SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS AND THE ADVANTAGES OF THEIR TREATMENT ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES AND EXPERIENCE OF HOMOEOPATHY. DESCRIBED AND DEMONSTRATED BY NUMEROUS EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL CURES

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H. GOULLON & EMIL TIETZE

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ву

DR. H. GOULLON, OF WEIMAR.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN

BY

EMIL TIETZE, M.D.

" A misunderstanding only can place the essence of Homosopathy in small doses." B. HIRSCHEL.

BOERICKE & TAFEL.

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"ALLOPATHS content themselves but too often with a removal of the peripheric phenomena, while the essence of the disease, the living centre, as it were, from which the most various phenomena issue, remains unmoved in all its force, or is transposed to a locality still more dangerous.

"The Homosopath, on the other hand, after a careful search for the peripheric morbid phenomena, endeavors to pierce the centre of the disease itself, and destroy it by a remedy homosopathically corresponding to it.

"J. BAMBERGER."

PREFACE.

On superficial consideration it might appear superfluous to write upon a subject sufficiently dwelt upon by the most different authors in homeopathic literature; to speak at length of a disease, to recognize which, in many cases, is no difficult matter for laymen, even. For here the question is not as to the establishment of a diagnosis by means of laborious and minute microscopical experiments, or as to researches for repugnant animal or vegetable parasites; on the contrary, scrofulosis moves among the crowd of mortals unveiled, clumsily and openly, impressing a seal upon its victims easily to be recognized.

Though the fear of this momentous dyscrasia is not so strong and intense, as that of its near relative, tuberculosis; yet the verdict of the physician, "your child is scrofulous," does nevertheless, not unfrequently occasion great anxiety. And it will afford much consolation to parents to know that their child may be freed from its evil by gentle means.

This gentle liberation, however, can take place only by the application of the homeopathic method of healing, and just here the advantages and invaluable blessings of the new doctrine stand out prominently.

In view of the enormous spread of scrofulosis, it is of the greatest importance to state those advantages, as well as to uncover, without fear or favor, the shortcomings, not to say crimes, of the old antiserofulous method of treatment, and to acquaint the attending physician with the new remedies in a comprehensible and practical manner. To write a monograph on scrofulosis in this sense, from the standpoint of humanity, so to say, as well as of science, is probably not without merit. It may be that Prof. Leo's notorious and ominous word of "the scrofulous plebs" will gradually die out, and be forgotten, if only the mild, rational method of curing gains ground over the erroneous one favoring both degenerations, and increase of the evil. Then, the uninvited and obtrusive guest will certainly have to shorten his visits, and the inmates of huts

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and palaces alike fare much better. The panic fear of parents, as well as of children, at mentioning the words "scrofula," and "antiscrofulous treatment," may be removed, and changed into hopeful confidence.

Although there is no scarcity of reports of homoeopathic cures of scrofula and its many species, these reports, nevertheless, are scattered, and mostly forgotten; they are, likewise, of unequal value, and not all equally commendable for imitation. For the purpose of obtaining homoeopathic antiscrofulosa of real worth, we will, hence, let pass in critical review those reports of cures from the first date of their appearance to the present day, and recommend only what has proved itself of practical value.

There are self-evidently, as we have stated above, complications of scrofulosis with other constitutional anomalies which, however, cannot be regarded here; since the doctrine of genuine scrofulosis itself presents to us a complete literature of its own. Moreover, the principal momentum of the whole treatise will have to be placed in that portion of it pertaining to therapeuties. For, of what good to the reader are hypotheses, however ingenious; what help does it afford him, for instance, to be told that, according to Arlt, photophobia, blepharospasmus, watering of the eyes in scrofulous ophthalmia (pustular ophthalmia) are said to be but the results of reflex-action which the irritation of the sensitive branches of the n. trigeminus exerts upon the ciliary, lachrymal and facial nerves; would be not prefer to know, rather, that homeopathy possesses remedies by which it masters these reflex-phenomena together with their original source, and what they are? Thus the possibility of a quick and useful application of the material presented, must be the leading tendency. Besides, no great importance is to be placed upon the principle of classifying the various scrofula-forms, if only none of them are forgotten that can be easily recognized, and thus are well-fixed on account of their sufficiently characteristic phenomena.

It appears most convenient and practical, probably, to observe, as I shall attempt to do in the following pages, a physiologico-anatomical order. Before, however, the general consideration regarding the origin and essence of scrofulosis, may find a place here.

SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

I.

GENERAL PATHOLOGY OF SCROFULOSIS.

SCHLEIDEN, the celebrated botanist, used to open his lectures by frankly confessing to his attentive audience that he did not know what a plant was. Something similar happens to pathologists regarding scrofulosis; for while some form an idea thereof that takes in too little, others entertain one comprising too much. And though the knowledge of this disease dates far back in ancient times, there is yet, at the present day even, neither a Virchow nor an Oppolzer able to point out the last, so to say, biological cause of this dyscrasia. Or is the definition satisfactory, to say that scrofula results from disturbances of nutrition, taking place where poor and badly-aired dwellings, unhealthy, non-nitrogenous food,* an effeminating way of living and other conditions begetting disease, show their deleterious influence? Do we not find this evil in all its innumerable manifestations even where the conditions mentioned are absent?

Indeed, in derision, as it were, of all theories, we see that constitutions entirely opposite, are affected by scrofulosis. Fleshy, bloated, full-cheeked, phlegmatic individuals are free from it as little as is the sanguine temperament with its slim, vivacious, warm-blooded (arterial) character. Children living in miserable, overcrowded dwellings, who, all the year round,

^{*} Though it is certain that animal food, even, calls forth a predisposition to scrofula (Bazin, Jousset).