THE PERMEATION OF PRESENT DAY MEDICINE BY HOMOEOPATHY, PP. 1-108

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649441525

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THE PERMEATION OF PRESENT DAY MEDICINE BY HOMEOPATHY.

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"But so few are thinkers? Ay, Reader, so few think; there is the rub! Not one in the thousand has the smallest turn for thinking; only for passive dreaming and hear-saying, and active babbling by rote. Of the eyes that men do glare withal so few can see."—
Thomas Carlyle.

"If a truth is established, objections are nothing. The one is founded on our knowledge, and the other on our ignorance."—BISHOP BUTLER.

SECOND EDITION.

1904.

LONDON: E. GOULD & SON, LTD., 59, MOORGATE STREET.

H 615.53 B 877P 1904

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PREFACE.

This little work was written at the request of the Council of the British Homosopathic Congress, as a paper to be read at the meeting of Congress in London in 1902. It was soon found that the mass of material I had got together would make the paper far too long to be read at one meeting. A portion of it was therefore read, and the rest was taken as read, and published in instalments in the Monthly Homosopathic Review.

What I call the "First Chapter" consists of the numerous bits of unconscious homosopathic treatment collected by Hahnemann from all known medical works from Hippocrates down to his own time. These extracts are extremely interesting, and well worth reading, but as they would be looked upon at the present day as simply ancient history, I have omitted them in this paper.

The "Second Chapter" of evidence, I have collected from standard works of the old school down to 1869. The drugs there cited are *forty-one* in number, and are arranged alphabetically, with the exception of the last five, which are taken from the current journals.

The "Third Chapter" commences with the publication, in 1869, of Dr. Ringer's well-known Manual of Therapeutics. The drugs cited from Dr. Ringer's work are given in the order in which he puts them in his fifth edition.

The "Fourth Chapter" commences with 1870, and goes down to 1885. In this and the following chapter I take each year's evidence consecutively, making thus an annual record.

The "Fifth Chapter" is continued in the same way from 1885 to 1902, when this paper was written.

Such an arrangement of the evidence brought forward in this book may seem inartistic, but it shows my argument more clearly than if all the drugs were arranged alphabetically. I therefore keep to my original plan, and the INDEX of the drugs cited—in all seventy-three—will enable the reader to find the place of each when he wants it.

The aim of my argument is stated in the first two pages, and need not be repeated here.

The British Homeopathic Association deemed that the argument, with the mass of evidence to support it, was so important in the question of the truth of the law of similars, and its practical application in practice known as homeopathy, that the Executive Committee requested me to allow them to re-publish the paper in its present form. To this I gladly acceded, and I trust that such a convincing mass of evidence will be "read, marked, and inwardly digested" by our professional friends of the old school, and so be a means of advancing the Truth in medicine.

D. D. B.

February, 1904.

THE PERMEATION OF PRESENT DAY MEDICINE BY HOMOEOPATHY.

CHAPTER I.

My aim in this paper is to show how largely, from comparatively recent times till the present day, our friends of the old school, while running down our principles of treatment as unscientific, as the "grave of medicine," and as absurd; while refusing to meet us in consultation, preventing us becoming members of the various medical preventing us becoming members of the various medical societies, or holding any public appointments in connection with hospitals or otherwise; while calling themselves "regular" practitioners, and us, consequently, irregular ones—in other words, professionally tabooing us; and stating, as the Lance did the other day, that our treatment "is tantamount to no treatment at all," yet show clearly how our principles and practice are adopted by them, though without any schowledgment or any hint of the though without any acknowledgment, or any hint of the source from which the "now" treatment is obtained. Imitation is said to be the sincerest form of flattery, and in spite of all denunciations of our principles and consequent treatment of disease, it cannot but gratify us to find that in this unmistakably practical way our views are steadily leavening the practice of our opponents. Our gratification is, however, a trifling matter. What is more important, and well worth the consideration of those who taboo us, is that it is one of the strongest arguments for the proof of the truth and solid basis of our therapeutics. When we find a man who opposes our views, and not merely opposes them, but denies their scientific

nature, and will have nothing to say to us in consequence, who yet adopts our treatment-treatment that from an allopathic standpoint is utterly wrong and absolutely contra-indicated, treatment that is explicable on no other theory than the action of the law of similars, and who publishes his successful use of such therapeusis, we maintain that his theoretical opposition is simply ridiculous and a contradiction in terms. We have always stated that however beautiful homoeopathy is in theory, the practical results of the theory are the only tests that are of real value. If the theory fails to be borne out in practice it is worthless. Hence, per contra, if our opponents find the homoeopathic treatment a success, whether prescribed wittingly or otherwise, the ground of theoretical objection is cut away from their feet. It is this practical, forcible, and irrefutable argument that I propose to demonstrate in this paper. There is, therefore, nothing original in It is simply an array of facts, collated for a special purpose, but perhaps of more value as an argument than an article containing original views. You will also be good enough to observe that in arranging these facts I quote entirely from allopathic writers, and abstain altogether from any statements from homocopathic sources, either as to pathogenesis or treatment.

Perhaps I should begin by recounting the remarkable amount of blind evidence, that is, evidence given unwittingly, which Hahnemann discovered in his marvellously wide reading in medical works published before his own day. Showing an extraordinary amount of erudition, Hahnemann studied these works after he had thought out the doctrine of similars, to see if any conscious or unconscious use had been made of it since the days of Hippocrates, who stated that "Some diseases are cured by likes, and some by contraries." The amount of such evidence, which he published in support of his views, is remarkable. If any of my hearers have not read these cases, the sooner they do so the better for themselves and for their further appreciation of the careful study and learning of the great Hahnemann. But though this information remains a sealed book to allopaths because they will not look into it, yet it would take up more time than I should feel warranted in doing in a Congress paper to go into these ancient records. And, besides, it might be said that they were too ancient to have much bearing

on the relations between the two schools to-day. I therefore only refer to them in passing as being most interesting and instructive, as showing how, long before Hahnemann's time, the principle of similars was frequently acted upon in practice. They are well worth reading, and constitute what I would call the First Chapter in the books of evidence in support of my present argument.

The Second Charter consists of similar evidence from old-school standard authors up till the time when Dr. Sydney Ringer published his *Handbook of Therapeutics* in 1869, the epoch from which I date the commencement

of what I term the THIRD CHAPTER.

The FOURTH CHAPTER consists in evidence from 1870 to 1885, and is given in the order of consecutive years. The Fifth Chapter is continued in the same manner

from 1885 to 1902,

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