

**THE COMPARATIVE MERITS OF  
ALLOEOPATHY, THE OLD MEDICAL  
PRACTICE, AND HOMOEOPATHY,  
THE REFORMED MEDICAL PRACTICE:  
PRACTICALLY ILLUSTRATED**

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The Comparative Merits of Alloopathy, the Old Medical Practice, and Homoeopathy, the Reformed Medical Practice: Practically Illustrated by J. G. Rosenstein

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**J. G. ROSENSTEIN**

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PRACTICALLY ILLUSTRATED.

BY

J. G. ROSENSTEIN, M.D.

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“Na, das kenn!  
Ich einen Weisen! Nie die Wahrheit zu  
Verhehlen! Für sie Alles auf das Spiel  
Zu setzen! Reich und Lebensglück und Blut!”  
(Lessing, im Nathan, III. 7.)

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 Dr Sean W Meyers  
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## PREFACE.

AMONG men of deliberate and acute reflection, no difference of opinion can exist relative to the truth of a discovery, which rests upon the basis of actual experiment. When the author appeals to such experiments, they must lead to a repetition of them, and not oppose their own opinions to the dictates of experience. In fine, they have no other way in forming a judgment, than that of accurate and careful experiment.

Hahnemann's new method of curing diseases is based upon the trials of medicines on healthy bodies. A refutation of such a system, by reasoning, without reference to experiment, shows only that due enquiry has not been made, and merits, therefore, no attention. Those who have been more sincere, and experimented for the sake of truth and conviction, have become powerful friends and warm advocates of Homœopathy.

Hahnemann has achieved what other men of genius have merely suggested.\* Now, that the gigantic work is done, they would rather see it undone. Such is the nature of man. The greater the truth the stronger the opposition; but truth is omnipotent and must prevail. For truth, like the infinitely wise and gracious God, is eternal. Men may disregard it for a time, until the period arrives when its rays, according to the determination of Heaven, shall irresistibly break through the

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\* In the course of twenty-five centuries, (says Hahnemann,) no physician that I know of, except the immortal Haller, has ever thought of a method so natural—so absolutely necessary, and so perfectly true—as that of observing the pure effects of each medicine individually, in order to discover, by that means, the diseases they were capable of curing. Before me, Haller was the only one who conceived the necessity of pursuing such a plan. But no physician has profited by this invaluable advice; no one has paid the slightest attention to it. (See the preface to the *Pharmacopœia Helvet.* Basii, 1771, page 12.) “*Nempe primum in corpore sano mesela tentanda est, sine peregrina ulla miscela; odoroque et sapore ejus exploratis, exigua illius dosis ingerenda, et ad omnes, que inde contingunt affectiones, quis pulsus, quis calor, que respiratio, quænam excretiones attendendum. Inde ad doctum phenomenorum, in sano obivorum, transiess ad experimenta in corpore ægroto.*”

mists of prejudice, and like Aurora and the opening day, shed a beneficent light, clear and inextinguishable, over the generations of men.

The reader will perceive, by the perusal of the following pages, that Homœopathy is steadily progressing in all civilized countries. In Canada there are but few labourers in the great field of truth. Homœopathy has not been much cultivated here; but there is an excuse for it. "It is a young country, (as they say,) and therefore, not much to be expected." In time, we have no fear, this country will profit by the progress which our science makes in "good Old-England," and they will encourage and cultivate it.

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## CHAPTER I

### SOURCES OF THE ALIOPATHIC, OR COMMON MATERIA MEDICA.

SIXTY years have elapsed since Samuel Hahnemann, a native of Saxony, gave a new basis to the art of healing, through the knowledge which he acquired, by the trial of several hundred remedies on his own body, assisted also, in these trials, by a large number of other medical men. The conclusions drawn from these experiments were, that every medical man should first learn the effects which a medicine produces on a healthy body before he administers it to a diseased person. This great truth has never been denied by those who have practically investigated this subject; those only oppose and retard its progress, who are either too lazy or too ignorant to investigate. "The indolent and the self-conceited of every calling, are generally contented with the most restricted limits of the science, which is connected with their pursuits; and all innovations, whether advances of improvements or not, they look upon only as the imposition of additional labour."

We have hitherto acquired but a scanty knowledge of a remedy; its powers, its admissibility in this or that malady. It could not, in fact, be otherwise, when we take into consideration the imperfect and unscientific manner *Materia Medica* has hitherto been cultivated.

We propose to show, by an examination of the various methods that medical men have resorted to, for ascertaining the properties of medicines, how little could be reasonably expected from any of these different plans.

In the early ages of human society, we may suppose that accident gave rise to the discovery of curative virtues in certain articles, and that random experiments, in the