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HOMOEOPATHIC THERAPEUTICS

BOENNINGHAUSEN

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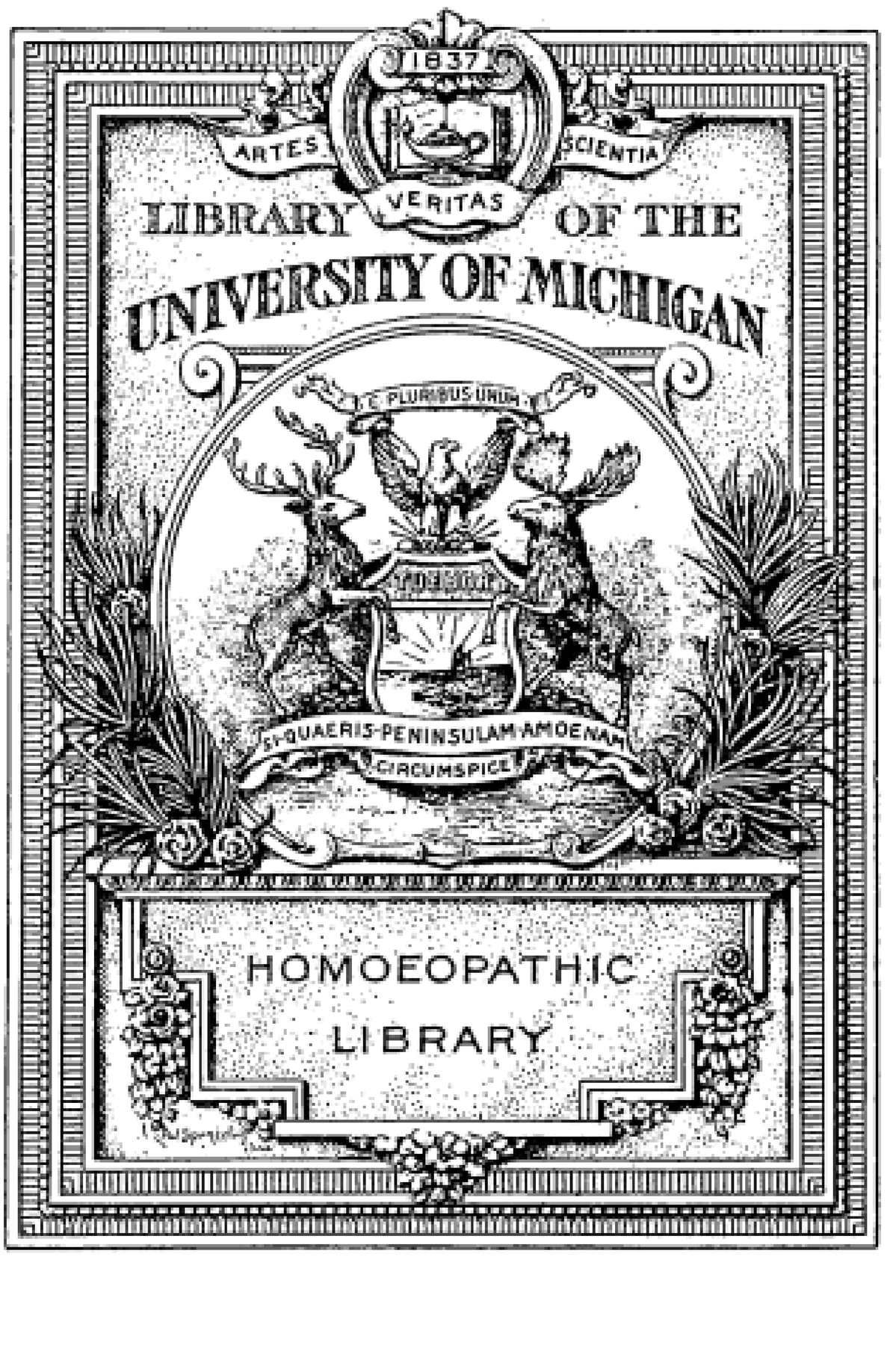

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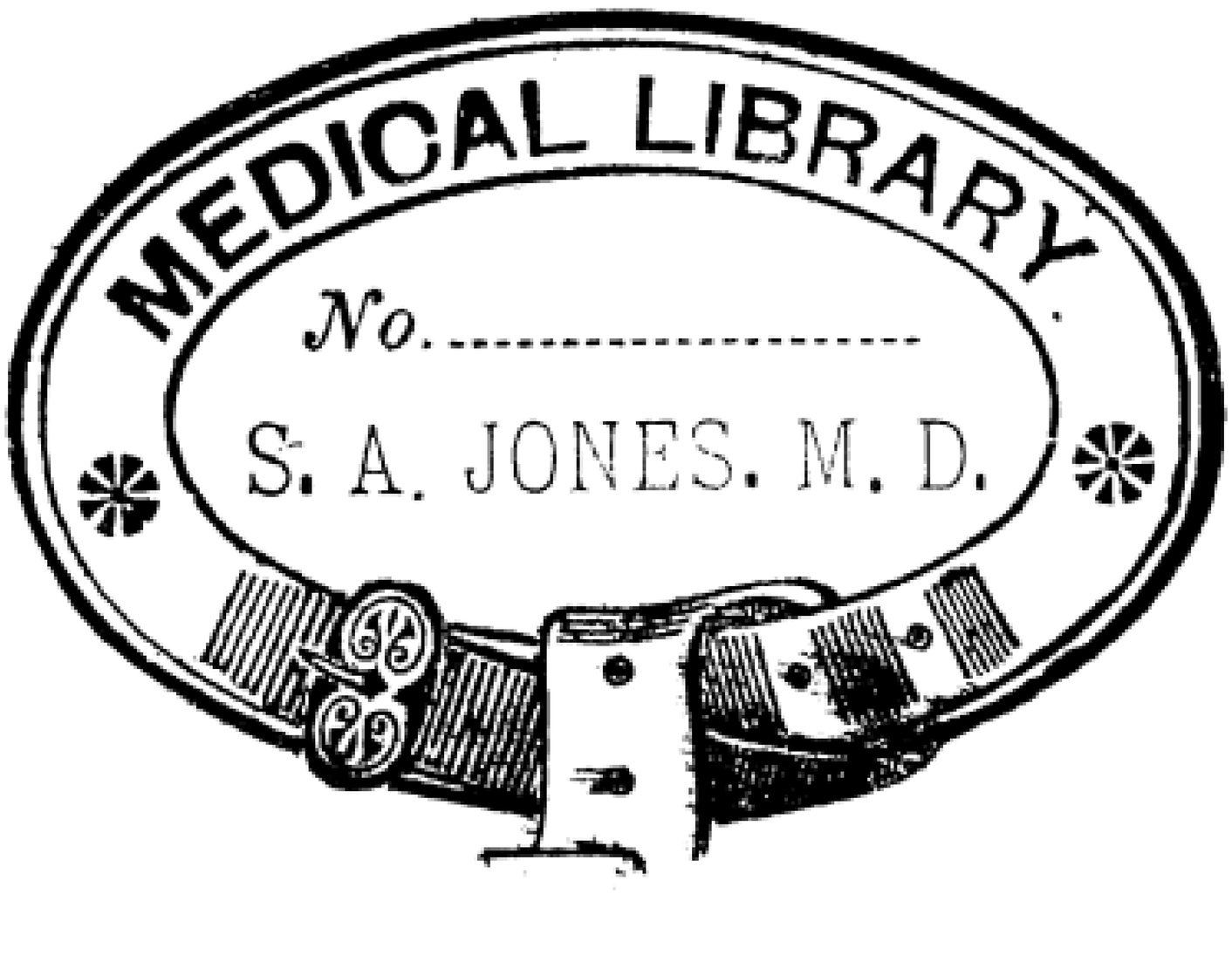

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MANUAL

OF

HOMŒOPATHIC THERAPEUTICS:

INTENDED ALSO AS

A Guide

IN THE

STUDY OF THE MATERIA MEDICA.

BY

C. BOENNINGHAUSEN, M.D.

TRANSLATED FROM DR. ROTH'S IMPROVED FRENCH EDITION,

BY

J. LAURIE, M.D.

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FORMERLY ONE OF THE PHYSICIANS TO THE WESTMINSTER AND LAMBETH HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL INSTITUTION AND DISPENSARY.

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PREFACE TO THE ENGLISH EDITION.

THERE are few who have laboured so assiduously as Dr. Boenninghausen to facilitate the study and practice of Homœopathy, in accordance with Hahnemann's injunctions. The present work bears further evidence of his ability and untiring zeal. Its merits cannot be appreciated by a cursory glance, but become readily apparent after a closer inspection.

I have preferred Dr. Roth's to the original version, chiefly in consequence of the improvement he has effected in the arrangement of the work. For directions as to the mode of using it, the reader is referred to the Author's preface.

J. L.

London, Oct. 1847.

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PREFACE.

SEVERAL years ago, that is, in the year 1837, Doctor Hering of Philadelphia, speaking of the difficulty of distinguishing the great number of symptoms furnished by many of our medicaments, thus very justly expressed himself: "Novices in Homœopathy, when they look at the medicaments with their long train of symptoms, imagine it impossible to ascertain the symptoms of any single medicament—like a rustic, who, for the first time in his life, finds himself in the midst of a large town, and wonders how it is possible to find the way among the number of streets: and yet, in a short time, he himself is quite at home among them. It is worth our while to consider how this is brought about. We well know that an inhabitant of a large town transported to a strange one, though there be little or no similarity between the two places, is less perplexed than another would be. Without being aware of it, he has adopted some method which enables him to discover his whereabouts in a strange locality."

To carry out Dr. Hering's comparison, I will suppose a person to be perfectly acquainted with one, two, or three large towns: in proportion, however, as he extends his acquaintance to others, his recollection of them becomes weaker and less distinct, and finally is reduced to a few streets, some public buildings and monuments: for however good his memory may be, there are limits beyond which it cannot with any certainty assist him.

If the mode of proceeding adopted by homœopathic physicians be closely examined, the justice of my assertion will become manifest. There are some who have a good knowledge of ten or twenty medicaments, others forty, and others sixty, &c. while they possess but a superficial knowledge of the remainder,—they only know some buildings and monuments, and practically give the preference to those streets which are familiar to them, neglecting the treasures to be found in other towns, and of the very existence of which, they have barely a suspicion.

This impossibility of knowing a great number of towns in all their ramifications by the aid of memory alone, has suggested the idea of drawing plans of them, annexing thereto an alphabetical list of the streets, alleys, courts, &c. as in those great capitals, London and

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Paris, of which, not even their native citizens, though blessed with the most retentive memories, have a thorough acquaintance. By means of these plans, and from the custom of referring to them, it is easy to become familiar with any town, if one have only a certain beacon or landmark.

Being perfectly convinced of the truth of these remarks, I felt the necessity of arranging similar guides for the Symptomatology of Homœopathic Medicaments. Many will consider works of this nature to be purely mechanical—others will estimate them far beyond their real value, declaring the authors of them to be the elect, or chosen few, by whom the gates of Heaven are to be thrown open to mankind! As frequently happens, both opinions are exaggerated. A lexicographer need not be a prosaic writer or a renowned poet, and even the author who possesses the greatest command of language, is forced to have frequent recourse to the works of Boiste and Landais. Let us, then, give to every one the merit he deserves, and because we differ in some points of secondary consideration on Homœopathy, do not let us become avowed enemies, occupied only in unveiling to the eyes of the world the imperfections of the opposite party, being too much shrouded in the clouds of self-love to perceive the rags which barely cover our own nakedness. Who amongst us, in this respect, is proof against reproach? If, therefore, we are all subject to these weaknesses, we still have all the human privileges of self-amendment: so let each one acknowledge his own foibles, and learn to be tolerant to the opinions of others.

We must render every justice to the efforts of Boenninghausen and Jahr. They have spared a great number of Homœopathic physicians many hours of wearisome research—they have pointed out to many the shortest means of extrication from the intricacies of the Materia Medica,—they have called their attention to objects which would otherwise have been unperceived, or but slightly noticed. Their works will be improved in time, either by themselves or their successors: they will be enriched by new discoveries, and stripped of all that is useless and superfluous.

The productions of these two writers differ in many respects. M. Jahr, in his Manual, introduces to all novices in Homœopathy a general plan of all tried medicaments, and points out their most important symptoms and most striking characters. M. Boenninghausen, on the other hand, has confined himself to the one hundred and twenty-five medicaments best known and tested in practice; but at the same time he goes fully into the details. The basis of his work is to give the entirety of the symptoms of the Materia Medica, and not a mere abstract. With the assistance of this book it is easy to ascend to the main source to find a medicament presenting perfect analogy to any given malady. In his previously-published works of this kind, M. Boenninghausen had divided the medicaments into Antipsoric and Apsoric; but in this he has adopted the alphabetical arrangement, which will effect an under-

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standing between the disciples and opponents of the Psora theory. Moreover, the unhappy differences which this theory brought about in Germany, are now at an end, or at all events they do not influence practice, for phosphorus and brimstone are now administered with as much success, in acute non-miasmatic, as nux-vomica and aconite in chronic miasmatic maladies.

M. Boenninghausen has introduced into his Manual the data furnished by practice at the sick-bed of the patient, or, in other words, Clinical Observations. We think that, on this account, the more enlightened followers of Homœopathy, far from blaming, will award him great praise. There will always be a wide difference between the symptoms of a natural malady and those produced by medicaments. We can only look for, here, a proximate resemblance bearing upon certain general points. The Materia Medica pura abounds with maladies consisting only of pains, sensations, increase or decrease of secretions; but as to the morbid phenomena which are caused by organic changes and material metamorphoses in the organs, no good result can be expected from any experiment made upon a person in full health. We ought, therefore, to welcome with gratitude facts furnished by practice, and be careful never to reject the data of Clinical Homœopathy, whatever errors may be apparent. Let him who has an opportunity of correcting the errors do so; but let him not despise any indication wherever it comes from, for we cannot repeat too often, that all of us, the richest in science as well as the poorest, the most busy as well as the least occupied, are often obliged to walk or grope our way in the dark: even the most learned and celebrated physicians ever known have been forced to make the same admissions.

Let it not be supposed that, from the tenor of these remarks, I wish to impeach the honour of medicine: the same uncertainty, the same imperfection, belongs to every science, every art and every trade: but their defects are not so much heeded, as nothing is therein at stake of such great value as health.

When I attach uncertainty and imperfection to the sciences, I do not except the positive; they are positive only abstractedly. In a practical point of view, their positiveness is very equivocal, and we are often tempted to apply a very opposite epithet to their data. Thus, mathematics, the most positive of all sciences, teach us that one and one make two. If any one were to express a doubt of this, there would be very considerable doubt as to his sanity. In theory this is perfectly exact: abstract unit added to abstract unit will always give two; but let us apply this abstract truth, and it will no longer appear to be so undeniable: for instance, one volume of liquid (say rectified alcohol) mixed with another volume of liquid (water) gives a less volume than the sum of the two. The sciences afford numberless examples of the same kind, and are too well known to need further comment.

Medicine also has its positive part,—Anatomy, for instance; but in practice it becomes merely auxiliary. A lady once wished to

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express to a celebrated physician of the past century, her admiration of his great talent. She began to extol his profound anatomical skill, by telling him, that a man who was so thoroughly acquainted with the structure of the human frame *must* be a great doctor. "Alas!" he replied, "we anatomists may be compared to watchmen; we know, as it were, every street and every house in the human body, but do not know what passes *within* those houses."

Besides the anatomy of the dead, there is, to use the words of Paracelsus, a *living anatomy*, which consists in the knowledge of the relationship existing between the exterior world and certain parts of the body. Only introduce certain substances by one of the gates, as it were, of the human city (our body), and, without any guide, they will find their way through a maze of streets, and lodge themselves in some special organ. This singular affinity of certain substances to certain parts of the body, can no longer be called in question, and the first part of M. Boenninghausen's Manual is especially intended to point out upon what parts of the body medicaments are most likely to act.

If our knowledge only extended to the specific action which such or such a medicament exercised upon such or such an organ, or upon such or such a series of organs, we should know very little indeed. Doubtless, to know the actual seat of a malady and the medicaments having a direct action upon it, is a great step in curative art: but in practice this is not all—it is not even enough. Every organ and every system of organs may be differently attacked by certain maladies; and medicaments, which exercise a specific action upon a certain organ, may act upon it in different ways. Anatomy and physiology have not yet made sufficient progress to enable us to characterize distinctly the difference in the elements of an organ; in fact, in the present state of science, to wish to know the pathological distinctions would be requiring an impossibility.

Hitherto we have had no other aid than from the different pains and sensations, and, though a deceitful guide, we were forced to receive them; for this being the only auxiliary, it would be absurd to despise it by reason of its imperfection. If it does not afford us complete certainty, it is at least one step towards perfection, to which, as we have before remarked, our descendants only can attain.

Sensations (sensations and pains) produced by a medicament upon different persons, are always described, in Hahnemann's Materia Medica, by the individual expressions of the person under treatment. In Homœopathy an infinitude of synonymous expressions has been the result; and we should, therefore, thank Mr. Boenninghausen for having collected, under a single rubric, a great majority of these synonyms; for difference of expression does not constitute a difference of sensation, but solely a different manner of expressing it by words. For our own part, we could have wished M. Boenninghausen had shewn himself still more enterprising upon this subject: for instance, as regards the digestive buccal excretions, we can readily understand the difference between the following expressions:—

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eructation, or escape of wind; *risings* from the stomach, or escape of liquid; *regurgitation*, or escape of particles of food. We know the difference between *nausea* or desire to vomit, and actual vomiting, but we do not know any between a desire to vomit, and nausea, or uneasiness of stomach. Yet we still find marked under these different rubrics different medicaments in the Manual as well as in the Materia Medica. Wherever, in the course of this work, we have met with synonyms, and the medicaments were identically the same, we have avoided repetitions, from consideration to the reader. If any should yet be found, they must have escaped our notice. When under synonymous names different medicaments were given, we have been naturally forced to follow the author, upon whom we throw the responsibility, should any one, without considering the difficulty of the task, be inclined to reproach him. M. Boenninghausen, not having given us a general index to his work, we have considered it our duty to make this necessary addition. An alphabetical table is the key to a book of this kind. Having regard, however, to the main divisions laid out by the author, we have introduced some changes into these divisions. We have avoided the alphabetical order, and have substituted as much as possible a scientific one. The essay on Etiology in its imperfect form is also our work, to which we do not attach any merit. We have also endeavoured to put under cover of this Manual a homœopathic terminology. All those whom it may not please, can, after having read this meagre essay, lay it aside, exclaiming with Montaigne, "Personne n'est exempt de dire des fadaises;" or with Terence, "Hæ iste magno conatu magnas magas dixit;" all which, however, will not prevent us saying to each of our kind readers, that

We remain

Their very humble servant,

D. ROTH.

Paris, 1*st May*, 1846.

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

UPWARDS of fifteen years have elapsed since I published, for the first time, a Repertory of Homœopathic Medicaments. The success which this work obtained, both in the original editions and under the form of a Manual, composed upon the same plan, and without any material alteration, by the industrious M. Jahr, is sufficient proof of its utility. A constant use of it during the above-mentioned period has been amply sufficient to judge of its advantages and defects, while, on the other hand, the publication of similar works up to this day, and their ready sale, show that the need which exists for them is not yet satisfied. It is beyond all doubt, that no Repertory, however complete, will ever replace a conscientious study of the Materia Medica Pura; nor, indeed, was it my intention to supersede it; on the contrary, I regard as most injurious all books which have this aim. But I shall demand, in turn, that the Homœopathic physician devote himself to the study of it only during his short intervals of leisure, and that in practice, a clear and succinct summary, presenting to him the principal characters of the symptoms, should assist his memory, so as to enable him, in every case of concrete disease, to choose with certainty, and without any considerable loss of time, the most suitable medicament from amongst those that are indicated.

The faults of the Repertories that have been published up to the present time, proceed, in my opinion, from the authors confining themselves to the limits of the Materia Medica Pura, doubtless annexing to them well-authenticated facts furnished by practice, but without turning both to account, in order to appreciate the value of each symptom, and to perfect one by the other, and so help to fill up the void which at every instant occurs to the practitioner. A great number of symptoms are incomplete, because they do not indicate the part of the body where they manifest themselves, or even the nature of the sensations, and especially because they do not declare the time, place, or circumstance of the exacerbation or the amelioration. The difficulties which are encountered in justly appreciating them in the treatment of a malady, are redoubled, by the impossibility of discovering the principal character in a single symptom; by the great and deceitful influence that the individual experimentalist always exercises over the results of the experiments, without speaking of a multitude of *alternative* symptoms of less importance, and also *secondary* symptoms; and, above

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all, by the absolute necessity of applying to the Materia Medica Pura, to judge of the import of the greatest part of the symptoms by an attentive comparison of the whole of the phenomena,—a comparison which can never be drawn at the moment, or without preparation. The inevitable results arising from all this, in ancient Repertories, is, on the one hand, a dissemination of many symptoms, more or less important, under different rubrics, and consequently a greater difficulty in grasping the whole; and on the other hand, a multitude of deficiencies impossible to be filled up, there being no grounds for any analogy. This uncertainty and paucity in the midst of the wealth with which Homœopathy abounds, induced me, many years ago, to seek the means of overcoming these defects, at least to the extent that the actual state of Homœopathy would permit; and I have here to thank my departed friend and master, S. Hahnemann, for the excellent advice that he gave me during an uninterrupted correspondence carried on until his death. Fearing to scatter the symptoms still further, and thus expose myself to well-merited reproaches, my first idea was to preserve the form and plan of my former Repertory. I was strongly disposed to this, from Hahnemann having often told me that my work was worth more than all those that had appeared since. I intended to publish it in a single volume, rendering it exact in every part, and completing it by analogy and experience; but the MS., when half finished, had run on to an unexpected length. I then renounced my previous intention so much the more readily, because I perceived that probably I should attain my aim in a manner at once more simple and complete, if by drawing forth the particular and characteristic symptoms of the medicaments after their different relations, I opened a way into the vast unexplored field of combination. To assure myself that I was not increasing Homœopathic literature by a useless book, it was necessary to consult my own experience and that of others, and when that experience satisfactorily confirmed my opinion that I was not relying upon the use of similar methods, limited to Polychrest medicaments;—when the founder of the New School had approved my idea, which he qualified as fertile and excellent, I no longer hesitated to remodel my work, and to give it the form of the Manual which I now present to the public, entreating them at the same time to excuse its inevitable errors and defects. The Manual has a double aim, as the title indicates: Firstly, to assist the memory of the physician, in the choice of medicaments; and, secondly, to serve, in the study of the Materia Medica Pura, as a guide, by means of which he may be enabled to find his way, to judge the greater or minor value of the different symptoms, and to complete and define them with greater accuracy. From the great number of medicaments ranged under every rubric, it was necessary to indicate, by difference of character, the difference of the value of these medicaments. I had done this in my preceding Repertories, with the full approbation of Hahnemann. Throughout the course of this work the medicines are

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classed in five subdivisions, distinguished by their character. The four principal medicaments distinctly appear in the first division, under the rubric EAGERNESS, page 1, No. 3; by these they can judge of the others.

The abbreviation PULS., printed in large capitals, occupies the first and most conspicuous place, and is the most frequently employed. The abbreviations ARS. and LYC. follow in progression in small capitals, as less distinguished, although as much recommended by practice as by the characteristics of the medicaments. The abbreviations *natr.* and *sep.* are ranged underneath in italics, and in the lowest degree of importance stands calc., printed in small type. The fifth and last place is filled by doubtful medicaments that are not sanctioned by experience, and which rarely appear; they are put between parentheses, as, for example, p. 74, No. 481, the abbreviations (arg.), (asar.), (bism.), (cis.), and others.

It is almost unnecessary to remark that this classification, which is neither capable nor easy of extension, is not of mathematical accuracy—that it only indicates a greater or lesser approximation towards the superior or inferior degree. All I proposed to myself, was, that in making a mistake, one must be under a half degree. I do not assert, that within these limits one will always be right. All I can affirm is, that I have not spared either trouble, care, or precaution, to render errors as rare as possible. The plan of this work is easily comprehended, and requires no long explanation. It is divided into seven parts perfectly distinct from each other, and in each of these divisions, to facilitate inquiry, the systematic order has been as much as possible combined with the alphabetical. Although each part ought to be considered as a complete whole, it never yields, however, more than a part of a symptom, which receives its complement from one or many of the other parts. In odontalgia, for example, the seat of the pain is found in the second, the nature of the pain in the third, the exacerbation or diminution of pain, according to time, place, and circumstances, in the sixth; and that which is necessary as an accessory to complete the description of the malady, and warrant the choice of medicaments, must be sought for equally in the different chapters. As regards the *first part*, we wish it to be particularly observed on one hand, that our Materia Medica Pura is no where richer in secondary symptoms than in moral symptoms; and on the other hand, that a great number of homœopathists, at the beginning of their career, are in the habit of neglecting or overlooking that part of a complete picture of the malady, or of committing great mistakes. I have therefore thought it would be useful to collect here, under the smallest possible number of rubrics, every thing most essential to facilitate inquiry. The chapter entitled "Intellect," (Intellectual Faculties), may be, in like manner, considerably simplified, because many phenomena take their precise signification from another cause; as, for example, the mental alienation from the different moral gradations. In the *second part*, I have united equally all that could be, because

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the entire aim of the work is to explain one thing by another. Per contra, the reader will remark many symptoms (for example, the external head, face, cough), whose importance is revealed in practice, and for which he would seek vainly in other works. Moreover, this part is particularly intended to indicate what medicaments act more or less powerfully upon the different parts of the body, and the different organs. Under the rubric of some organs some other symptoms are given confined to these organs, and which are not found elsewhere. The *third part* contains, in alphabetical order, all the sensations and pains—1. generally, then specially; 2. in the glands; 3. in the bones; and 4. in the skin and exterior of the body. Every thing more or less characteristic of the nature of the pains is put forth in this chapter. The *fourth part* treats of sleep and dreams. The *fifth part* of fevers, but only as referring to their essential and strongly marked distinctions. I ought to give some explanation of the rubric headed "Concomitant Sufferings," which is frequently adverted to in the second, fourth, and fifth parts. Convinced of the importance of these symptoms, which manifest themselves at the same time with others, and form with them a class, I have, during many years, collected all that appertained to the accessary symptoms which are pointed out in the Materia Medica Pura, all the data of my own experience and that of others, and the number has increased in such a manner as to enable me to draw general rules from them. These rules clearly prove, that one medicament answers better than another in the case of accessory symptoms, which appear before, during, or after the primitive ailment, but at the same time these accessory symptoms do not consist exclusively in such or such phenomena, but, on the contrary, all kinds of pains coming within the sphere of action of the medicament may be joined to the malady, although the characteristic symptoms present themselves more frequently than the others. It is upon this discovery, confirmed by long experience, that the rubric of "Concomitant Sufferings" is founded, pointing out the rank and order of the medicaments by the difference of the character. When such symptoms present themselves, they must be sought for amongst the characteristic symptoms of the greater or lesser number of medicaments arranged under this rubric. The *sixth part*, which comprises the change of state according to time, place, or circumstances, is not of inferior importance to any of the preceding parts, but it requires extreme precaution in practice. You must be careful not to take a secondary or alternative effect of the medicament for an exacerbation of the malady, even although the general state of the patient be worse. For example, diarrhœa which only occurs in the morning is often cured by Bryony, although constipation and exacerbation in the evening are some of the primitive effects of this medicament. Phenomena similar to those which are designated under the name of secondary or alternative effects, frequently happen in natural maladies wherein a state contrary to the affection properly so called, accompanied with equal pain, exists, which might easily lead an unskilful physician to choose a

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wrong medicament. In other instances, the conditions of the exacerbation or amelioration that we have just remarked, have more extended relation with the general affection and its symptoms than is generally supposed, and are never limited to such and such a symptom; on the contrary, it frequently happens that the choice of a suitable medicament entirely depends thereon. This will be fully exemplified in the following case:—My friend Dr. Lutterbeck (to whom I always entrust my practice in my absence) gave to one of my patients against some sequelæ (amongst which a disagreeable smoothness with a thick coating of mucus on the teeth formed the predominant symptoms, and invariably became aggravated, for two consecutive days, every time he shaved) of a case of deeply-rooted tubercular phthisis, of which I had cured him, Carb. An. 30, with the most successful results, although the only symptom on the skin of the face (152) noticed by Dr. Adams* was not present. The practised homœopathist will readily perceive that I have bestowed peculiar care upon this chapter, and that I have admitted many things with which my own experience has furnished me, that are not to be found in the Materia Medica Pura, or elsewhere. The *seventh and last part*, under the rubric of "Concordances," shews the results of comparing the effects of all the medicaments that are mentioned. First, as referring to each of the preceding parts, then the agreement of the medicaments in general; the whole arranged in the same order as in the remainder of the work. This long and tedious labour (which a thorough acquaintance with the Materia Medica Pura rendered somewhat easier to me), will not, I am proud to think, be regarded by any one as useless and superfluous. To me, who during the space of fifteen years have made the Materia Medica Pura my chief study, as constituting in my eyes the most essential part of Homœopathy, these concordances have appeared of the highest importance; they have not only aided me to acquire a knowledge of the nature of the medicaments, but have confirmed my choice, and determined the series of medicaments to be administered, particularly in chronic disorders. Doubtless, to attain this, a good knowledge of the Materia Medica Pura is quite necessary, but great facility is afforded to beginners using these concordances, by the polychrests, which, abounding in symptoms, naturally offer more points of contact, and consequently a thorough knowledge of these medicaments is sufficient to enable the homœopathist to apply them with advantage and without difficulty. The known antidotes (*antid.*) and injurious medicaments (*Noc.*) are marked at the end of each medicament. It may be useful to those who are novices in homœopathy, and to whom this manual is especially devoted, to add some words upon its use, particularly as to its double aim as mentioned above. In studying the Materia Medica Pura, I have found it the most simple and expeditious plan to underline with a pencil,

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* *Doctrine* et traitement homœopathique des maladies chroniques de S. Hahnemann, trad. par le Docteur Jourdan, séconde édition, vol. i. p. 615.

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in accordance with the arrangement of this manual, all the characteristic symptoms which have been designated by a different style of type either in the original works or in one of the repertories, and then annexing all those that had been omitted. This costs but little time and trouble, and forms a slight sketch, which may be filled up in proportion as the field of experience extends. In this manner you acquire a thorough knowledge of the most important symptoms, and of the nature of each medicament, and at the same time obtain a written collection of every thing most deserving of being retained, which becomes deeply impressed upon the memory, and may be often had recourse to in complicated cases. To this method is often due the choice of a medicament which is productive of the happiest results. As to the use of this Manual in the treatment of disease, much depends upon the circumstance whether he who uses it is a beginner, or one already acquainted with Homœopathy and its practice. He who absolutely knows nothing, is obliged undoubtedly to run through the book from one end to the other. The more he learns, the less he requires to seek, and finally, it will be sufficient to have recourse to his memory. An example will make me more clearly understood. I will take a case treated by myself. The choice of the medicament was easy,—nothing appeared more simple, yet through want of attention one might be deceived. This instance may serve also to shew novices how to measure their own knowledge.—E. N., of L., a man of fifty years of age, of florid complexion, almost ruddy, of an habitually cheerful temper, but subject to violent fits of passion, and possessing a highly nervous and irritable constitution, had been suffering (after the suppression of a supposed rheumatic pain in the left orbit, by means of external allopathic remedies, the nature of which I could not ascertain), for more than two months, violent pain of a peculiar kind in the right leg, comprising all the muscles of the posterior part, particularly the calf down to the heel, without, however, attacking the joints of the knee or foot. He described it as an exceedingly painful, dragging, and twitching, interrupted frequently by shootings, which proceeded from the interior to the exterior. In the morning, when the anguish was more endurable, he experienced an obtuse raking sensation, like a painful weariness, or as if he had been bruised all over. The pains became more acute towards evening and during repose, especially after any movement, whether seated or standing, and more particularly when in the open air. While walking, the pain would suddenly shift from the calf of the right leg into the left arm, and it became most insupportable when he put his hand in his pocket or in his breast, or kept the arm perfectly still, while a movement of the limb would lessen the anguish, and often send it suddenly back again to the calf of the right leg. That which relieved him most was to walk about in his chamber, and rub the affected part. The concomitant symptoms were, inability to sleep before midnight, and, in the evening, frequent paroxysms of fugitive heat, with thirst, unaccompanied by shiver-

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ings; a greasy taste in the mouth, with uneasiness in the throat, and an almost continued pressing aching pain in the lower part of the chest, and in the pit of the stomach, as if something were forcing a passage through these parts.

With such a complete and accurate description of the malady, an experienced homœopathist would not hesitate long in the choice of a fitting remedy, for the whole of the symptoms correspond with one alone. The novice, on the contrary, would be forced to look for almost every symptom, and not till after a prolonged search would he find the most suitable medicament from amongst its competitors. Between these two extremes of science and ignorance there are numerous degrees of superficial knowledge, which would necessarily require a longer or shorter research. One, for example, knows that pains flying rapidly from one part of the body to the other, becoming more virulent in the evening and during repose,—that the greasy taste in the mouth,—wakefulness before midnight, and some other of the above-mentioned symptoms, are pre-eminently the effects of "*pulsatilla*," but he is not so sure as to the rest of the symptoms; and if he wishes to proceed conscientiously, he must take the trouble of comparing whether the last-named are also proper to it. Then he will soon perceive that "*pulsatilla*" cannot be, in fact, the actual homœopathic remedy; for besides the moral symptoms, there are also others that bear no analogy, or are quite opposite, to those of this medicament. Another person has bestowed greater study on the peculiarities of pains; and he distinctly remembers that "*china*" answers to the dragging pains, the pains as if from being bruised or beaten, and to those shooting from the interior to the exterior, as well as to the dragging twitchings:—he knows, also, that it causes flying pains from one part to another. He is sure, besides, that the other symptoms—such as inability to sleep before midnight, exacerbation during repose, amelioration by movement and friction, fugitive heat with thirst, belong to this medicament, but he is not so certain as regards the remaining symptoms, and he has, therefore, to consult the Materia Medica or a Repertory for them. Then, like his predecessor, he discovers certain contradictions, which clearly prove that "*china*" is not the appropriate medicament for such a case. Now, neither of them will think of administering to the patient a medicament whose healing virtue is of so doubtful a nature, but, as conscientious homœopathists, they will set themselves again to search and compare, and by the aid of this Manual they will soon find, without much trouble, the only really homœopathic medicament to be given in this malady. If a third individual be familiar enough with homœopathy to recognize at first sight the contradictory symptoms of "*puls.*" "*chin.*" and other rival medicaments, and if at the same time he does not sufficiently know "*valeriana*," which answers to the principal symptoms, to go upon sure ground in administering this rarely used medicament, he has merely to glance at some doubtful symptoms, to be convinced, that amongst all the known remedies this is the most

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appropriate, as the result clearly proved. Indeed, after a single dose of this medicament at a high attenuation, dissolved in water, the affection, with all the accessory symptoms, completely disappeared in three days. It will be difficult to one who has but a smattering of homœopathy, who only consults the principles, and despises every kind of repertory, to discover this medicament so rarely administered in similar cases.* At least he will have to devote much time and trouble which he might employ more usefully. Even suppose that he does at last discover it, the doubts that will arise in his mind, and which will not be easily removed, will cause him to hesitate, if he has not acquired some experience, because the greatest part of the symptoms which indicate its use require to be more or less perfected by the characteristic of the medicament, in order to correspond exactly with the symptoms of the malady. The greatest difficulty to be encountered by those novices in homœopathy, who do not have recourse to a repertory, is the cure of maladies that shew themselves by a few symptoms which answer to a great number of medicaments. For instance, a malignant hooping-cough was prevalent amongst the children in this neighbourhood. In its origin, the indications for the employment of "*drosera*" were only exceptional, and none of those were developed which call for the other remedies ordinarily employed. However, in all the children affected, swelling and puffiness was remarked, not so much in the face as above the eyes, between the eyelids and eyebrows, where it frequently formed a thick little bag,—a symptom which had never been observed amongst those of any other medicament, except "*kali-carb*" (219); and, in fact, this medicament was the only one that at the commencement of the epidemy effected a quick and lasting cure. It was only in the last stage that this malady took another form, characterized by cold perspiration on the forehead, and vomitings during the fit, symptoms which require the use of "*veratr. alb.*" I shall not here offer any explanation of the quantity of the doses, or of their repetition, especially as opinion is still so much divided on this question. In referring to what I have said upon this subject, in the new Homœopathic Archives, I cannot forbear affirming that my experience leads me to be in favour of high attenuations, that it is opposed to frequent repetitions, and to the employment of intermediate medicaments. Even in affections of the bones,—for example, in curvature of the spine,—I have seen the high attenuations effect a complete cure in much less time than the low. Relying upon a lengthened experience, I can but confirm what has been said upon this subject by many physicians of the highest eminence, and during two years that I have administered the highest attenuations, almost without exception, I am much more pleased with the results than I was before, although the greatest number of my patients are those who seek us after having been under treatment by allopathists.

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* See the Pathogenésie de la Valériane, traduction, par le Docteur de Moor; Revue de la matière médicale homœopathique, Paris, 1842, vol. iv. p. 310.

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I shall conclude by submitting this work, the fruits of three years' labour, to an impartial and indulgent criticism, and by recommending it to all friends of improvement, and to all those who, like myself, have resolved to devote the remainder of their lives to homœopathy and to suffering humanity.

C. M. BOENNINGHAUSEN.

Munster, October, 1845.

☞ *The careful preparation of the* HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES *being a matter of great importance, it is with confidence derived from experience, that we are well enabled to assert that full reliance may be placed on such medicine as may be procured from* Mr. WILLIAM HEADLAND, 15, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London.

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TABLE OF ABBREVIATIONS

EMPLOYED TO DESIGNATE THE MEDICINES.

1. ACON.—Aconitum napellus.
2. AGAR.—Agaricus muscarius.
3. ALUM.—Alumina.
4. AMBR.—Ambra grisea.
5. AMM.—Ammonium carbonicum.
6. AMM-MUR.—Ammonium muriaticum.
7. ANAC.—Anacardium.
8. ANG.—Angustura.
9. ANT-CRUD.—Antimonium crudum.
0. ANT-TART.—Antimonium tartaricum.
1. ARG.—Argentum foliatum.
2. ARN.—Arnica montana.
3. ARS.—Arsenicum album.
4. ASAF.—Asa fœtida.
5. ASAR.—Asarum europæum.
6. AUR.—Aurum foliatum.
7. BAR.—Baryta.
8. BELL.—Atropa belladonna.
9. BISM.—Bismuthum.
0. BOR.—Borax.
1. BOV.—Lycoperdon bovista.
2. BRY.—Bryonia alba.
3. CALAD.—Caladium seguinum.
4. CALC.—Calcarea carbonica.
5. CAMPH.—Camphora.
6. CANN.—Cannabis sativa.
7. CANTH.—Cantharis.
8. CAPS.—Capsicum annuum.
9. CARB-AN.—Carbo animalis.
0. CARB-VEG.—Carbo vegetabilis.
1. CAUST.—Causticum.

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