

# **ORGANON OF MEDICINE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649663873

Organon of Medicine by Samuel Hahnemann & R. E. Dudgeon

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**SAMUEL HAHNEMANN & R. E. DUDGEON**

**ORGANON  
OF MEDICINE**



ORGANON  
OF  
MEDICINE

BY  
SAMUEL HAHNEMANN.

---

*Aude sapere.*

---

TRANSLATED FROM THE FIFTH EDITION, WITH AN APPENDIX,

BY  
R. E. DUDGEON, M. D.

---

SECOND AMERICAN EDITION.

---

PHILADELPHIA :  
BOERICKE & TAFEL,  
1906.

**AUTHORIZED EDITION.**

## TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

---

IN this new edition of my translation of the ORGANON I have completely revised the text, in order to make it a still more exact reproduction of the original. In the Appendix I have given all the more important variations of the previous editions. I have also indicated the corresponding views as set forth in the *Essay on a New Principle* and the *Medicine of Experience*, both of which essays may be regarded as the precursor of the ORGANON. I have added Hahnemann's later opinions on several subjects treated of in this work. In the growth of such a complex thing as a new system of medicine, it was inevitable that there should be considerable alterations and improvements effected in the course of forty-eight years, the time occupied by Hahnemann in the elaboration of his novel doctrine and practice. His first idea of the homœopathic rule of practice occurred to him while translating Cullen's *Materia Medica* in 1790. The *Essay on a New Principle*, in which he propounded the homœopathic therapeutic rule, as yet believed by him to be of only "partial application," viz. to some chronic diseases, was published in 1796. Nine years after this, viz. in 1805, in the *Medicine of Experience*, he enunciated the rule with no such limitations of its applicability. This essay contains much of what we find in the first and later editions of the ORGANON. The first edition of this latter work appeared in 1810. The second edition, differing very considerably from the first, was published in 1819. The third edition, which hardly differed at all from the previous one, appeared in 1824. The fourth edition,

which offers some important variations from the text of its immediate predecessor (chiefly determined by the new theory of chronic diseases), bears the date of 1829. The fifth and last edition, published in 1833, contains several novelties, such as the theories of the "vital force" and "the dynamisation of medicines." In previous editions Hahnemann had in several places spoken rather slightly of the vital force and its influence on the production and cure of disease, but these expressions are either eliminated or greatly modified in the last edition, and the "vital force" occupies quite a different and a much more important position in regard to disease, its cause and cure. The doctrine of dynamisation of medicines by the pharmaceutical processes peculiar to homœopathy, which had only been hinted at in previous editions, is in this edition distinctly stated. The directions as to the repetition of the dose are also different from those in previous editions. These two last-named points are still further modified in Hahnemann's later work on *Chronic Diseases* (1838), as will be seen by the quotations I have made from that work.

Thus while the body of this work contains the ORGANON precisely as it appears in the last edition, the Appendix gives a detailed history of the origin, growth and progress of the homœopathic system of medicine in the mind of its author.

I have not presumed to criticise the views or statements of the author. His denunciations of the practice of the old school, though quite deserved when he wrote, are not applicable to the present condition of allopathic medicine. It is beyond all question that it was mainly owing to the treatment and practice of Hahnemann and his disciples that the disastrous methods in vogue for centuries previous to and far into his time have been abandoned. It remains, however, doubtful if the allopathic methods of the present day have any greater claim to scientific character or success than those they have superseded. Were Hahnemann alive now we can easily imagine how he would have inveighed against the school-medicine of the present day. The tonic, stimulant, anti-



TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

v

pyretic and narcotic practice of modern medicine is as far removed from the scientific simplicity of homœopathy as were the venesections, blisters, cauteries, purgatives and mercurialisations against which Hahnemann waged successful war. Hahnemann's vigorous protest against the dominant medicine of his day is useful as showing the negative good effects of homœopathy, for almost all the irrational practices he denounced have been abandoned; it remains for his followers to exhibit its positive effects in the victory of rational and scientific medicine.

I am indebted to Dr. Richard Hughes for several emendations of my first translation, whereby the author's meaning has been rendered more exact and clearer; also for some rectifications of Hahnemann's quotations and for the idea of a comparative table or concordance of the aphorisms in the several editions, which he gave in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, vol. xxxix.

The references in the text to the notes in the Appendix are indicated by the sign "(a)," and some needful explanatory notes are enclosed in square brackets, or divided from the text by a line. The latter are confined to the quotations in the Appendix.

R. E. DUDGEON.

March, 1893.

## PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

---

ACCORDING to the testimony of all ages, no occupation is more unanimously declared to be a conjectural art than medicine; consequently none has less right to refuse a searching enquiry as to whether it is well founded than it, on which man's health, his most precious possession on earth, depends.

I consider that it redounds to my honour that I am the only one in recent times who has subjected it to a serious honest investigation, and has communicated to the world the results of his convictions in writings published, some with, some without my name.

In this investigation I found the way to the truth, but I had to tread it alone, very far from the common highway of medical routine. The farther I advanced from truth to truth, the more my conclusions (none of which I accepted unless confirmed by experience) led me away from the old edifice, which, being built up of opinions, was only maintained by opinions.

The results of my convictions are set forth in this book.

It remains to be seen whether physicians, who mean to act honestly by their conscience and by their fellow-creatures, will continue to stick to the pernicious tissue of conjectures and caprice, or can open their eyes to the salutary truth.

I must warn the reader that indolence, love of ease and obstinacy preclude effective service at the altar of truth, and only freedom from prejudice and untiring zeal qualify for the most sacred of all human occupations, the practice of the true system of medicine. The physician

who enters on his work in this spirit becomes directly assimilated to the Divine Creator of the world, whose human creatures he helps to preserve, and whose approval renders him thrice blessed.