

**HOMOEOPATHIA REVEALED; A
BRIEF EXPOSITION OF THE
WHOLE SYSTEM: ADAPTED TO
GENERAL COMPREHENSION**

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Homoeopathia Revealed; A Brief Exposition of the Whole System: Adapted to General
Comprehension by Alexis Eustaphie

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ALEXIS EUSTAPHIEVE

**HOMOEOPATHIA REVEALED; A
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To John Forbes, M. D., F. R. S.

SIR,

I beg leave to inscribe to you my second edition of "*Homœopathia Revealed*," in testimony and in payment of the debt of pleasure laid on me by your original and somewhat eccentric work on *Homœopathy, Allopathy*, and "*Young Physick*," which a valued friend commended to my perusal. That there may be a fair estimate, with a view to the general balance of the amount of obligation on either side, on mine already avowed, on yours yet to be acknowledged, I begin by declaring myself

DEBTOR,

1. To your solemn denunciation of the too officious and often murderous assaults of Allopathia on the forces of Nature, neither carefully watched, nor allowed a sufficient time for their sanative action.

2. To your endorsing the doctrine that medicines have no other power to cure diseases than such as is exerted by Nature, strengthened by their timely assistance.

3. To your corroborating the important fact, that the lists of mortality in countries enjoying an abundance of physicians, are comparatively the same, or somewhat larger, than in the regions wholly destitute of such blessing.

4. To your twenty articles of *AGITANDA, EXREGITANDA, AGENDA*, intended to form the new constitution of "*YOUNG PHYSIC*," which, to all intents and purposes, are so many thinly disguised counterparts of what Homœopathia is now doing, and what, on no mean scale, she has done already.

5. To your formal acknowledgment that Homœopathia, as a system, is *almost* as good, and certainly as well established as Allopathia herself; a concession which, from an opponent of your calibre, must satisfy her most enthusiastic friends.

6. To your admission of all her claims in full, inferred from the fewness and fragility of weapons used against her, hurtful only to the hand that wields them. Thus the attempted transfer of homœopathic cures, all in a lump, to the credit of Nature alone, provokes the instant charge and proof of being entirely gratuitous; while the straw-catching belief that Homœopathia, after she had cured a disease of sixteen years' duration, may still be an impostor, because, at the very moment that her first globule touched the tongue, nature may have taken the whole affair into her own hands, involves a series of questions which it may not be easy or pleasant to answer. For instance, how and whence did Nature get this sudden curing power, of which her *non*-exercise of it proves her to have been deprived for sixteen years previous? Again, why should Nature be so nobly sensitive at the approach of Homœopathia, and yet never honor Allopathia with the like manifestation of feeling? Does not this indicate the real difference between the mistress emulous of a worthy rival, and the slave shrinking from the presence of her despotic oppressor? Deny this difference, and what follows? The hypothetical disqualification would apply equally to both systems, and lead to a direct inquiry how you would like a patient of yours, on presenting him your bill in the just pride and full consciousness of having relieved him from sixteen years' sufferings, to turn upon his heels after coolly telling you that he owes you nothing, Nature, at the first sight of your pill, having snatched him from your hands and finished her work of cure, with thanks to no one but herself? In like manner, the assumption that persons in full health, while undergoing the trial of remedies, would be apt to fancy all kinds of ailments which Homœopathia sets down as symptoms, is instantly repelled by the fact that no fancy can fancy itself into topical diseases, which form so great a part of these symptoms. Neither will imagination accept the charge of homœopathic cures, so wantonly forced upon it, since it is enlisted and works with all its might against them in incipient trials; it being a matter of notoriety that nine patients out of ten, when first they turn to Homœopathia, do so from sheer desperation against their long, habitual confidence in the old school; against their own fixed

prepossession, fostered by the warnings of that school, and against the combined influence of all that can create mistrust and the uneasiness of apprehension. Poor, indeed, must be the armory where the wants of an offensive war are so ill supplied; strong the truth that can thus paralyze the arm well-tried and skilled in combat; and most triumphant the vindication of that cause, to refute which nothing better has been found in the ample stores of professional learning and resources. And now I take my turn as CREDITOR,

1. By supplying you with a *quantum sufficit* of those facts which you deem so necessary to the making up of your mind, and the call for which is the dominant note of your book.

2. By showing you that Homœopathia cures promptly and effectually many diseases which are incurable, when left exclusively to Nature.

3. By satisfying you that the remedial power of infinitesimal doses is a demonstrable and demonstrated fact, before which, as you say yourself, "all declamations are vain," and worse than useless.

4. By suggesting to you, as I now do, that the easiest, the shortest, and the surest way to verify this mysterious power, is to *try it on yourself*; and that, until you have done so, until you can oppose something better than your naked assertion to recorded facts, nothing can palliate your hardihood in contradicting, as you do in reference to the Peruvian bark, the highest authority, that of the martyr of truth, for whom you profess so great a respect, and who, as you yourself admit, did not announce the peculiar effects of that drug upon a healthy person until he had ascertained them by an actual experiment upon himself. Do you likewise! and it will not require many days to place you in a condition to appease the mighty shade whose resentment you have so justly incurred.

5. By laying before you, in the very charcoal which you have so confidently selected for nullifying the preparatory process of Homœopathia, the most striking illustration that her trituration and much-derided shakings not only evolve the dynamic potency of drugs, but, what you deny most strenuously, convert inert substances into active, as you may at any time convince

yourself by repeating the charcoal experiment upon your own person.

6. By calling your attention to the mathematical fact that you cannot annihilate matter by any subdivisions you may assign to it in act or imagination; and that, however infinite may be the comminutions of Homœopathia, they still fall short of reality, of their extremest point of attenuation. Multiply your seventy-six Os by as many figures as will make your proposed line of globules reach, not the sun, but the great Sirius himself, and still there will remain prepared in Nature's own laboratory a higher dilution, not the less fearful and fatal to man, of the virus of hydrophobia, of which not the incomprehensibility, but the fact alone concerns us; and such being the fact, "all declamations are vain" in its presence, and worse than useless, according to your own quotation.

7. By presenting you with a mirror, the only one within my knowledge, in which the entire form of Homœopathia, spiritual and corporeal, such as it is in reality, a unit of soul and body, is reflected and exhibited to your contemplation. Analyze all the parts, examine well each distinct feature, review the whole in connection, and if all this does not bring you to the point of making up your mind, I can only say I have given you the opportunity.

What I have said thus far may give you an idea of my great vanity and presumption; and I own the appearances are in favor of such conclusion. Appearances, however, are often deceitful, and are so on the present occasion. I am only one of those plain men who think that a simple, inoffensive truth may be uttered in one's own case as freely as in that of another. I am only confident *quo ad hoc*, and what reason I have to be so you will judge presently. I pause only to balance our accounts by crediting you with being a homœopath in embryo; and I proceed to address you as such to the end of the chapter.

Be it then known to you, that since the publication of my little work in 1837, I have made my pilgrimage to the living fountain of Homœopathia—have gazed upon the countenance, listened to the voice, and pressed the hand of "the sublime old man," ere long to be enshrined by grateful posterity among the greatest benefactors of mankind. I did more. I laid my hum-

ble revelations before him, and was honored with his unqualified approbation. The doctrines and principles laid down in them as the constituent elements of Homœopathia, were pronounced true and genuine by him from whom she sprang, as did Minerva from the brain of Jupiter. The means, as therein explained, which attest her existence and modify her action, were in like manner acknowledged by him who first discovered, adjusted, and put them into practice. In short, he that conceived the bright original, and breathed his spirit into it, recognized its embodied image in the portrait.

In such circumstances, I trust, you will not think it strange or unpardonable that I should speak, and think it even my duty to speak of my work as I would of another man's work, with the same sincerity and freedom. In truth, I feel that it is gone from me—that it belongs now to the public, not to be deprived of its property by my interposition. It is so far ahead of the author that he perforce must part with it, and be content to rest unnoticed in the rear. Other hands, more powerful than his, have placed it on the summit of authority, and there it must stand palpable to sight, a beacon by whose light the true and the false disciples may at once be contradistinguished and identified. The former will hail it with cordial welcome, the latter may be compelled to show cause why they should not be numbered with those whom the great master-spirit had DISOWNED so formally and on all occasions.

A work of this character was never needed more than at the present hour, when a laxity on one side, and encroachments on the other, have placed the deity of health in that false, inverted position, against the danger of which the public cannot be too soon or too officiously warned. It is quite time to stop, if possible, the immolation of victims on the altar, and in the name of the very power that was sent forth to save them; and the martyr who felt the rack may well be permitted the poor consolation of showing where it lies, by way of caution to his fellow-creatures.

I have reason to think that among the opponents of Homœopathia, none is more aware than yourself, or less disposed to deny that the majority of the votaries of Allopathia, imbued, as heretofore, with a sense of her supposed dignity and scholastic

superiority, still shun the tabooed dwelling of the new comer; and acting on mere reports and assumptions, condemn what they refuse to know, and think it a disgrace in a matter of life and death to be able to judge for themselves. What particular medicine more than another cures this or that disease, seems to be the utmost stretch of their inquiry; but why—by what permanent, inherent quality this medicine performs the cure, is a question, which although the true one, is scarcely ever asked. The curative effects of a remedy in presence of disease, gleaned from the pages of pharmacopœia, seems to be all they know, or care to know of its specific virtues; whereas this knowledge, so vital to the healing art, can only be obtained from its primary aggressive action upon a person in full health; a fact, the discovery of which by Hahnemann, suffices of itself to gain for him the gratitude of ages. From this admitted fact, susceptible of proof so as to stare one in the face, they turn away with marvellous indifference; and while they are so active in distilling science, skill, rational medicine, and all kinds of imposing learning from their lips, their real locomotive progress ceases just where it should go on. They certainly have learned the value of the stranger's pharmacy as far superior to their own, else they would scarcely make so free with it; but then what led to the discovery of medicines in substances not used as such, though not unknown by name, and on what principle those are and ought to be selected, they seem to consider beyond the sphere of their profession. Hence it is that they either do not know, or will not own, that at this very moment they are treading in the steps of their opponents, and differ from them only in the want of precaution. While they continue to denounce poor Homœopathia as a sheer humbug, and while their unleashed war-dogs bark loud as ever at her passing shadow, they are actually doing homage to her fundamental creed, "the like cure the like," by administering her remedies, not only so far as each remedy becomes strictly homœopathic when directed against a disease the like of which it produces in a healthy person, but in the sense of full unqualified acceptance of such as are emphatically her own, and stand conspicuously on her list. Thus, in *congestions to the head, scarlatinas, acute inflammatory fevers,*

inflammation of the lungs, bronchitis, croup, trachitis, peripneumonia, and final consumptions, varying in kind, but alike in their fatal terminations, they give Belladonna, Aconite, quinine, iron, ipecacuanha, senega, and tartar-emetic, all which respectively produce the like diseases in the normal state of the body, and in so high a degree as to cause death if persevered in, or not soon enough suspended.

This is what they are doing now, and this is neither more nor less the veritable Homeopathia herself!! A step farther this way and all would be right; but they refuse to take this step, and then what follows is a wanton abuse of means, a barefaced disregard of the laws of inference, and an unnatural violation of the cause by its effects. It is an advance, so far as there is less groping in the dark, less guesswork in the drug compounds, less latitude and fancy in prescriptions; but it is an advance that stops just where it cuts the patient off from all the benefits of old uncertainty, and from all chances of escape by means of blunders that were wont to counteract each other.

Nature alone being invested with the power of cure, a remedy can do no more than, by a dynamic union, add so much of its strength to the disease as to insure his spoil of life, or so little as just to quicken his growth into maturity, and end the monster before her vital forces are exhausted. Whether of this important truth they have any suspicion, or studiously conceal it, they in either case evade the obvious conclusion, that diminution of doses is not a matter of caprice, but the result of absolute necessity, inasmuch as the organ cannot be too tenderly used, which, in addition to the morbid action of disease already so enfeebling, has to sustain the like remedial action of a more than equal power. The consequence is, that they head the raging conflagration with nothing but combustibles to check it, and thus add fuel to the flame when they ought to have kindled the small counter fire, as certain to extinguish as it is sure to meet it. Persuaded that what they do not know is not worth knowing, and resolved to stand by each other, come what may, they rack the victim with their noxious drugs at pleasure, pour poison upon poison, and when death ensues, they make Homeopathia their scape-goat, by proclaiming that in her hands the