E F A C E.

WITH a view to making these "Lectures on Eruptive Fevers" more generally useful to students of Homœopathy, and to medical men who might wish for a book of reference on the subject, I have prepared them for publication.

They were originally delivered in a short course at the London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street. They have since then received the addition of much fresh matter.

I have gladly availed myself of the observations of others where such seemed reliable, and have specially to acknowledge my obligations to the works

of Dr. Aitken, and of my friend the late Dr. George Gregory, whose large experience as Physician to the Small Pox Hospital for many years made him one of the leading authorities in this country.

His book on Eruptive Fevers, though now a little out of date, contains such a large amount of valuable information, that no subsequent work on the same subject would be complete without reference to it, though I have had occasion to dissent from some of his opinions.

The division into separate lectures has not been retained, though I have adhered to the mode of expression used when they were given, feeling that as they were intended for teaching, such language was most suited for the student, and will not be unacceptable to the practitioner, who may be glad sometimes to have a decided expression of opinion as to why one medicine should be used in preference to another.

I have endeavoured to give what I hope may be considered, a correct view of what homœopathic practice should be ; and while claiming perfect free-

dom to cast off anything that had the appearance of bondage to a system, have at the same time tried to show that a pretty close adherence to homœopathy was more likely to give better results than any careless mode of practice that allowed a resort to all sorts of measures at the whim of the practitioners.

The much-vexed question of dose I have hardly touched on, only on one or two occasions naming the strength I had used or recommended under special circumstances.

After many years' experience, the rule I have adopted is this,—that while trying to secure the greatest amount of good from the dilution of medicine, the nearer this can be obtained to tangible doses the better; and if a small tangible dose of say from 1x to 3x or 3 will give equally good results, such strength is preferable to a higher dilution. At the same time, where experience is in favour of the higher, such should be used.

I have thought it desirable to go at some length into the subjects of inoculation and vaccination,

as, owing to the last and present epidemics of small-pox, these questions have assumed increased interest. The opinions expressed may vary from those of many, but if they in any way help to the formation of more definite views as to what cow-pox really is, a great object will be gained.

Much that I have said is not new, but rests on facts that if acted on will lead to our obtaining an unfailing supply of reliable vaccine.

7, Harley Street, Cavendish Square, W.,

April, 1877.

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