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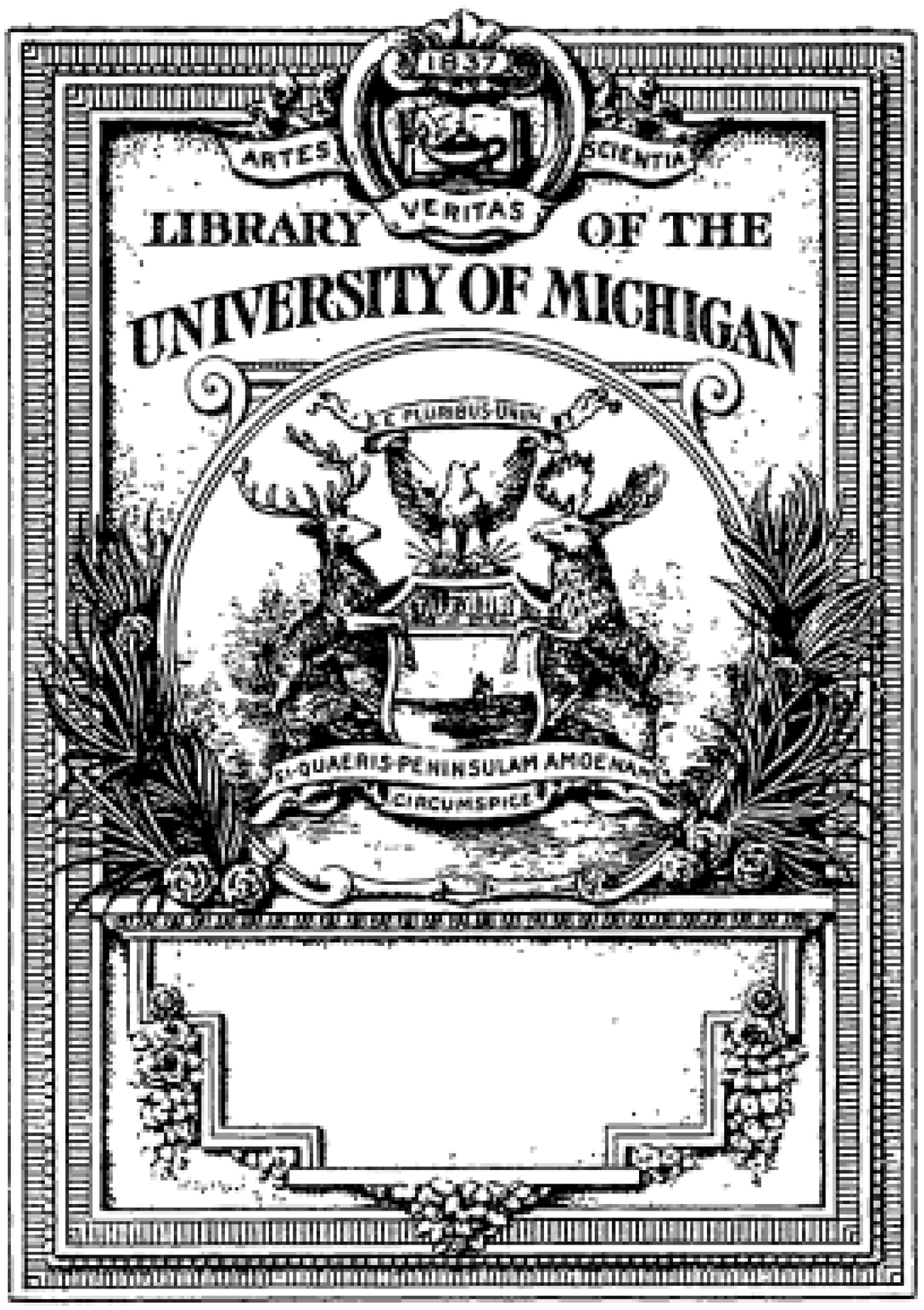

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NEW

HOMŒOPATHIC

PHARMACOPŒIA AND POSOLOGY,

96669

OR THE

PREPARATION

OF

HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES

AND THE

Administration of Doses.

BY G. H. G. JAHR.

TRANSLATED, WITH ADDITIONS,

BY JAMES KITCHEN, M. D.

PHILADELPHIA:

J. DOBSON, 106 CHESTNUT STREET.

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1842.

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TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

THE translator of the following work deems it incumbent on him to say a few words in relation to his connection with the subject of Homœopathy, as it has met with so much opposition by the profession in all quarters of the world, and more especially so as he would not wish to be considered as being connected with any doctrine or mode of practice that is absolutely and really, what it has very generally and fashionably been called, a humbug. Before embracing the subject, he had been a practitioner of the old school for fifteen years, during which space of time he had seen considerable practice and considered himself fully qualified to know what disease was, and to appreciate the effects of remedies—in addition he may say, that he had received the best medical education both in this country and Europe, and had studied under the most celebrated professors, and attended the different hospitals in those places where he had studied: these remarks are made not by way of boast or an exhibition of superior qualifications, but merely for the purpose of allowing himself to think that he was fully qualified to appreciate the effects of homœopathic remedies on disease, and to form a correct judgment as to their sanative nature. These sanative effects he was first made aware of in his own person, and afterwards, in a short space of time, in several well marked instances among his patients, insomuch that he soon became fully convinced of the efficacy of the doses, though he must confess, at first considerably prejudiced against such a conviction —but these instances were so numerous and so palpable, that he was forced to acknowledge them as correct, and now, at the present time, after a lapse of nearly three years, his conviction is still more forcible, insomuch that in the great majority of cases to which he is called, he scarcely ever

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taking into consideration the numerous disappointments and failures of the remedies of the old school: because a homœopathic remedy does not succeed in a case under consideration is no reason for its condemnation, nor the condemnation of the homœopathic doctrine; were this the case (for it is a bad rule that does not work both ways,) where would be the allopathic Materia Medica and doctrine? there would be none, so numerous and so frequent are its failures: by this test homœopathy will not be the loser; the translator would refer to the facts of the doctrine; he is willing to set aside the principle of it, "similia similibus," though in the majority of instances it is undoubtedly correct; laying everything aside but the facts as revealed by practice, he would ask the opinion of opponents; there has been too much theorizing; it has been a common fault in all doctrines, and with all framers of doctrines, and one which does much injury, or, at furthest, but little good. The numerous theories of the old school need but be referred to. What have they amounted to? to nothing but to amuse and divert for the moment—something like the tub thrown out to the whale; the attention has been called off from the really solid and useful part of the science, the facts, the foundation of all good practice. So respecting homœopathy, the translator would call the attention to something solid, appreciable, and truly useful, and not to idle words, as frothy and evanescent as the morning dew, or the bubble on the surface of the sea. Here is a disease, comprising a number of symptoms, and here is a remedy, the pathogenetic effects of which are similar to these symptoms; will that remedy cure that disease, or will it not? that is all that is necessary to be asked for the present; it can frequently be said that it most assuredly will, not only in one solitary case, like a chance shot, or the panacea of a quack, but in the majority of such cases which are uncomplicated and pure. Facts cannot be denied when perfectly evident—and this is often the case in homœopathic practice; there is frequently such clear evidence that we are obliged to give in our adhesion to them, when looked on with an eye unprejudiced and willing to acknowledge the truth.

Again, the unity of the homœopathic practice, and as an inference, the truth of it is no where more beautifully exhibited than in a case of well defined disease, when the symptoms are prominent and evident, say a case of scarlatina in a previously healthy subject, that is, uncomplicated with any

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chronic affection; let a dozen, or a hundred, if you will, homœopathic physicians be called to such a case, and after a full view of it and study of its symptoms, they will all invariably prescribe the same remedy. This *must* follow as a matter of course; they are guided by correct and unerring principles, a never-failing rule to go by. On the other hand, what would be the course were a dozen allopathic practitioners called to visit such a case; it is almost unnecessary to proclaim it; we need but look through the annals of medicine to be told of the unfortunate results of difference of opinion in respect to such cases. A says the patient must be bled. B says, no! if you bleed your patient, you kill him. C relies altogether on vomits, D on calomel; E on a little sweet spirits of nitre and warm water gargles; F on pepper gargles; G on cold affusions; H on tepid affusions; K on rum and water; and so on to the end of the chapter. If that is a good doctrine and good practice, where there is such diversity of opinion, and that, too, according to the idea of the practitioner, God help us! It is high time that better principles should be inculcated, and a more positive and assured practice, even did not better success attend it. The same remarks may be applied to the treatment of other diseases allopathically: only to mention erysipelas, what assurance has the patient when he is ordered to be bled, or leeched, or scarified, that he ought not to be stuffed with bark and wine, and other stimulants. Away with such uncertain practice; let us be more consistent, more based on solid principles, more regulated by correct rules, and not left to the uncertain whims and follies of prejudiced practitioners. Indeed, reform is greatly needed, when we see such confusion, and such unsettled ideas daily and hourly in the sick chamber, and death smiling at the doubts of the long-faced doctors. No wonder, then, that Moliere and Le Sage should cast ridicule on the noblest profession on earth, when such are its certainties; and no wonder, either, that the Chevalier Gatti once made use of the following apologue to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, after renouncing a practice of thirty years, and saying that he was weary of guessing: "Nature is fighting with the disease; a blind man, (that is the allopathic physician,) armed with a club, comes to settle the difference. He first tries to make peace; when he cannot accomplish this, he lifts his club and strikes at random; if he strike the disease, he kills the disease; if he strike nature, he kills nature." A true but melancholy pic-

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ture of allopathic practice in numerous instances. There could be no better illustration of what is called the depleting plan; it kills its thousands every year, from the infant in the cradle to the old man tottering to his last fall, and plucks the blooming rose from many a beauty's cheek. Should the unfortunate patient have sufficient stamina, he may survive; but even then, with a broken and shattered constitution, destined to feel the effects of such a depletion as long as life remains, and to be an invalid to his last day. This is no exaggerated picture; and if this be correct practice, alas! poor human nature. But it is not so; such never could have been the intention of the Creator of man; it is man's own false work, and nothing worth, and should at once be corrected. Here homœopathy at least is deserving of a trial, to attempt to obtain better success. All are bound, as philanthropists, so to act, especially when full and ample assurance is given by others worthy of belief that success will follow. That any one should prejudge a case because he cannot understand it, or because it is contrary to all that he has been taught or knows on the subject, shows rather a pitiful condition of the human mind, and exhibits rather too great a deference to our masters, under whose guidance we have been led. Every one should examine and judge for himself in all matters of fact; when once convinced, opposition should cease. To a certain point it is commendable, but beyond that point, and in the face of undoubted facts, it becomes mere empty verbiage or downright falsehood; for there are some whose ignorance connects them with the former, and others whose baseness allies them with the last. With such, homœopathists would have nothing to do; they would appeal to the honourable part of the profession, and they hope, and have every reason to believe that their appeal will not be in vain. Every year brings evidence of its increase, and adherents to the doctrine are constantly declaring themselves; it counts among its ranks many of the most prominent members of European society; and even in this country it is not made up of quacks and scoundrels, as some of our learned and very principled professors would have their hearers to believe. These accusations amount to nothing, exhibiting only the bitterness and meanness of the minds whence they emanate, and are only worthy of a passing remark.

Exceedingly erroneous ideas prevail among physicians, who have acquired a mere smattering of the doctrine, in

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relation to homœopathy. Some of them announce to their patients that they are as much homœopaths as those who style themselves so, because they frequently give small doses of medicine; as if homœopathy consisted alone in the administration of small doses. To expose such ignorance, it is only necessary to mention that drachm doses of the mother tincture have occasionally been exhibited. It shows that they do not understand nor comprehend the grand principle of the administration of remedies, 'similia similibus.' The dose is merely secondary; but if the millionth part of a grain will answer the purpose as well, or even in many cases better than a whole grain, it is allowable, certainly, and even reasonable, to use no more. Now experience teaches us that such is the fact; and hence our use of small doses; but we must at the same time be careful to administer them on the homœopathic principle. Others, who do not evince such ignorance, say that cures are performed by a system of diet. If this be so, let them diet too; it is surely much better and more pleasant to perform cures by little sugar-plumbs and diet, than by nauseous potions and drastic purges. Imagination is, with others, the chief actor in this wonderful drama, and all homœopathic cures are accomplished through its agency. But this is triumphantly refuted by the very superior efficacy of the medicine in all diseases of children. The same remark holds good in reference to the lower animals, in which, we trust, no one will ascribe the cure of their diseases to imagination, or faith in the physician. But even granting the absurdity, still, if cures can be performed in this way, the method is a superior one, and a very pleasant one. Some, again, say our medicines are totally inert, while others contend that we use poisons. The first class deserve no answer: to the second, a passing remark is all that is necessary, to wit: if homœopathic medicines are poisons, when used in the millionth or ten millionth part of a grain, what epithet should be applied to allopathic medicines, since they are, in the majority of instances, the same drug. These objections are but poor subterfuges for valid and true answers to the propositions and practices of the homœopathic school; and until something of a far superior and more available cast is brought forward, homœopathy must and will go on, for truth is powerful and will prevail; and facts will stand fast and cannot be cast down nor trodden under foot, except by facts of a stronger

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nature, and more powerful calibre. No answer has yet been given to the doctrine. Many have been attempted by the weak and ignorant, as well as by the strong and learned; but it still stands, and will stand, like Hahnemann, its immortal founder, who, though persecuted and ridiculed, is still, in his old age, a monument of truth, of learning, and of greatness, reverenced by all who know him as the greatest benefactor of the human race, and destined, in future years, to be held in still greater reverence, not with that superstitious feeling which encompassed the great and good men of olden times, but with that truly free and enlightened feeling which characterizes the present times, in which free inquiry and uncompromising assent to what is true and just, are making rapid strides, and superstitious error, and a slavish yielding to dictation, are passing away.

In conclusion, the Translator would merely remark, that he has taken some liberties with the text, by making additions where he perceived a deficiency, and adding some entire articles, for which he is chiefly indebted to the United States Dispensatory, and the Encyclopedia of Plants. He hopes the profession will find the work of some value, and that it will be particularly so to the country practitioner, who is frequently obliged to prepare his own medicines, and carry out his own dilutions. The work may be considered as a fundamental one, and should be in the library of every homœopathic practitioner.

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

In the New Manual of Homœopathic Medicine which we have lately published, we have purposely omitted to precede the part comprising the medicines, with instructions relating to their preparation, thinking that it would be preferable to unite those instructions in a work *ex professo*, which would contain all the necessary details respecting each medicine in particular, and which would respond to the progress which homœopathy has made in these latter days. Such is the motive which has caused us to undertake the new Homœopathic Pharmacopœia and Posology which we now publish. Respecting its composition, we have considered it a duty to carefully study all that has been written on the preparation of homœopathic medicines, and we believe we have gathered together all that the German and American homœopathic literature possesses on the subject worth mentioning. Among the German works, we will cite the *Homœopathic Pharmacopœia of Dr. Buchner*, which, by the manner in which the articles are treated, as well as by the instructions of all kinds there to be found, deserves to be placed in the first rank. We thought, at first, of translating this work with additions and remarks, but feeling that a work of such a kind would fail in order and unity, we have preferred to make a

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new work, to give it an entirely independent form, putting to profit all that has yet been published which we have deemed worthy of attention.

We chiefly owe to the work of *Dr. Buchner*, the *idea* of giving to each medicine, not only the necessary instructions for its homœopathic preparation, but likewise details on its physical properties. As to the physical description, in the majority of cases, we have made it after the best French authors and our own knowledge. At the same time we have been careful to point out the preparations identical with those which have served in the study of medicines, the effects of which have been gathered into the Materia Medica of our school, showing the difference between the usual preparations and those which certain German innovators have recently proposed to substitute for them.

The work has been distributed into *three parts*, the *first* of which treats of *general rules* for the preparation of homœopathic medicines; the *second*, of the obtaining and preparation of each substance in *particular;* and the *third*, of the *administration* of medicines. The subject of this last part is not found in any of the preceding Homœopathic Pharmacopœias; but as this work is intended for the use of physicians as well as pharmaceutists, we have thought that it would be of advantage to both, and, perhaps, chiefly to physicians, to find united in one work the *Homœopathic Pharmacopœia and Posology*.

The number of substances described in this work amounts to 310, of which 200 only are treated in our *New Manual;* we have thought it proper to introduce about 110 articles not yet admitted into treatises on the Materia Medica, though they have been placed in the German Pharmacopœias, in order that those who would study their effects, might agree on the substance and preparation of their studies. That is also the reason why we have not hesitated to give admission to the medicines of which Dr. Fickel (Heyne, Hoffbauer, &c.)

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has published the imaginary or forged pathogenetic effects; for how ridiculous soever it might have been to admit them into the Materia Medica, the description of the physical characters of these substances in a Pharmacopœia, will break no one's bones, and may be the means, on the contrary, in engaging us in the more exact study of their effects. Moreover, the number is not very great; they are *Actæa spicata, Aquilegia vulgaris, Atriplex olida, Chenopodium glaucum, Cahinca, Nigella sativa, Osmium, Physalis Alkekengi seu Solanum vesicatorium;* all that has been published on these substances, in the French homœopathic journals, should be totally rejected, since they are but the translations of erroneous publications, as above mentioned.

As to the order in which the substances are arranged, it appeared preferable to divide them according to the kingdoms of nature, whence derived, and to precede them with general considerations, and a glance at the classes and genera to which they belong. Thus, in the *first* chapter of the second part, will be found a general coup d'œil on the mass of our medicines; in the *second*, on the *minerals* and chemical products; in the *third*, on the *vegetables;* in the *fourth*, on the *animal substances.* In each of these chapters, we have again divided the substance into two orders, viz., 1st. Those found in our Manual, or *generally used.* 2nd. Those not as yet found in the Materia Medica, not having been studied, and which we have designated as substances *little used.* Finally, in the *fifth* chapter, we have also treated of the nature and homœopathic use of some imponderable matters, as well as of several accessory substances, which, though not employed as medicines, have appeared to us to merit the attention of homœopathic physicians. Our chief object in treating of these last substances is, above all, to engage homœopathic pharmaceutists to keep them in their shops, since the greater part of those found in commerce are always more or less adulterated.

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In general, we have endeavoured to give to our work a form which may render it suitable to be consulted, not only by those who would prepare the medicines, but by those also who feel sufficiently interested in our science to wish to know the physical characters of the substances which we employ as medicines, and the uses made of them without the domain of medicine.

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GENERAL VIEW

OF SUBSTANCES TREATED OF IN THIS WORK,

With indication of the attenuation of the most used of each medicine, and of the method (dry or humid) by which each one is ordinarily prepared.

Note 1.—The letter *a.* placed at the end of the name of a medicine, indicates that it is prepared *immediately* with ALCOHOL; the letters *tr.* on the other hand, indicate that the *three* first attenuations of a medicine are made by TRITURATION with the sugar of milk. As to those which are followed by the two signs *tr.* and *a.*, they are such as may be prepared either the one way or the other, but preferably by TRITURATION. Finally, the letters *aq.* indicate that the first attenuation is made with PURE WATER, the second with *diluted alcohol*, and that it is not until the *third* that we make use of alcohol undiluted.

Note 2.—The asterisk (*) placed before a name, indicates the medicines which, in default of being yet experimented with, do not form a part of the *Materia Medica*, though they are treated of in the Pharmacopœias. The substances preceded by a *small zero* (°), are those which are NOT *medicines properly so called*, but which we have nevertheless thought proper to treat of in this work.

Note.—The *cipher*, placed at the end of the name of medicines, indicates the attenuation most generally used; those substances where there is no cipher, are those not yet ascertained.

* Absinthium. *a.*
* Aceti acidum. *aq.*
° Acetum.
Aconitum Napellus. *a.* 24.
Actæa spicata. *a.*

° Adeps suilla.
° Æther sulfuricus.
Æthusa Cynapium. *a.*
Agaricus muscarius. *a.* 30.
Agnus castus. *a.* 9.

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* Albumen. *tr.*
° Alcool.
* Allium sativum. *a.*
Aloës gummi. *tr. a.*
Alumina. *tr.* 30.
Ambra grisea. *tr.* 6.
* Ammoniacum gummi. *tr.*
Ammonium carbonicum. *tr.* 18.
* Ammonium causticum. *a.*
Ammonium muriaticum. *tr.* 12.
Anacardium orientale. *tr. a.* 30.
Angustura. *tr. a.* 30.
Anisum stellatum. *tr. a.*
Antimonium crudum. *tr.* 12.
* Antimonium metallicum. *tr.*
° Aqua destillata.
* Aquilegia vulgaris. *a.*
* Archangelica officinalis. *a.*
Argentum foliatum. *tr.* 6.
* Argentum nitricum. *a.*
* Aristolochia Clematitis. *a.*
* Armoracia officinalis. *a.*
Arnica montana. *a.* 6.
Arsenicum album. *a. tr.* 30.
* Arsenicum citrinum. *tr.*
* Arsenicum metallicum. *tr.*
* Arsenicum rubrum. *tr.*
Artemisia vulgaris. *a.*
Arum maculatum. *a.*
Asa fœtida. *a.* 9.
Asarum europæum. *a.* 12.
* Asparagus officinalis. *a.*
* Atriplex olida. *a.*
Aurum foliatum. *tr.* 12.
* Aurum fulminans. *a.*
Aurum muriaticum. *a.*
* Barbus. *tr.*
* Baryta acetica. *aq.*
Baryta carbonica. *tr.* 18.
* Baryta caustica. *a.*
Baryta muriatica. *tr.* 30.
Belladonna. *a.* 12.
Berberis vulgaris. *a.* 30.
Bismuthum. *tr.* 30.
* Bismuthum metallicum. *tr.*
* Boletus Satanas. *tr.*
Borax veneta. *tr.* 30.
Bovista. *tr.* 30.
* Bromium, *tr.*
Brucea anti-dysenterica. *tr. a.*
Bryonia alba. *a.* 12.
° Cacao.
* Cahinca. *tr. a.*
Caladium seguinum. *a.* 30.
* Calcarea acetica. *aq.*
Calcarea carbonica. *tr.* 30.
* Calcarea caustica. *a.*
* Calcarea muriatica. *tr.*
Calcarea phosphorica. *tr.*
* Calcarea sulfurica. *tr.*
* Calendula officinalis. *a.*
Camphora. *a.* 0.
* Cancer fluviatilis. *a.*
* Cancrorum oculi. *tr.*
Cannabis sativa. *a.* 12.
Cantharis. *tr. a.* 30.
Capsicum annuum. *a.* 9.
Carbo animalis. *tr.* 15.
Carbo vegetabilis. *tr.* 15.
Cascarilla. *tr. a.*
° Castanea.
Castoreum. *a.* 30.
Causticum. *a.* 30.
° Cera, Ceratum, Cereoli.
Chamomilla vulgaris. *a.* 12.
Chelidonium majus. *a.* 0.
* Chenopodium glaucum. *a.*
China. *tr. a.* 9.
Cicuta virosa. *a.* 30.
Cina. *tr. a.* 9.
Cinnabaris. *tr.* 9.
Cinnamomum. *tr. a.*
Cistus canadensis. *a.* 15.
Citri succus. *aq.* 3.
Clematis erecta. *a.* 9.
Coccionella septempunctat. *a.* 3.
Cocculus. *tr. a.* 12.
Coffea cruda. *tr. a.* 9.
Colchicum autumnale. *a.* 15.
Colocynthis. *tr. a.* 30.
* Conchæ. *tr.* 30.
Conium maculatum. *a.* 30.
Convolvulus arvensis. *a.*
Copaivæ balsamum. *a.* 3.
Corallium rubrum. *tr.* 30.
Crocus sativus. *tr. a.* 6.
* Crotalus horridus. *tr.* 30.
Croton tiglium. *tr. a.*
Cubebæ. *tr. a.*
* Cuprum aceticum. *aq.*
° Cuprum carbonicum. *tr.*
Cuprum metallicum. *tr.* 30.
* Cuprum sulfuricum. *tr.*
Cyclamen europæum. *a.* 3.

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Daphne indica. *a.*
Diadema Aranea. *tr.* *a.* 30.
Dictamnus albus. *a.*
Digitalis purpurea. *a.* 30.
Drosera rotundifolia. *a.* 30.
Dulcamara. *a.* 24.
* Electricitas.
Eugenia jambos. *a.*
Euphorbium officinar. *tr.* *a.* 30.
Euphrasia officinalis. *a.* 3.
Evonymus europæus. *a.* 6.
Ferrum. *tr.* 6.
* Ferrum aceticum. *tr.*
Ferrum chloratum s. muriat. *tr.*
Ferrum magneticum. *tr.*
* Ferrum oxydat. hydratum. *tr.*
Filix mas. *a.* 9.
* Formica rufa. *a.*
Fragaria vesca. *a.*
* Galvanismus.
* Genista scoparia. *a.*
* Ginseng. *tr.* *a.*
Granatum. *tr.* *a.* 30.
Graphites. *tr.* 30.
Gratiola officinalis. *a.* 9.
Guaiacum. *tr.* *a.* 3.
° Gummi arabicum.
Hæmatoxylum Campechian. *a.* 9.
Helleborus niger. *a.* 12.
Hegar sulfur. calc. *tr.* 3.
* Heracleum sphondylium. *a.*
° Hordeum sativum.
* Hydrocyani acidum. *aq.*
Hyoscyamus niger. *a.* 12.
* Hypericum perforatum. *a.*
° Ichthyocolla.
Ignatia amara. *tr.* *a.* 15.
Indigo. *tr.* 30.
Iodium. *a.* 30.
Ipecacuanha. *tr.* *a.* 9.
Jalappa. *tr.* *a.*
* Jalappæ magisterium. *tr.* *a.*
Jatropha Curcas. *tr.* 30.
* Juglans regia. *a.*
* Juncus pilosus. *a.*
Kali carbonicum. *tr.* 30.
* Kali causticum. *a.*
Kali chloricum. *tr.* 3.
Kali hydriodicum. *tr.* 3.
Kreosotum. *a.* 30.
* Lacerta agilis. *a.*
Lachesis. *tr.* 30.
Lactuca virosa. *a.* 12.
Lamium album. *a.* 3.
Laurocerasus. *tr.* *a.* 6.
Ledum palustre. *a.* 15.
° Liquiritia.
* Lolium temulentum. *a.*
* Lupulus. *a.*
Lycopodium. *tr.* 24.
Magnes artificialis.
* Magnesia calcinata.
Magnesia carbonica. *tr.* 30.
Magnesia muriatica. *tr.* 18.
Magnesia sulfurica. *tr.*
Manganum carbonicum. *tr.* 30.
* Manganum aceticum. *a.*
* Manganum metallicum. *tr.*
* Meloë majalis. *a.*
* Meloë proscarabæus. *a.*
* Melolontha vulgaris. *a.*
Menyanthes trifoliata. *a.* 30.
Mephitis putorius. *tr.* 30.
Mercurius (vivus et solub.) *tr.* 12.
* Mercurius acetatus. *tr.*
Mercurius corrosivus. s. sublim. *aq.* 15.
* Mercurius dulcis. *tr.*
* Merc. præcip. albus. *tr.*
* Merc. præcip. ruber. *tr.*
Mezereum. *a.* 15.
Millefolium. *a.*
* Molybdænum. *tr.*
* Molybdæni acidum. *tr.*
Moschus. *tr.* *a.* 30.
Muriatis acidum. *aq.* 3.
Natrum carbonicum. *tr.* 12.
* Natrum causticum. *aq.*
Natrum muriaticum. *tr.* 12.
Natrum nitricum. *tr.*
* Natrum sulfuratum. *tr.*
Natrum sulfuricum. *tr.*
Niccolum carbonicum. *tr.* 30.
* Nigella sativa. *tr.* *a.*
Nitrum. *tr.* 24.
Nitri acidum. *aq.* 3.
Nitri spiritus dulcis.
Nux moschata. *tr.* *a.* 30.
Nux vomica. *tr.* *a.* 15.
* Œnanthe crocata. *tr.* *a.* 6.
Oleander. *tr.* *a.* 6.
° Oleum Amygdal. dulc.
Oleum animale. *tr.* 30.
Oleum jecoris morrhuæ. *tr.* *a.*

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° Oleum olivarum.
Oniscus Asellus. *tr*. *a*.
* Ononis spinosa. *a*.
Opium. *tr*. *a*. 6.
* Osmium. *tr*.
* Ovi membrana. *tr*.
* Padus avium. *a*.
Pæonia officinalis. *a*. 3.
Paris quadrifolia. *a*. 9.
Petroleum. *tr*. 18.
Petroselinum. *a*. 3.
Phellandrium aquaticum. *tr*. *a*. 6.
Phosphorus. *tr*. *a*. 30.
Phosphori acidum. *aq*. 3.
* Physalis alkekengi. *a*.
* Pichurim. *tr*. *a*.
Pinus sylvestris. *a*. 18.
Platina. *tr*. 6.
* Plumbum aceticum. *tr*.
Plumbum metallicum. *tr*. 12.
Prunus spinosa. *a*. 3.
Pulsatilla nigricans. *a*. 12.
* Rana bufo. *a*.
Ranunculus bulbosus. *a*. 12.
Ranunculus sceleratus. *a*. 12.
Ratanhia. *tr*. *a*. 30.
Rhabarbarum. *tr*. *a*. 9.
Rhododendrum chrysanthum. *tr*. *a*. 18.
Rhus toxicodendron. *a*. 30.
Rhus vernix. *a*. 30.
* Rosmarinus officinalis. *a*.
Ruta graveolens. *a*. 12.
Sabadilla. *tr*. *a*. 30.
Sabina. *a*. 24.
° Saccharum lactis.
° Saccharum sacchari.
Sambucus nigra. *a*. 3.
Sanguinaria canadensis. *a*. 3.
Sapo domesticus. *a*.
* Sassafras. *a*.
Sassaparilla. *tr*. *a*. 12.
Secale cornutum. *tr*. *a*. 3.
* Sedum acre. *a*.
Selenium. *tr*. 30.
Senega. *tr*. *a*. 9.
Senna. *tr*. *a*. 6.
Sepiæ succus. *tr*. 30.
* Serpentaria. *tr*. *a*.
* Serpyllum. *a*.
Silicea. *tr*. 30.
Solanum mammosum. *a*. 15.
Solanum nigrum. *a*. 15.
Spigelia. *tr*. *a*. 30.
Spongia tosta. *tr*. *a*. 3.
Squilla maritima. *a*. 18.
Stannum. *tr*. 6.
Staphysagria. *tr*. *a*. 30.
Stramonium. *a*. 12.
Strontiana carbonica. *tr*. 30.
* Strontiana caustica. *a*.
Sulfur. *tr*. 30. *a*. 0.
* Sulfur alcoolisatum. *a*.
Sulfuris acidum. *aq*. 3.
Tabacum. *a*. 6.
Tanacetum vulgare. *a*.
Taraxacum. *a*. 3.
Tartarus emeticus. *tr*. 12.
Tartari acidum. *a*.
Taxus baccata. *a*.
Terebinthinæ oleum. *a*.
Teucrium mar. ver. *a*. 9.
Thea sinensis s. cæsarea *tr*. *a*. 3.
Theridion curassavicum. *a*. 30.
Thuya occidentalis. *a*. 3.
Tongo. *tr*. *a*.
* Ulmus campestris. *a*.
Urtica urens. *a*.
Uva ursi. *a*.
Valeriana officinalis. *a*. 12.
Veratrum album. *a*. 12.
Verbascum Thapsus. *a*. 3.
* Verbena officinalis. *a*.
Vinca minor. *a*.
* Vincetoxicum. *a*.
° Vinum.
Viola odorata. *a*. 9.
Viola tricolor. *a*. 9.
Zincum metallicum. *tr*. 30.
Zincum sulfuricum. *tr*.
Zingiber officinalis. *tr*. *a*.
° Zoo-magnetismus.

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TABLE OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

In this work it was thought best to retain the French weights and measures; but for the convenience of the reader, comparative tables of the French and English weights are subjoined.

MEASURES OF WEIGHT.

		Troy grains.		*lb.*	*oz.*	*dr.*	*gr.*
Milligramme	=	.0154					
Centigramme	=	.1544					
Decigramme	=	1.5444					
Gramme	=	15.4440					
Decagramme	=	154.4402	=	0	0	2	34.4
Hectogramme	=	1544.4023	=	0	3	1	44.4
Kilogramme	=	15444.0234	=	2	8	1	24.
Myriagramme	=	154440.2344	=	26	9	6	0.

MEASURES OF LENGTH.

		English inches.		*miles.*	*fr.*	*yds.*	*ft.*	*inches.*
Millimetre	=	.03937						
Centimetre	=	.39371						
Decimetre	=	3.93710						
Metre	=	39.37100	=	0	0	1	0	3.371
Decametre	=	393.71000	=	0	0	10	2	9.710
Hectometre	=	3937.10000	=	0	0	109	1	1.100
Kilometre	=	39371.00000	=	0	4	213	1	11.000
Myriametre	=	393710.00000	=	6	1	156	1	2.000

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MEASURES OF CAPACITY.

		English cubic inches.		*Apothecaries' Measure.*
Millilitre	=	.061028	=	16.2318 minims.
Centilitre	=	.610280	=	2.7053 fluidrachms.
Decilitre	=	6.102800	=	3.3816 fluidounces.
Litre	=	61.028000	=	2.1135 pints.
Decalitre	=	610.280000	=	2.6419 gallons.
Hectolitre	=	6102.800000		
Kilolitre	=	61028.000000		
Myrialitre	=	610280.000000		

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HOMŒOPATHIC

PHARMACOPŒIA AND POSOLOGY.

FIRST PART.

ON THE PREPARATION OF HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES IN GENERAL.

INTRODUCTION.

Nature and form of Homœopathic Medicines.

1. We make use of the same simple substances in homœopathy as in the old school; but, instead of making of them, as in it, compound remedies, we seek on the contrary to procure each medicine in all its purity, and to administer it without any admixture, which might alter its proper virtues. Without going into detail here on the preference to be given to this mode of administration, we should, nevertheless, observe, that it is bound to the principle of homœopathy in so firm a manner, that it cannot be sundered without injury to the practice. In consequence of the principle, that no medicine can be employed with success, except so far as it is known in its pure effects, homœopathy has subjected to examination a number of simple medicines, which it is important now to reproduce, such as they have been experimented on, if we wish to rely on these observations. Even for the medicines which have not yet been experimented on, it is not the less important to submit them to these experiments in all

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their purity and simplicity; for though each compound remedy forms, after all, also a kind of remedial unity, which may be studied in its effects, still we can never reproduce a second time precisely the same effects as the first, whilst the productions of nature exhibit at all times and in every place the same properties.

2. In thus rejecting all the compound remedies of the old school, as improper to be submitted to study and to be employed in practice, homœopathy claims not, however, the pretension to use only perfectly simple bodies, such as sulphur for example, metals and other elementary substances; she derives on the contrary her medicines from three kingdoms of nature, the same as the old school, and all the various chemical combinations, which, after invariable laws are constantly produced in the same manner, can be of use to it as remedial means.

In one word, the simplicity of homœopathic preparations, of which we speak, has no reference to the primitive substance, which serves for the medicine, but to the medicine itself, which, as such, ought not to be composed but of one only remedial substance, and prepared in such a manner that the virtues of that substance be as pure and as developed as possible.

3. If all substances endowed with remedial virtues, presented themselves under a form as convenient as some mineral waters, for example, nothing would be more natural nor more rational than to employ them as nature presented them. But with a great many of these substances, the real virtue is found in a state more or less latent, and could not be put into activity except by the destruction of the primitive matter, and the addition of another substance, which, in quality of simple vehicle, receives the developed virtue and transmits it to the organism. In other substances, on the contrary, the remedial virtue is found developed, but it is so energetic that, without the addition of a substance which can moderate the effects, we cannot employ them without danger to the health, or even the lives of the sick. In fine, there are yet other substances which, though their virtues need not to be either developed or moderated, present themselves under a power which opposes as well to their dispensation as preservation, and which, in consequence, equally exacts the addition of foreign substances in order to be conveniently prepared for use.

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4. The preparation and administration of medicines being then impossible under any mixture, it is important to discover substances which, at the same time operating under the form of medicines, are innocent enough in themselves not to alter the virtues of them. This condition, simple as it may appear in theory, is not, however, so easy to fulfil as it appears—for, perhaps, there exists not a substance in the world, which, under such and such circumstances, may not exercise a pathogenetic influence, and, consequently, alter the specific effects of a medicine with which it may be mixed. Even *pure water*, the substance the most innocent that we know, is not completely exempt from this inconvenience, and even were it so, it would not suffice alone, neither for the preparation nor the preservation of medicines. In consequence homœopathy has substituted two other vehicles, viz: 1. *Alcohol* or spirits of wine, for the preparation of liquid or soluble substances. 2. *Sugar of milk*, for the preparation of dry substances—and though these two substances are not entirely void of medicinal effects, the practical facts are still the same as if these substances were entirely pure, since all the preparations which are made in this manner, are constantly the same among themselves.

5. By means of these two substances, *pure alcohol and sugar of milk*, homœopathy makes all its medicinal preparations, without exception, whether under the form of tinctures or powders. The first are obtained, that is the tinctures, in mingling with alcohol the juice recently expressed from fresh plants, or in infusing in this liquid the dry substances, the active principles of which can be extracted in this way. The powders, on the other hand, are obtained by the trituration of the insoluble substances with a suitable quantity of sugar of milk. The *alcoholic tinctures* and the *powders* are then the only preparations known in homœopathy. All kinds of *essences*, *syrups*, *pastes*, *tisans* and other inventions of the old school, are entirely foreign to it.

6. From this, however, it does not follow that homœopathy always employs the *primitive* preparations of medicines; on the contrary, in the majority of cases she considers them too energetic to be administered such as they are obtained. But instead of seeking to diminish their energy by the means which the old school call *correctives*, homœopathy endeavours to obtain this end by the simple *attenuation* of the primitive substance. It is thus that, seeing that a grain or a drop of

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the primitive preparation of a poisonous substance, for example, would be too active, she attenuates this drop or this grain in mingling it with a new quantity of vehicle, until a preparation is obtained, which is neither too strong nor too weak to operate the cure, nor too energetic to fear any unfortunate consequences. Homœopathy thus prepares out of each substance a series of *attenuations*, of which the following one contains ordinarily the 100th or sometimes the 10th part of the active principle of the preceding one, and it is generally from one of these attenuations, and rarely from the primitive preparation of a medicine, that the homœopathic physician administers to his patients.

7. Finally, as to the form under which the homœopathic physician dispenses his medicines, it is not less simple than the preparation, and is equally made without any other mixture than that of the least medicinal substances, such as *alcohol*, *pure water*, *sugar of milk* and *globules* composed of *sugar and starch.* The attenuations of each medicine being previously prepared, the patient receives of them the dose prescribed, either in form of *solution*, with a convenient quantity of pure water, or water mixed with alcohol, or in form of *powder*, mixed with a small quantity of sugar of milk, or yet again in form of *globules* impregnated with the alcoholic attenuation of the medicine.

8. How simple soever may be the preparation of homœopathic remedies, as to its principle, it nevertheless exacts much precaution and very particular care, if we would be sure to have medicines as active and as sure as possible in their effects. To this end also homœopathy has prescriptions and positive rules, which it is important to know before all, in order to follow them with exactitude, and to prevent thus the faults, which, diminutive as they may appear in themselves, are, nevertheless, very serious in practice. In the following chapters we shall pass in review all these rules and prescriptions in treating in succession 1. Of *vehicles* which serve for the preparation of medicines. 2. Of the *preparations of medicines in their primitive state.* 3. Of *attenuations.* 4. *Of the dispensation and preservation of homœopathic medicines.* These four chapters containing all that has reference to the general pharmacopœia: we shall occupy ourselves in the second part of this work with the *special* pharmacopœia, that is to say, with the rules to be observed in the preparation of each medicine in particular, and with the

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description of primitive substances which homœopathy has introduced into its pharmacy.

CHAPTER I.

OF VEHICLES WHICH SERVE FOR THE PREPARATION OF HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES.

9. The vehicles which homœopathy uses for the preparation of its medicines, are in all of the number of four, viz: 1. *Alcohol, or spirit of wine.* 2. *Sugar of milk.* 3. *Globules* composed of sugar and starch. 4. *Pure water.* Some physicians have wished to add a fifth to the above, viz: *ether*, and we shall see below (28) to what destination this liquid is suitable. As to the four vehicles which we have just cited, homœopathy has thus far used them for all its preparations; and it is important to obtain them as pure as possible, in order to be sure to obtain preparations, in every respect, identical with those with which Hahnemann and his disciples have made their pure and clinical observations. This purity is not, however, always the distinctive quality of the objects which we find in commerce or that nature furnishes, and that is the reason why it is almost indispensable that homœopathy should know how to prepare herself vehicles, or at least to render them proper for the use she makes of them. We shall endeavour to give in this chapter the instructions necessary to this end.

10. Alcohol (*spiritus vini, spiritus vini alcoholisatus,* spirits of wine, alcoholized spirits of wine) is never found in nature—it is always the product of art—but it is formed every time that sugar is found in contact with a fermentable matter in water, and at a suitable temperature; that is to say, that it is developed in the course of fermentation, to which has been given, after this phenomenon, the name of *spirituous* or *alcoholic.* As all liquors which have undergone

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the spirituous fermentation contain alcohol, and as those which abound in the saccharine material, are by that susceptible of affording it, it results that we may obtain it from a great number of vegetable substances, such as wine, beer, cider, malt, grape dregs, sugar-cane juice, germinating cerealia, pounded cherries, molasses, juice of carrots or beets, potatoes, honey, &c. The Tartars extract it even from the milk of their mares.

11. From whatever substance we obtain it, alcohol is identical—but we must always have recourse to means more or less complicated to obtain it pure. In every case it contains a more or less large quantity of water, and very often it is mixed either with acetic acid, or a small proportion of prussic acid or empyreumatic oil, &c., according to the substances from which it has been extracted. The alcohol which seems to be the best for homœopathic preparations is that obtained from the *dregs of grapes*, (marc de raisin*) without the addition of other substances, or else the *alcohol of rye* or *wheat*. The least suitable kinds are such as come from the laboratories of chemists or pharmaceutists, and which, for the most part, are drawn from the residue of some chemical preparation, such as the resin of jalap, &c. Alcohol extracted from potatoes is not more suitable for homœopathic preparations, since it contains a large quantity of empyreumatic oil, of which even the chemical proceedings, which consist in clearing it by the chloride of lime and powder of charcoal, do not entirely purify it. This oil is often found even in the alcohol from rye or wheat; but in this case it is sufficient to mingle this spirit with a suitable quantity of pure olive oil, and to shake it from time to time for several days; in this way the empyreumatic oil combines with the olive oil and swims on the alcohol, whence it may easily be taken.

12. Alcohol *pure* and perfectly anhydrous, is a colourless liquid, of a remarkable fluidity, of a sweet and penetrating odour, of a hot and burning flavour, and whilst it is rubbed between the hands, it should not lather nor emit any foreign odour. Its specific weight is much less than that of water, in which it dissolves perfectly and in all proportions, with disengagement of heat. Exposed to the air, it evaporates in part, and the part which remains loses its power in becoming saturated with the humidity of the atmosphere, of which it

* This is the refuse of the grape, after the juice has been pressed out, in the process of making wine.

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is exceedingly greedy. At the approach of a candle, or by the effect of the electric spark, alcohol burns rapidly, with a flame white at the centre and blue at the edges, and leaves no residue. Put in contact with other substances, it dissolves a great many, such among others, as phosphorus and sulphur (both in small quantities), the fixed alkalies, balsams, resins, camphor, sugar, volatile oils, extractive matter, &c. Acids have a marked action on it; some dissolve in it simply, whilst others are transformed into *ether*.

13. Alcohol, in the state of complete purity, has a specific gravity of 0.791. It then contains not a trace of water, and marks by the *alcoholmeter* 100 degrees of force. But it is never employed at this stage of concentration; that which commerce presents, as well as that which we find in medicine, is always more or less weakened. According to the proportions with which water is mixed with it, we may generally distinguish *four* kinds, viz. 1st. Spirits of wine of *commerce*, the weakest quality, having a specific gravity of but 0.910 to 0.920. 2d. *Rectified* spirits of wine, the quality which is obtained by mingling 7 parts of water with 17 parts of the *best rectified* spirits of wine (see 3d); the specific gravity of this spirit is from 0.890 to 0.900, and its degree of concentration 60°. 3d. The *best rectified* spirits of wine, superior quality, the specific gravity of which is from 0.830 to 0.840, and its degree of concentration 85°. 4th. *Alcoholized* spirits of wine, or *absolute alcohol*, the most concentrated quality, having a specific gravity of 0.810 to 0.820, and containing from 96° to 100° of alcohol. For the preparation of the *mother tinctures* of homœopathy, the most suitable quality is the *absolute alcohol* of 95°; for the *attenuations*, we may, in the majority of cases, be content with a spirit of wine of 60 to 70 degrees.

14. In order to obtain an alcohol as anhydrous as possible, recourse has been had to various chemical measures, which succeed well enough, as regards the concentration, but the majority of these measures (lime, acetate of lime, sulphate of soda, alum, &c.) constantly produce a more or less powerful alteration in this liquid. Even chloride of lime is not exempt of this fault, which may easily be recognised, in burning rectified alcohol by this means, after having added to it nitrate of silver, and afterwards examining the residue. This is the reason why the homœopathist should never make use of alcohol rectified in these chemical ways, but endeavour to

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obtain the desired quality by more innocent proceedings. That which appears to be the most suitable, consists in obtaining the concentration by simple evaporation. For a long time it has been remarked, that alcohol preserved in vessels closed with prepared bladder acquires strength, whilst it loses strength if closed by caoutchouc, insomuch that to concentrate it, it is only necessary to put it in beef or pig bladders and suspend them in a warm and dry place. To this effect, after having carefully cleansed the bladder, we paint it with a thin coat of fish-glue; then we fill it with the alcohol we wish to concentrate and suspend it, well closed, in a perfectly dry place and at a temperature of 20° to 25° R. The drier the air that surrounds the bladder, the more prompt is the evaporation of the water; and in leaving the bladder in proper conditions until we perceive the odour of alcohol, we may be sure of obtaining a quality as anhydrous as possible.

15. The most simple and the most sure method of obtaining an alcohol as concentrated and as pure as homœopathy wants, would then be, to take the first quality brandies and to concentrate them after the method indicated above. Alcohol obtained in this way is generally in a state of concentration of 95° to 96°, and thus is perfectly suitable for the preparation of alcoholic extracts; only, before employing it, it should be once again rectified by a new distillation. For this, we should be careful to use only glass apparatus, since copper or tin vessels often give out to the product of distillation some of their material, an adulteration, which is the more to be guarded against, as, often, chemical means are not capable of revealing it, though it should be strong enough to alter the effects of medicines, which might be prepared with a product of that kind.

16. Respecting the brandies from which we might wish to obtain alcohol, we have said above that the best were those obtained from the dregs of grapes or else from rye. But in taking these liquors such as they are found in commerce, we should always be well assured that they are pure. Often we find in them lead, which we may detect by treating them with the liver of sulphur, which causes a brownish or blackish precipitate. Should they contain copper, liquid ammonia produces a blue colour. The adulteration of brandies by alum may be discovered by the addition of a solution of potash, and the mineral sulphates by acetate of barytes. In fine, to be sure that the alcohol we use is really made of the

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wished for substance, we mingle 30 parts of it with 0.15 parts of liquid caustic potash, and beating this mixture with spirit of wine, we permit it to evaporate until there remains but 4 parts. We take this residue, to which we add 4 parts of weak sulphuric acid, in a well stopped small flagon, taking care to shake the mixture; in unstopping afterwards the flagon, we will perceive a perfect odour of the substance of which the brandy has been made.

2. *Sugar of Milk.*

17. Sugar of milk, *saccharum lactis*, is a salt of a sweet taste, slightly sugary; it forms masses moderately thick, hard, crystalline, semi-transparent, colourless and inodorous. By its properties, both physical and chemical, this substance, which is exclusively proper to the milk of different animals, seems to be intermediate between sugar and gum. Sufficiently purified, sugar of milk contains no azote; it dissolves in 12 times its weight of cold water and 4 times its weight of boiling water. Alcohol dissolves it but in a very small proportion, and ether not at all; it does not alter by the air, is not susceptible of undergoing the vinous fermentation, melts, puffs up, and is transformed into a kind of gummy matter by the action of fire, decomposes the acetate of copper the same as common sugar; in fine, treated with nitric acid, it forms mucic acid, and by sulphuric acid or muriatic acid diluted, the sugar of grapes. Its proportion, as that of the other constituent principles of milk, varies in the different kinds of mammiferæ. In general it abounds more in the milk of the ass than in that of the cow, or mare, or goat, &c. According to Berzelius, one thousand parts of skimmed milk give 35 and the same quantity of cream gives 44 parts of sugar of milk mingled with saline matters.

18. It is in the mountains of Switzerland that the sugar of milk is prepared which we find in commerce. It is prepared from the evaporation of the whey, which they obtain in such large quantities in the preparation of cheese. It presents many varieties, according to its degree of purity. The crystalline sugar in grape form is considered the most pure; the other kinds always contain more or less animal matter. We often also find in commerce, under the name of sac. lac. inspissatum, the whey of milk solidified and dried; but this is a kind that in no ways is proper for homœopathic prepara-

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tions. The sugar of milk, which we find at the druggists, is, in the majority of cases, more or less altered by mortars of copper or iron in which it has been pulverized, and still more often impregnated with exhalations of a quantity of aromatic substances, in the midst of which it is preserved. Hence the necessity of the homœopathic physician to prepare it himself, every time that he has it in his power, or at least to purify it by a new crystallization, if he is obliged to provide himself with it from the druggist. This, however, is not without difficulty, since the sugar of milk does not crystallize, in watery solution, but very slowly, and always in an incomplete manner. It is only by treating it with equal parts of alcohol and water, that we can succeed well; the operation, it is true, becomes more costly, but considering the advantages which this procedure offers, we think that the cost is no reason for its rejection.

19. To purify the sugar of milk in this way, we dissolve about two and a half pounds of the best quality in ten pounds of rain water or distilled water in a boiling state, then filter the solution through filtering paper, in a vessel of porcelain or glass, and mix it with four kilogrammes of absolute alcohol; after which place the vessel containing this mixture in a dry place, and leave it perfectly still. The sugar of milk being insoluble in absolute alcohol, and this being very attractive of water, drawing away a large quantity, the crystallization advances pretty rapidly, and often, at the end of three or four days, a crust of white and brilliant crystals may be obtained, of the weight nearly of the sugar of milk that was dissolved in the water. When this crust is formed, it is taken away, washed with distilled water, to which has been added a little alcohol, and then dried on blotting paper. That done, we may consider the sugar as altogether suitable for all the homœopathic preparations, even the most delicate—it is completely colourless and inodorous—tested by the most active reagents it shows not a trace of foreign salts.

20. Notwithstanding the process we have described above, it would be of little avail, were the sugar of milk not of a good quality in the first instance. In order to be sure of that, it should be separated from all fatty substances and other foreign matters which milk contains, which is recognisable by its perfectly white colour, by its due degree of resistance to the atmospheric air and its odour and pure and natural taste. The adulteration of sugar of milk with common sugar

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may be known by its sugary taste—with alum, by the aid of acetate of lead or oxydulated nitrate of mercury. To examine sugar of milk that has been boiled in copper vessels, we dissolve a certain quantity in water and pour on it some caustic ammonia, which colours it blue, should it contain any of that metal. Nitrate of silver detects the presence of kitchen salt, and acetate of lead, that of sulphuric acid. When prepared from sour whey, it reddens the tincture of tourne sol.

21. To reduce the crystallized sugar of milk to powder, we first break the crust in the direction of the crystals, upon a sufficiently thick piece of wood with a wooden hammer and a strong knife—then we put the pieces in a mortar of porcelain, when we break and triturate them until the powder becomes sufficiently fine for use. That done, we pass the powder through a sieve of crape which we have fitted above and below with parchment. The finest part, after being sifted, is found below the sieve, whilst the grosser part above should be triturated again. To preserve sugar of milk, it should be placed in a dry place, in order to keep it from the moisture of the air and prevent it from spoiling.

3. *The Sugar Globules.*

22. The sugar globules (*globuli saccharini*) are small *nonpareilles* destined to be saturated with homœopathic medicines, in order to be able to dispense these last with more facility. They are generally found at the confectioners, who prepare them from sugar and starch; but as the sugar of the cane or the beet, which enters into this preparation, is not pure enough for the purpose indicated, it is better to have globules made expressly from sugar of milk, or else with the ordinary purified sugar. As to the size of these globules, they should not be too large, so that we may be able to dispense the smallest doses. Hahnemann proposed to give them the size of a poppy seed, so that about 40 of them would weigh about one and a half grains, (one centigramme.) This form has been adopted by the majority of homœopaths—some, however, use them of the size of a millet seed.

23. To charge these globules with the active principles of the medicine, and to prepare them so that in a large quantity they may not deteriorate, we imbibe them first with those alcoholic attenuations which we desire—then, after being well assured that all have been well impregnated, we dry

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them and put them in a well stopped bottle. The complete desiccation of the globules before bottling them, is absolutely indispensable, since without that precaution, they fall into powder in a short time, and afterwards lose, in becoming decomposed, their medicinal virtue. This is the reason why, after imbibition in a suitable bottle, it is well to turn them out on paper with raised edges, where they may be agitated until they do not adhere one to the other. Should we wish afterwards to put them into the same bottle in which we have imbibed them, we should take care to dry it also, before making use of it, or to empty it afresh and dry the globules until they do not adhere to the bottle. All the globules so imbibed have a dry and smooth hue, whilst in their natural state they are white and brilliant.

4. *Water.*

24. Among all the vehicles there is not one that is more free from medicinal virtue, properly so called, than pure water; but, on the other hand, nothing is more rare than to find in nature this fluid in a perfectly pure condition. Under whatever form water presents itself, it is more or less charged with foreign matters, such as gas, salts, earths, &c. The purest quality of water is rain water, which, as well as distilled water, has neither odour, nor taste, nor colour; besides atmospheric air, which this water contains, there is but a small portion of fixed matters,—only after a storm, we find, occasionally, a trace of nitric acid combined with ammonia. The water of springs and wells constantly contain many kinds of neutral salts, earths, and muriatic compounds. As to the waters of rivers, lakes, and ponds, in inhabited countries, it is far from the conditions of pure water to merit attention here.

25. Homœopathy uses water for three different purposes, viz: 1. for the chemical operations, which require the purification of many primitive substances; 2. for the preparation of some of the attenuations; and 3. for the administration of medicines in the form of watery solution. For the last of these uses, we may well enough make use of river or spring water well filtered; for the chemical operations, rain water procured during a calm, answers in all cases; but for the preparation of the attenuations, we must have the purest water we can possibly obtain. For this, distilled water, which is

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found in the pharmacies, is not suitable; for even if it has not been distilled in copper or other metallic vessels, it is always to be feared that it is impregnated with foreign matters, derived from substances, which, perhaps, but a short time previously had been distilled in the same apparatus, and of which the ordinary care employed in cleansing them, is far from discharging the whole.

26. To obtain a perfectly pure water, the homœopath must himself undertake the distillation in vessels of porcelain or glass, as indicated under the head of alcohol. The most suitable water to distil is rain water, above all, if we take care, as we have above remarked, not to procure that which falls during a storm, or when the sun shines. We must not, even in an ordinary rain, gather the first rain that falls, since this commonly contains the impurities suspended in the air; it is only after rain has fallen four or six hours that we are able to gather it in its purest possible condition. Still this water contains a certain quantity of carbonic acid, and hence, before submitting it to distillation, we will do well to boil it in a porcelain vase and let it cool. Respecting the distillation itself, we must be cautious gradually to augment the fire under the apparatus, and to preserve, by wet cloths, the neck of the retort at a moderate temperature, so that the vapour, in passing, may not dissolve from the sides of the vessel even a trace of silex or alkali. The first distillation should be rejected, and when the liquid in the retort is diminished two-thirds, we must cease. A good distilled water should leave no residue on evaporation; it should be perfectly limpid, insipid and inodorous, and neither precipitate by muriate of barytes, nor nitrate of silver, nor hydrosulphuric acid, nor the hydrosulphates. To preserve it, it should be put into bottles or new jars of yellow glass, that we have been careful to cleanse at first with a part of the same water, and which we place afterwards in a place as cool as possible.

5. *Ether.*

27. *Sulphuric* ether or ether par excellence (*æther sulphuricus*, *spiritus sulphurico-ethereus*) is a light, volatile, odorous and inflammable liquid. Like the other *hydratic* ethers, as the *phosphoric*, *arsenic* ethers, &c., it is composed of two volumes of bicarbonated hydrogen gas and one volume of vapour of water, so that it may be considered

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either as alcohol deprived of a certain proportion of the elements of water, or as a hydrate of bicarbonated hydrogen. Recently prepared, it is neither alkaline, nor acid, and when burnt, it shows no trace of sulphuric acid, an evident proof that the sulphur enters for nothing into its composition. It unites with difficulty with water, which requires ten times its weight to dissolve it, but with alcohol and all the essential oils it unites in all proportions. The fixed oils also, the strong acids, balsams, several kinds of resins, phosphorus, sulphur, bromine, and many hydrochloric salts, are perfectly soluble in ether.

28. In homœopathy, we as yet are not acquainted with any etherial preparation, except phosphorus, which some have proposed to substitute for the alcoholic preparation of this substance. This substitution of etherial tinctures for alcoholic tinctures, not only for phosphorus, but also for many other substances, appears to us to be suitable in a great many cases, and we should not hesitate in the least to advise it to all the homœopathic physicians and pharmaceutists, were we well assured that the medicines would not undergo any modification in being indifferently treated by the one or the other of these vehicles. The knowledge of the chemical constituents, of which ether is composed, is not sufficient for us to conclude on its pathogenetic effects, and so long as this doubt is not settled by pure experiments, we think that all those who wish to be guided by the observations contained in the homœopathic materia medica, will do well to procure such preparations as have been employed by the authors of these observations. From this, however, it does not follow, that we should not prepare any etherial tincture, and we are ourselves far from wishing to interdict it here, but we only insist on the necessity not to confound them with those of alcohol, and to note at least on the label, the vehicle with the aid of which they have been prepared.

29. Ether, such as it is found in our shops, under the name of rectified ether, is ordinarily pure enough; it only sometimes contains a little alcohol, of which, however, it ought to be freed. To do this, we shake it a short time with double its volume of water, and when it is separated from it, we pour it on quick lime, with which it should be shaken at intervals for some days. In afterwards distilling this mixture, until there remains in the retort about two-thirds, the third which has passed into the recipient is perfectly pure

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ether. Often, however, we find it adulterated with a quantity of sulphuric acid or other acids. The adulteration with water is known by the watery residuum evident, whilst at a mean temperature we expose a small portion of ether to evaporation. The presence of sulphuric acid betrays itself by its disagreeable odour, and that of other acids by its reddening tournesol. Finally, to preserve ether free from all deterioration, it should be put into little bottles, the mouths of which terminate in points, so that they may be hermetically sealed by the flame of a lamp. When ether has been deteriorated by the action of the air or the light, it is less volatile, of an acrid and burning taste, and miscible with water in all proportions.

CHAPTER II.

OF THE PREPARATION OF HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES IN THEIR PRIMITIVE STATE.

1. *General Observations and Rules.*

30. In order to obtain good homœopathic preparations, it is necessary, first of all, to procure the primitive substances of the best possible quality, and in the state most suitable for their destination. All the substances, which are furnished us by the animal and vegetable kingdoms, always lose more or less of their power in drying, and this is the reason why every homœopathic physician and pharmaceutist should endeavour to procure them himself, as much as possible, in the fresh state, and immediately to submit them for preparation. As to the substances which are only found in far distant lands, and which, in consequence, we can only obtain in the

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tincture, prepared on the spot where they grow, or else the substance itself in a dry state, it is better to accept this last, in this state, than to trust to a preparation, the purity of which it is impossible to be sure. The cunning of our age has carried to such an extent the falsification of drugs, that it is impossible, with confidence, to make use, for homœopathic preparations, of the products of commerce, and among them, the tinctures are those which are the worst, and consequently, the least proper. As to the substances, which are generally sold in powder, we need equal precaution; above all should they be clear, as amber, castor, &c. Should it be impossible to procure them in their natural state, we should never accept them, unless we are perfectly assured of their purity. The same may be said of all the chemical products which are found in commerce; there is not a single one, which homœopathy can make use of, without a previous careful examination of its quality.

31. A point, not less important than the good quality of substances, is the exact choice of the particular kind, which homœopathy makes use of, and this is a point upon which we believe ourselves bound to insist so much the more, since not only some pharmaceutists, but also homœopathic physicians, have often thought to introduce a real advantage, in substituting, for substances used in homœopathy, others, which appeared to them either more energetic or more pure in their chemical qualities. However great these advantages may be in a scientific view, it is not the less certain, that the least essential change introduced into the preparation of a medicine may cause the most disastrous consequences to the safety of practice. What is most important to the practitioner is, not that the preparation should be more or less scientific, but that it should be similar with that which has been employed in the experiments, and the more the conformity in this point of view, so much the more the preparation will be perfect to the end it ought to fulfil. Thus, to obtain the *calcarea* or subcarbonate of lime, for example, such as is employed in homœopathy, it is absolutely necessary to prepare the oyster shell just as Hahnemann prescribed, though such preparation is far from containing the pure subcarbonate of lime. It is thus also that cinchona, opium, nux vomica, &c., such as are used to prepare the tinctures of the same names, can never be replaced by the quinine, the morphine, the strychnine, &c., without inconvenience, notwith-

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standing these last substances are reputed to contain the active principles of the first in a perfectly pure state.

32. It is absolutely the same as to the measures adopted by homœopathy in the pharmaceutical preparations of its medicines. Here, as in the gathering and chemical preparation of substances, the strictest observation of prescribed rules is binding. All the substances which homœopathy transforms into *tinctures*, should be prepared alone with alcohol, and those which are neither soluble in this fluid nor in water, by the simple trituration with sugar of milk. The vehicles, such as alcohol, sugar of milk, water, &c., ought to be perfectly pure and good. At the same time, the proportions indicated for the mixtures, as well as the manipulations prescribed for the solution and division of substances, ought to be observed with the utmost possible exactitude. Often, it is true, these indications and prescriptions are of a nature to leave a certain latitude in their execution, according to the use we wish to make of the medicines, or the degree of energy which we propose to give to them; but even in this last case, the principles which have dictated the rules ought always to serve as guides in their application; and, in every case, where the indications are positive, homœopathic physicians and pharmaceutists have no business, under any pretext whatsoever, arbitrarily to depart from them.

33. In addition to the precision to be observed in the process of the preparation, it is also necessary to prevent, with the greatest care, any foreign influence, so that the virtues of the medicines be not changed, and the action thus rendered uncertain. For this it is requisite, in the first place, to make them in a place where the temperature is not above that of houses in general, and where the substances are not exposed to the direct rays of the sun. At the same time, the atmosphere in which we work should be pure and exempt from every odour or vapour, but, above all, of every medicinal emanation, such as are generally found in the pharmacies in ordinary; for all these exhalations, placed in contact with homœopathic preparations, are liable to change their virtues. The same may be said respecting vessels or other instruments, which have been used for the preparation of substances very odorous or susceptible of adhering tenaciously, as musk, essences, arsenic, corrosive sublimate, &c. We should never make use of such vessels, without having previously cleansed them with the most perfect care. As to small bottles and

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corks, which have already been in use, they should never be employed but for the same substance, no more than the cloth which has been used for filtering or expressing the juice of a plant; for, notwithstanding all the endeavours we may use to clean them, we can never be sure that we have entirely purged them of all particles that may adhere to them.

34. Homœopathy exacts a much greater cleanliness than is ordinarily given to vessels of pharmacy, notwithstanding the care bestowed on it. Even the washing in large quantities of water, as in rivers, which has been recommended, are far from fulfilling the conditions. No matter how we look on it, a vessel, for example, which has served for the trituration of substances such as sulphur, musk, asafœtida, &c., constantly preserves its odour, even after having been washed and dried several times. As to the cleansing with certain chemical articles, such as acids, chlorine, lime, potash, &c., it cannot be tolerated in any case, since these substances themselves, whilst they have been in a vessel, need to be carefully cleaned out. Some have still imagined to clean the vessels with spirits of wine, but even this is a great error, for either the spirits of wine dissolves the substance we wish to get rid of, or it does not dissolve it; in this last case, it will clean out nothing, and, in the first, it will form, with the rest of the substance, a medical preparation, which, though weak, will always be stronger than one of the last dilutions, and no homœopath in effect, will look upon these preparations as suitable for the end proposed. The best way to obtain the perfect purity of vessels is, at first to clean them with boiling water several times, and then to expose them to the continual action of a strong heat, as for example of an oven, or else to burn, several times, in them absolute alcohol of the greatest purity. As to the stones, which have served for the pulverization of a metal, we should cleanse them before employing them again for the preparation of another substance, by scraping their surface with a piece of glass.

35. Finally, as to the vessels themselves, it is necessary, that all which are used in homœopathic preparations, should be of a substance not calculated to alter the effects of substances. Hence, all the mortars, pestles, and spatules, as well as the spoons and other instruments needful, should be of quartz, porphyry, glass, porcelain, or horn; those of metal, marble, serpentine, or wood are absolutely inadmissible. To close the bottles, stoppers of glass are always to be preferred

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to those of cork, above all for the substances prepared with sugar of milk, to which the cork stoppers often give a disagreeable odour. For the corrosive substances, such as the acids, iodine, kreosote, &c., glass stoppers are indispensable. If, for the alcoholic preparations, we would, nevertheless, use stoppers of cork, we should procure them of the best quality, never used before. Before making use of them, we should temper them in pure water, after which we should wash them in spirits of wine, and let them dry at a moderate temperature. It has also been advised to boil them, in order to make them larger and softer; but prepared in this way, they become very susceptible of imbibing the humidity of the air and of constantly changing their size.

2. *Particular Rules for the Preparation of Plants in the fresh state.—Tinctures.*

36. That the plants may be entirely suitable to medical use, we should gather them a little before, or better still, during their flowering, and we should never take those which grow on a very humid spot and deprived of the sun and of the free air, unless the nature of the plant require those conditions. In the majority of cases, it is important not to gather the flowers and the leaves during a continued cold or damp time, since then the etherial oils, the corrosive resins and the alkaline matters, do not become developed, as they should, and it permits not the separation of albumen but in a very incomplete manner. The most favourable moment is, when, after several warm days, there has been a shower of rain; for it is then that the formation of the active principles and the free developement of hydrogen are the most favoured. In every case, where homœopathy indicates nothing particular, we constantly use the entire plant, flowers, body and root. Before submitting it to preparation, we wash it carefully with fresh water, in order to wash away the dust and other impurities adhering to it.

37. After this, to prepare the plant, in order to bring together all the properties of its different parts, we cut it up as small as possible, we put it into a mortar of stone and reduce it to a fine paste, which is put into a piece of suitable cloth, in order to submit it to the action of a press of wood expressly constructed, thus to obtain the juice of the plant. This juice is at once mixed intimately with an equal quantity of alcohol,

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and put into well stopped bottles. At the end of 24 hours, we decant the clear liquor, which swims on the precipitate of fibrine and albumen, and we put it apart for medical use. Alcohol prevents fermentation from taking place in the vegetable juice, and the virtue of this is thus preserved completely, without alteration, and forever, provided we only take care to keep it from the rays of the sun and in well stopped bottles. The medicine thus obtained by expression, and by the mixture of the juice with an equal quantity of alcohol, is the *mother tincture* of the plant, obtained by expression (*per expressionem*).

38. The preparation of the mother tincture, *by expression*, is, however, only applicable to plants abounding in juice—for those plants containing much thick mucilage and albumen, it is better to make their preparations by *macerating* them in a double proportion of alcohol. To do this we should at first half dry them in exposing them in the shade, in an airy place, and at a slighly elevated temperature, after which we cut them as fine as possible and then add the necessary quantity of alcohol. As to those plants which have but an excessively small quantity of juice, such as the laurel rose, thuya, &c., we should begin by pounding them alone; then, after reducing them to a fine and moist paste, we imbibe this paste with the double of alcohol, so that the juice, thus mixed with this liquid, may be expressed more easily. The medicine obtained after this method, is the mother tincture by maceration (*per macerationem*).

39. In addition to these two measures for obtaining the mother tinctures, there is yet a third, which, though inferior to the two preceding, deserves, nevertheless, to be mentioned, as convenient in some particular cases. It is, above all, whilst the circumstances do not permit us to express the juice of the fresh plants, immediately after having gathered them; and that, fearing that their withering, no matter how little, may injure their virtues. Under these conditions we may remedy this inconvenience in *digesting* separately in alcohol each part of the plant. To do this we begin by sundering the root into four, and cutting it into little pieces—we do the same with the leaves; then after putting each of these two parts into a separate bottle of sufficient size, we pour upon them an equal quantity of alcohol. In thus digesting the separate parts during some time, and reuniting afterwards in one bottle the obtained products, we have a mother tincture

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by digestion (*per digestionem*), which will not only be perfectly pure, but also sufficiently impregnated with the active principles to merit confidence. For the rest, in every case, unless absolutely obliged to have recourse to this proceeding, the preparation of the mother tinctures by expression and maceration is far preferable; but every time that we are obliged to hunt the plants which we want, in distant countries, where we cannot carry the apparatus necessary for expression, we should prefer preparing them at once, by digestion, to carrying them home withered and bereft of their active principles.

3. *Of the Preparation of Exotic Vegetable substances.*

40. All exotic vegetable substances used in homœopathy, such as plants, bark, grains, resins, wood, &c., should be selected in the crude state, and never when in powder. For, even should we fear no adulteration with other matters, the ordinary means employed in pulverizing them are not of a kind to prevent all adulteration possible. All vegetable substances, even when perfectly dried, still contain when entire and in the crude state, a certain amount of humidity, which becomes useless in the state of powder, and which, if not dissipated, deteriorates the powder in a short time.

If then the homœopath would be perfectly sure to have a powder not only pure but yet susceptible of preservation without any alteration, he must absolutely himself undertake the necessary preparation.

41. Hahnemann first taught the best way to reduce foreign substances to an unalterable powder, and free from all humidity. This way consists in spreading the powder on a flat surface of tin with raised borders, and to shake it till it no longer forms lumps, until all the particles equally and easily slip on each other, like fine sand. To succeed well, we must take care to keep the heater constantly full of water of an equable temperature, so as not to expose the powder to a too elevated heat, since all heat, too intense, destroys organic substances. In enclosing the powders thus obtained in bottles well stopped and sealed, and protecting them from the sun's rays and the light of day, we may preserve them a long time, without becoming mouldy or altering in any way. The only thing which is yet doubtful is, whether by this procedure, those substances of volatile principles do not lose their virtues

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during the operation, and whether, in consequence, it would not be preferable to prepare of them an alcoholic tincture immediately after pulverization.

42. To prepare the tincture of dry substances, we begin by breaking them in a mortar of marble—then, after having reduced them to a fine powder, we add twenty parts of alcohol, in which we digest them six or eight days, after which we decant the clear liquor, in order to preserve it for practice. Those substances which are very susceptible of attracting the humidity of the air, should be deprived of it before pulverization, or else should be powdered in a warm mortar, and, if they are particularly hard and tenacious, they should be grated or filed. As to the proportion in which alcohol ought to be added, many physicians have proposed to make it 1 to 10, instead of 1 to 20—that is to say to pour but 10 parts of alcohol on the pulverized substance—but independent of the certainty there is in the proportion of 1 to 20, the vehicle will necessarily take up all the medicinal virtues, and the tinctures of many substances, as cinchona, opium, ratanhia, &c., seem to be in this proportion so fully saturated that it is very doubtful whether, in the proportion of 1 to 10, they would really acquire more energy.

43. Lately, Hahnemann has advised to make no more tinctures of dry vegetable substances, but to prepare them after the manner of solid mineral substances; that is to say, by triturating them with the necessary quantity of sugar of milk. It is evident that, for all the substances which we wish to employ, but at a certain degree of concentration, and to mingle with the vehicle, but in the proportion of 10 to 100, this procedure would have for the preservation of the preparations all the inconvenience that we have spoken of in the beginning of this article. Even in weighing the substance with the vehicle, but in the proportion of 1 to 100, the humidity it would communicate to the trituration would still be too sensible not to fear the alteration of the preparation, should it be put into stopt bottles. But the question differs when we wish to use only a preparation of a low attenuation, (6, 15, 30;) in this case, the proposed plan would do, in effect, not only for *dry* vegetable substances, but also for all the *fresh* plants which contain too small a quantity of juice to afford tinctures by *expression;* for not wanting to preserve of the preparation of these low attenuations, above the *third* trituration, this would always be sufficiently exempt,

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for example, from vegetable humidity, to leave nothing to desire, and the triturations being, in general, less subject to alteration than the tinctures, this proceeding would unite the double advantage of preserving all the active principles of the medicines, and of rendering their preparations as unalterable as possible.

4. *Of the Preparation of Mineral and Animal substances—Trituration.*

44. All the non-vegetable substances made use of in homœopathy, such as animal substances, mineral bodies, and chemical products, are generally prepared by trituration with sugar of milk, whether, in their natural state, they are liquid or solid, soluble or non-soluble in alcohol. Certain substances only, such as the acetate of copper, several acids, and all those of which the chemical qualities do not permit a mixture with sugar of milk, should be prepared in a particular way, which will be specially indicated under the head of each substance. As to the substances which are soluble in alcohol, we can equally well prepare the tinctures of them by solution in 20 parts of this liquid; but for the safe preservation of the preparations, and the developement of the medicinal virtues, the trituration with sugar of milk merits by far the preference. Even for those recent animal substances which are commonly prepared by digestion in 20 parts of alcohol, after reduction to a fine paste, the trituration is infinitely better.

45. To submit all these substances to trituration, we may, in the majority of cases, take them such as they are found in their pure state; only as to the metals, if we cannot procure them in very thin leaves, like gold, silver, tin, &c., it is necessary to reduce them to powder. To effect this we may treat them in two ways, the first of which consists in rubbing under water a small fragment of the regulus against a good hone, until we have obtained a sufficient quantity of metallic powder. The majority of homœopaths employ this measure, but should the stone we use be too soft, the powder, obtained in this manner, is rarely pure, and, in such a case, it is better to obtain it by the decomposition of the solutions of these metals in acids. In plunging in such solution a small polished rod of a metal whose affinity with oxygen is stronger than that of the metal in solution, this last is immediately precipi-

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tated on the rod, and adheres to it in the form of powder. To obtain, then, this powder perfectly pure, we wash it frequently with distilled water, until it does not show a trace of acid. The reduction to powder of metals by the file, is a proceeding which is suitable to iron alone, since, by the observation of Wells, it is proved that the metal, thus obtained, easily acquires the virtues of that against which it has been rubbed.

46. As the trituration of substances with sugar of milk has chiefly in view the developement of all the active principles, by the division of molecules, it is essential that the proportion in which the medicine is mixed with the vehicle be not too great, and that the quantity that is submitted to trituration at one time, be small enough to be well manipulated. To effect this, Hahnemann has proposed never to make a trituration which contains more than 5 grammes (100 grains)* of sugar of milk, and to mingle the medicine in the proportion only of 1 to 100, that is to say, of the weight of 5 centigrammes (1 grain) nearly, so that the trituration being made, each gramme of this contains but one centigramme of the primitive medicine. This proportion of 1 to 100 is, in general, that upon which all the homœopathic physicians, nearly, rely; but, as for many substances, the volume of 5 centigrammes of their weight is too small in proportion to that which the sugar of milk makes, and as it is essential that the whole should be impregnated with the medicine, many physicians have, lately, preferred making all the *first* triturations in the proportion of 10 to 100. In consequence, instead of taking but 5 centigrammes (1 grain) of the medicine, they take 50 (10 grains) to mix with 5 grammes (100 grains) of sugar of milk, so that each gramme of the trituration, when finished, contains 10 centigrammes of the medicine. It is easy to see that this proceeding merits in every case the preference, since not only it affords a greater surety for the exactitude of the mixture, but also, because afterwards, to establish the proportion indicated by Hahnemann, we have only to take 50 centigrammes (10 grains) of the obtained trituration, and triturate them anew with 5 other grammes (100 grains) of sugar of milk.

47. As to the operation of the trituration, Hahnemann recommends the following. After having weighed the ne-

* See Table of Weights at the commencement of the work.

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cessary quantity of the medicine, and of the sugar of milk, we take about a third of this last and place it, with the entire quantity of the medicine, in a mortar of porcelain; we mingle these two portions with a spatula of bone or horn, and we triturate with sufficient force six minutes; we detach with the spatula the mass from the sides and bottom of the mortar and pestle, and mingle them anew, after which we continue the trituration for another six minutes. That done, we again detach the matter from the mortar and pestle and add the *second third* of the sugar of milk, which we mingle with the rest with the spatula and triturate afresh during six minutes; we detach, triturate and detach afresh as for the first third; finally we add the last third of the sugar of milk, which is mingled, triturated and detached in the same way and during the same space of time as with the two first. In thus triturating each third during twice six minutes, and counting about four minutes for the time taken up in detaching and remingling the powder, we shall occupy just one hour in the preparation of each trituration.

48. In the first article of this chapter we have already observed that, for the triturations, mortars of serpentine can in no way be admissible, and that the best are of porcelain. Wood and glass are not more suitable either—the first, on account of its porosity; the second, because the rubbing detaches from it particles, which contain sodium. As to those of porcelain, the unpolished ones are to be preferred, since the smoother the surface, the less true is the rubbing, and this is the reason why, if we can only obtain mortars of polished porcelain, we must unpolish them in working them previously with sand. The pestle should be of the same material as the mortar, and treated in the same way. To prevent, with the greatest certainty, all possible alteration of the preparations, either by particles of silex which the porcelain might afford, or by the remains which previous triturations might leave in the mortar, it has been proposed to coat this, as well as the pestle, with a thin covering of pure ichthyocolla, mingled with a little sugar of milk, and to renew this covering for each new preparation. We cannot decide on the absolute necessity of this method, but we think, nevertheless, that it merits, at all times, the serious attention of practitioners.

49. As to the form of mortars, it is easy to see that those with flat bottoms are no ways suitable, since, in such, the

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substance would tend to enter the corners, which would impede the trituration being made equally. The best form to give the interior of mortars is that of the butt end of an egg. At the same time, it should have a large enough capacity to allow the rubbing with the necessary force, and hindering the powder from dispersing; its sides should be level and without the least inequality, and its weight such as, during the process, it can easily be held in the left hand without fatigue. The pestle should be large enough at its base to fit exactly to the concave bottom of the mortar. In order to detach the triturated mass, which adheres to the pestle and mortar, Hahnemann advises us to use a spatula, but this operation is much better accomplished with a hard brush of a suitable form, made for the purpose. As to the other necessary instruments, such as the spatula, spoon, &c., we have already said that they should be of bone, or horn, or porcelain, and that those in metal are absolutely inadmissible, except the mortars of iron to break down certain substances of considerable hardness before preparing them for trituration.

CHAPTER III.

OF HOMŒOPATHIC ATTENUATIONS.

1. *On the Attenuations in general.*

50. In speaking of the nature and form of homœopathic medicines, we have already observed that, instead of correcting the too energetic effects of some substances by the addition of another medicinal substance, homœopathy seeks to mollify them by the preparation of a series of *attenuations*, in which the medicine is found mingled in the vehicle but in a very small proportion. In the commencement of his medi-

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cal career, Hahnemann limited himself in these attenuations to 1 to 100; that is to say, in mingling a very small quantity of the concentrated substance to a quantity 100 times larger of a substance non-medicinal; but seeing that these preparations often acted too powerfully still, he soon went further and prepared a *second*, and then a *third* attenuation, in mingling, for the second the 100th part of the first, and for the third the 100th part of the second to 100 parts of the vehicle. This third attenuation, though only containing the medicine in the proportion of 1 to 100-3, or of 1 to 1,000,000, Hahnemann still found at times too active, which induced him to carry the attenuations yet further, and to go from attenuation to attenuation, so at last to find the one the most appropriate. It is thus that, latterly, he has carried the number of attenuations, for all the medicinal substances without distinction, up to 30, so that, in this last attenuation, the medicine is found mingled with the vehicle but in the proportion of 1 to 100-30 or of 1 to 1,000,000-10.

51. How absurd soever the first view of these infinitesimal attenuations may appear, it is not the less true that, even the 30th, far from having lost all efficacy, often shows itself too energetic; and Dr. Korsakow, of St. Petersburg, who has carried the attenuations as high as 1500, has declared the same fact as to the last preparation of his series. In effect, in examining attentively the degree of intensity with which the various homœopathic attenuations act, we may easily perceive that the diminution of their energy is in no way proportioned to the diminution of their matter. On the contrary, many substances, which, in their state of concentration, have little or no action on the body, as the lycopodium, vegetable charcoal, &c., often become very active at the second or third attenuation, so that we are almost inclined to believe, that the mode of preparation adopted by Hahnemann rather contributes to develope than to weaken the virtues of medicines, or, at any rate, to render them more apt to exercise, in the smallest doses, their influence on the organism. Hence Hahnemann has, for a long time, ceased to look upon these preparations as *dilutions*, in the true acceptation of this word; and if, at the present time, he wishes all the medicines to be carried to the 30th attenuation, it is only in the thought that, by this procedure, they can best develope all their active principles, and become more suitable to practice.

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52. To explain the truly unheard of fact of the efficacy of his attenuations, Hahnemann has endeavoured to set down, as a principle, that, the more we destroy the material parts of a substance, so much the more we develope or loosen the dynamic force, or, in other words, the *spirit* of the medicine; and that, to augment the energy of preparations to an incredible extent, we have only to carry them from attenuation to attenuation, in submitting them at the same time to a great number of triturations and shakes. If this principle were conformable to experience, it would result that, from a substance, for example, of which one grain would be sufficient to cause death, the same dose of the 30th attenuation would produce the same effect in a much more certain manner, which, however, is not the fact. If we would even limit this principle to those substances which only exhibit their virtues by attenuation, it is still equally adverse to observation, that the 30th attenuation, for example, of these substances have an action *absolutely* more energetic than the 6th, 12th, 15th, &c. On the contrary, to judge from the experience of many homœopaths, the degrees of energy among the attenuations of a medicine are so small, that thus far a decision has not been formed with certainty, whether it is the first or the last attenuations which exhibit the strongest action. This is the reason why, in admitting the efficacy of the attenuations, many homœopaths have rejected the explanation given by Hahnemann, and have considered the procedure by which they acquire their efficacy as analogous to the infection by miasm. According to them, the active principle of the drug being set free by the destruction of the matter, it communicates itself to the vehicle, which by that becomes infected and as active as the drug itself.

53. As to the comparison with miasms, this last opinion is, without contradiction, that which merits the most attention; but the explanation which it gives is far from satisfying all demands, since, instead of explaining the difficulty, it refers it to another order of facts, which, though generally admitted, are not, however, themselves yet explained. Miasm, though being an imponderable body, is not the less for that a body—that is to say, matter, and amenable to the laws of matter—Now, every action of matter, whether mechanical or dynamical, is proportioned to the quantity of active atoms which a given volume presents; and every one knows, that not only a large stone weighs more than a small one, but also that a

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magnet of considerable volume is capable of developing and of manifesting a much stronger action than another which is less voluminous. If, then, we would pretend that there is manifested somewhere the action of a body either ponderable or imponderable, we are absolutely obliged to admit also the presence of a certain quantity of atoms; and, what is still more certain, is, that as this quantity diminishes in a given volume, the action of it will also diminish in energy. Thus we see that, even should we prove that our attenuations, to be able to act, only need to be impregnated with imponderable particles, like miasms, we still shall have accomplished nothing in demonstrating that their energy shall not diminish in proportion to the loss of matter which they suffer, nor nothing either, in explaining how an attenuation, for example, which shall contain but the billionth part of the medicinal atoms of another, shall manifest an intensity not only equal, but often, also, superior to that of this last.

54. These facts are, however, such as we cite them; and, perhaps, we should not have found any thing astonishing, if, at the beginning, we had better reflected on the manner in which our medicines act in general, and on the changes which substances undergo by our mode of preparation. We ought to have noticed, that each medicinal dose contains a great number of atoms which are perfectly inactive, by the fact alone that they are shut up in the interior of molecules, and do not come into contact with our organs; and that, of consequence, every time that, by any means whatever, we come to divide these molecules into smaller corpuscules, and to augment thus their whole surface, the energy of the dose will so augment that the smallest part will become capable of exercising an influence, if not superior, at any rate equal to that of the entire dose in its primitive condition. It is thus that Dr. Doppler, of Prague, has the first explained the efficacy of our attenuations; and such is, according to him, the effect which the infinite division produces on the molecules, that if the molecules of a fine powder are, at the dose of 5 centigrammes, (1 grain,) in a condition to constitute, by the totality of their surface, a total superficies of 100 metres square; and if each trituration of 20 minutes only divided each molecule into 100 lesser corpuscules, the molecules of the 30th attenuation would be so divided that, at the dose of one drop only, they would occupy, by the totality of their

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surfaces, a total superficies of many millions of decametres square.

55. If this calculation, which each one can easily verify, is just, there is nothing, in truth, more easy than to conceive, not only how the 30th attenuation may yet be able to exhibit efficacy, but also, how a single globule of this attenuation may still have virtue enough to render a tumbler of water almost as energetic as the pure drug. For, let us suppose that the total superficies of a drop of the 30th attenuation can cover, by the surfaces of its infinitely small molecules, even only four thousand decametres square, on imbibing with this drop 200 sugar globules, each globule will contain enough to cover a superficies of at least 200 metres square, and will act, in consequence, with a force not less than that which 10 centigrammes, (2 grains,) of a non-attenuated substance would exhibit, but which will be reduced to a powder fine enough for the molecules of each centigramme to cover a total superficies of 20 metres square. Now, if one globule of the 30th attenuation has such power, it is clear that, in dissolving it in a volume of 8 spoonfuls, (4 ounces, or 120 grammes,) of water, the preparation we shall obtain will in no instance be less efficacious than a mother tincture, which, in 30 grammes, (one ounce,) of liquid, will contain 5 centigrammes, (one grain,) of the preceding, and dissolved so that the molecules of this grain may cover a total superficies of 500 metres square. All these calculations are, it is true, not rigorously exact; but if there is error, it is rather on account of having placed the ciphers too low than too high; and if we suppose, which is more than probable, that each trituration of 20 minutes changes each molecule of the primitive substance into more than two or three smaller corpuscules, the result will be still more astonishing.

56. Arguments have been raised against homœopathic preparations, that if the influence exercised by trituration and succussion were really such as the homœopaths pretend, the energy of the attenuations ought not only to increase with the number, but also increase in a prodigious manner, since more powerful means are employed in each attenuation, to effect the division of the molecules. This is undoubtedly true in principle, and we should each day prove this fact in practice, were it possible always to make use of the increase in surface, which a given volume has gained in this manner. But the total surface, which, after the usual triturations and

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successions, a single globule of the 20th attenuation would afford, is really so vast, *that if time be not allowed it*, it will never find sufficient space in the organs to develope itself, so that all its infinity of molecules can enter into action; and it is thus that all that we could add to this quantity of molecules would only increase the number of those which remain inactive. This is the explanation, also, why 2, 3, or 4 globules, and even a whole drop of an attenuation often appears to produce no more effect than a single spoonful of a solution of a globule, in 8 spoonfuls of water; and if we seek the reason why these last attenuations are not distinguishable from the first by any other quality than that of a more prolonged action, it is still in the same way that we shall find the means to account for it.

57. There are, however, certain substances, whose energy really augments in a sensible manner, as the attenuations advance, and which, often altogether inert in their natural condition, become by this method of preparation, not less active than the most energetic medicines. Such are those substances which, even in the state of the finest powder, have probably their truly active molecules still shut up in a species of envelope, which prevents them from being put into immediate contact with the organs, and which the ordinary means of pulverization and of solution are incapable of destroying. For in rubbing, as ordinarily done, the substances by themselves, the molecules of a powder, already very fine, escape the force which tends to render them finer yet, and it is only in triturating them with another substance, against the corpuscules of which they can be rubbed, that we can succeed in accomplishing an infinite division. But still we shall only arrive at it in a very incomplete way, if, at the same time, we do not take care to spread out as much as possible the newly obtained particles, in proportion as the trituration increases the number, since the more the molecules remain agglomerated one with the other, so much the less will it be easy to divide the whole. This is the reason why many substances frequently do not seem to develope all their virtue till after three successive triturations, made so that each new trituration shall contain the 100th part of the preceding.

58. What we have just said of the trituration of substances in powders, equally applies, in the same way, to the attenuation of liquid substances, and to the succussion of soluble substances with a liquid vehicle. For, though the molecules of

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liquids, on account of their globular nature, are absolutely incapable of being divided by any kind of ordinary rubbing, being triturated with a vehicle in form of powder, or being treated by succussion with a liquid vehicle, they undergo, as well as solid substances, infinite division. The same holds good for all substances ordinarily insoluble in water or alcohol, whilst, by sufficient triturations, their molecules are sufficiently divided to be held in suspension between the molecules of these liquids—then they become abstracted not only from the law which held them in a state of aggregation, but being shaken with the vehicle, which has dissolved them, they also receive all the other ulterior divisions of which liquid substances are susceptible. It is thus that after the third trituration the attenuation even of metals may be continued, without the least inconvenience, by the succussion of these substances with the liquid vehicles; and it is thus also that all the attenuations made in this way, tend, as well as the triturations, to increase the resources of our doses, so that if we submit to new succussions the solution made with a single globule of the 30th in 8 ounces of water, we may render this solution such that each drop of it shall form a dose much stronger than that of the globule which was dissolved in it.

59. If then there is a method more than any other capable of furnishing energetic medicines, it is, without contradiction, the mode of preparation adopted by homœopathy. As to the substances, which, in their natural state, have already their virtues suitably developed, this proceeding will not, it is true, augment the energy of the usual doses of the school, since, as we have above said, there is scarcely a means of making use of all the resources which these doses shall gain—but the advantage we shall derive from them will always be that of finding the atienuations of these substances, at the dose of a single globule, not only equally as efficacious as the entire dose of which they have been made, but also more appropriate in exercising a longer and more continued action. The same may be said of those substances whose virtues are latent, when their virtues shall be fully developed—the attenuations made beyond this point cannot act with any more striking effect over the energy of usual doses—but the farther we shall carry them, the more we shall see that the smallest possible dose is still more than sufficient to produce all the effects that can be produced by medicines, given in the

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strongest usual doses—that may even be carried to the point that, if by simple mixture and without any succussion, we dissolve a single globule of a sufficiently high attenuation in a volume of three or four glasses of water, and even more, each teaspoonful of this mixture would still be equal to produce all that could be obtained from an entire drop of the ordinary medicinal preparations.

60. From this we see that if we wish to obtain much from little (*multum per pauca*), it is indispensable to prepare the medicines after the prescribed method of homœopathy—whilst, if we wish to render the effects, at times already too violent of usual doses, more prompt and more violent still, this proceeding will be not only useless, but altogether contrary to the end we propose. For though the resources of doses augment by this method of preparation, it is, nevertheless, not the less ascertained, that many substances also lose by attenuation, their primitive energy, as for example, all poisons which, as all homœopaths well know, are much less to be feared in their attenuations than in their primitive state. This will even be the case in all substances, whose molecules, besides the property of being easily absorbed and spread in the organism, have yet that of undergoing a certain solution or division. In the attenuations they will still possess the first of these properties, but, as soon as art has divided them more than the organism can do, none of the subsequent attenuations can, at a given dose, be in a state to furnish to the absorbing faculty as many active elements as the substance in its primitive condition. Up to this point the energy of doses will even gradually diminish; whilst, this limit passed, their resources will augment in proportion as art shall operate, in the subsequent attenuations, the ulterior division of molecules, the same as that which takes place in other substances. This is what explains how a single method can at the same time diminish the energy of doses, and augment the resources, or else how is it possible that a like proceeding can endow a single globule of the 30th with more resources than have whole drops of the mother tinctures, without rendering, at the same time, the substances too energetic, still more deleterious?

61. All the theoretic explanations, which we have just given, would be altogether without value, if practice did not confirm all the facts which we have above mentioned. Many homœopaths, it is true, have supposed that they have observed that the last attenuations which they make use of, do

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not always produce effects conformable to those which they had the right to look for, if the theory, upon which this doctrine is based, were correct. But, according to our view, these exceptions are rather made to confirm the theory than to destroy it; above all, if we remember that these contradictory observations have been made, for the most part by individuals who did not themselves prepare their attenuations, or who, according to their way of observing, did not conform more or less exactly, for their preparation, to the rules indispensable to be observed. For what is certain is, that if we neglect to operate in each new attenuation, a new division of molecules, the first attenuations thus obtained, may still have resources enough; but as we advance in this way, the more they will become exhausted. If the division of molecules in the first triturations has been carried to a sufficiently high degree, it is even possible that, without any new division, we may continue the simple partition of doses up to the 30th, without this last failing resources; but the preparations thus obtained will not the less be pure *dilutions* and not *dynamizations*, as they would be, if, in each one, we had anew augmented the resources of the doses. In the following article we shall expose the rules and precautions to be observed, in order to prepare the attenuations, so that they shall all be true *dynamizations*.

2. *Of the Preparation of the Attenuations.*

62. We have already said, on many occasions, that the homœopathic attenuations are obtained, in general, in such a way that the first contains one grain (5 centigrammes),* or one drop of the medicine to attenuate, mingled with 100 grains (5 grammes) of sugar of milk, or 100 drops of alcohol; and that after sufficient triturations and succussions, the second is obtained in manipulating, in the same manner, the 100th part of the 1st with 100 new parts of vehicle; the 3rd, in submitting to the same process the 100th part of the second, and so on to the 20th. This way of making the attenuations, in the proportion of 1 to 100, is that of Hahnemann, and which is always understood, when we indicate an attenuation by its number. Latterly, however, it has been found more suitable to make the mixtures only in the proportion of 10 to

* See Table of Weights at the commencement of the work.

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100, so that instead of mingling but *one* grain or *one* drop with 100 parts of vehicle, we mingle each time 10. This process has the advantage of giving more certitude that, in in each preparation the molecules of the medicine are well mingled with those of the vehicle, though, on the other hand, it permits less extension. But as we can easily repair this inconvenience, in preparing each time two attenuations, in the proportion of 10 to 100, instead of 1 to 100, we recommend this process to all the homœopathic physicians and pharmaceutists; in cautioning, however, these last, that every time that they shall make use of another proportion than that of 1 to 100, they shall take care to indicate it on the label of the preparations, in order that we may know in what proportion the number, which each attenuation bears, is made.

63. In general, we can lay it down as a principle, that the smaller the proportion in which the medicine is mingled with the vehicle, the more difficult will it be to obtain a perfectly intimate mixture, and to spread the molecules of the drug over all the points of the preparation; likewise, the larger the volume of each preparation, the less will it be easy to make the necessary division of the medicinal molecules. One drop of a medicine poured into a lake, will never make a homœopathic attenuation, though the proportion which this drop bears to the lake in question, is far from being a fraction so small as that which is found in the 30th attenuations. But what causes this attenuation, notwithstanding the infinitely small proportion in which it contains the drug, to have, nevertheless, all its virtues, is that it has been obtained by degrees, in preparing at first at the farthest but 100 grains, or 100 drops, of a vehicle with 1 or 10 of the drug, and in not taking of this preparation to prepare a second, except after having well impregnated it, in all its points, with the molecules of the drug. It is thus that we are successively enabled in effect, to spread out the number, always increasing, of infinitely small particles, so that at last, at the 30th, they are as much spread out through the whole preparation as in the first. This is the reason, also, why the attenuations obtained in the proportion of 10 to 100, are much more sure than those of 1 to 100; and it is also the reason why *we should never prepare any attenuation which contains more than* 100 *grains*, (5 *grammes*,) *or more than* 100 *drops of the vehicle.*

64. The attenuations of substances, which, from the first, have been prepared under the form of *tinctures*, are made of

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alcohol from the first to the last. For this, if we wish to preserve all the attenuations, we prepare for each substance 30 small bottles, *quite new*, each of the capacity of 150 drops; we fill all these bottles with alcohol to two-thirds of their capacity, and mark, as well on the label as the cork, the name of the substance we are about to attenuate. This done, we take one of these bottles and pour into it, after the process of Hahnemann, *one* drop of the mother tincture, and give to it 100 or 200 sufficiently strong shakes, after which we mark on the bottle the cypher 1, to indicate that the preparation it contains is the *first* attenuation. Of this attenuation, we in like manner pour *one* drop into another of these bottles, containing about 100 drops of alcohol, and after having submitted it also to 1 or 200 shakes, we mark it with the cypher 2, to indicate that this one contains the *second* attenuation. In this manner we continue to prepare and to label to the 30th, in pouring each time one drop of the attenuation just obtained, into the bottle which will contain the following attenuation. The same is good, when we wish to prepare each attenuation in the proportion of 10 to 100; but instead of pouring but *one* drop each time, we must pour *ten*; but as, after this method, we want each time *two* attenuations to equal *one* in the proportion of 1 to 100, the same cyphers will not be suitable to indicate these two sorts of attenuations, but we may make them agree, in using, for the preparation of 10 to 100, *halves*, in such a way as to designate the *first* of this series by $\frac{1}{2}$, the second by 1, the third by $1\frac{1}{2}$, the fourth by 2, and so on to the 30th.

65. For the substances which, from the first, have been prepared by *trituration*, we prefer to obtain the *three* first by the same process. To effect this, we take one grain, (5 centigrammes,) of the *first preparation*, obtained by the trituration of one grain of the primitive substance with 100 grains, (5 grammes,) of sugar of milk, and which carries the name of the 1st *attenuation;* we mix this grain, (5 centigrammes,) with 100 other grains, (500 centigrammes,) of sugar of milk, and triturate this mixture as described in the article on the preparation of dry substances. This trituration made, we give to it the name of the 2nd *attenuation*, and we take of it one grain to mingle with 100 other grains of sugar of milk to obtain the 3rd attenuation. Of this trituration we then take one grain, which we dissolve in a bottle filled with 100 drops of water to two-thirds of its capacity,

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and shake this mixture, as in the attenuations made with alcohol, to which we give the name of 4th *attenuation.* This 4th attenuation should be made with water, or at least with equal quantities of water and alcohol, because the sugar of milk does not dissolve in the least in pure alcohol, but all the following attenuations are then made with pure alcohol, the same as the tinctures. Should we wish to make the triturations, for the first as well as the subsequent ones, not in the proportion indicated by Hahnemann, but in that of 10 to 100, we shall be obliged to make *six* of them instead of *three,* and we cannot designate the *first* of this series but by the cipher $\frac{1}{2}$, the second 1, the 3rd by $1\frac{1}{2}$, and so on. The attenuation made with diluted alcohol should then bear the cipher $3\frac{1}{2}$.

66. As we rarely preserve all the attenuations, and we seldom use in practice but the 1st, 3rd, 6th, 9th, 12th, 15th, 18th, 24th, 30th, it would be altogether useless to sacrifice, each time, more bottles than necessary, since if, for example, we wish not to preserve the 2nd attenuation, it will suffice, in order to obtain the 3rd, to pour out nearly to the last drop the bottle which contains the 2nd, to fill it afresh with 100 drops of alcohol, and to submit this mixture to the necessary number of shakes. It is thus that, should we wish to have but the 30th attenuation of a substance, we can make all the intermediate attenuations, in throwing away to nearly the last drop of the attenuation last obtained, and in filling this with 100 fresh drops of alcohol. In a series of attenuations of such a length, we can even, as regards those we throw away, make use of distilled water; but for the two last, that which we wish to preserve, and that which precedes it, it is most proper to use alcohol. The alcohol, which is proper for the preparation of the attenuations, should not be so concentrated as we would use for the preparation of the mother tinctures, but we must not either have it less than 60° or 70° centigrade.

67. There was a time when Hahnemann, for fear of giving too great a force to his preparations, advised to give each attenuation only one or two shakes, whilst, at present, he counsels the contrary; that is to say, to give each attenuation a considerable number of shakes, (2 to 300,) so as to be sure of obtaining preparations sufficiently efficacious. It is in starting from this last point of view that many homœopaths have even tried to construct machines of succussion, by

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means of which they might submit their attenuations to 2 or 3000 shakes of the greatest force, whilst others have not dared even to displace a bottle, for fear that the movement beyond the prescribed cypher, might impart too great energy to the dose. The fact is, that, as we have shown, the succussion increases the effect of the doses; and if each attenuation ought to be a new dynamization, the succussion consisting of two shakes only is insufficient. If, as we have also shown, the first attenuations have operated a considerable division of the molecules, we may obtain, perhaps, 10 or even 12 subsequent attenuations, which, without having been subjected to any new succussion, shall yet have each one sufficient resources; but, in continuing in this way, we shall inevitably arrive at nothing but pure *dilutions*, which, deprived more and more of their active elements, shall be by degrees weakened, even to the utter extinction of their virtue.

68. Hence, however, it does not yet result, that, to obtain as many new dynamizations as attenuations, it is indispensable to make use of machines, such, among others, as the famous *catapult*, invented and recommended by Mr. Mure, as the only means to obtain efficacious preparations. For, after the explanations which we have just given in the preceding paragraph, it is easy to see that, so soon as the succussions shall have given to an attenuation sufficient resources, all the surplus added to it shall be of no advantage, not even in the small homœopathic doses, for the only reason, that there would be no method of making use of them. This is why we believe, that if we impress on each attenuation 1 or 200 shakes, this number will be more than sufficient in every case; and those who have no machines, will find that, apart from the inconvenience of being fatigued, their arms are as appropriate as the best mechanism, to impress on the attenuations the *indispensable* resources. Do we not see every day that the homœopathic preparations, which have made a great many journeys, during which they have been shaken for weeks at a time, do not show more intensity in their effects than those which have not undergone, at the farthest, but 200 shakes at each attenuation; an evident proof that the resources, which, by this process, they should have gained, had no effect on their *indispensable* elements, but on what was superfluous.

69. Another question of no less importance would be to know, if, to obtain all the advantages that attenuations can

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give, it is indispensable to go as far as the 30th. What is certain is, that the mass of new particles, which is furnished by the division of molecules, must be diminished from time to time, in order to permit those which remain, to be better spread out and thus to facilitate their ulterior division. But what is equally certain is, that this division of molecules can no longer have any object, as soon as it has succeeded in developing all the virtues of substances of latent virtue, or even in rendering too energetic substances incapable of experiencing any further solution in the organism. This is the case, in all probability, after having arrived at the 6th or even at the 3d attenuation; and if we, ever so little, examine the manner in which all our attenuations act, from the 15th or even the 10th up to the 30th, it is easy to discover, that this process has no more influence, in a *sensible* manner, even in the smallest possible doses; so that we are almost inclined to think, that all that we could do, beyond the 12th, would be superfluous. Nevertheless, as the attenuations carried out farther do not for that become less suitable for use than the preceding, provided they have been well prepared, we have not hesitated to carry, according to received usage, the *officinal* number to 30, leaving to those who may find it too high, as well as to those who would go still higher, the care of fixing themselves the cypher which shall appear to them the most suitable.

70. In the commencement of his homœopathic career, Hahnemann had fixed, for each substance in particular, the attenuation to which it appeared to him to be employed with the greatest success; but latterly, to simplify the preparation of medicines, and render it more uniform, he has advised to carry them all, without distinction, to the 30th. So in the old homœopathic pharmacopœias we find, carefully noted, the number of attenuations suitable to each substance—numbers, which many persons respect as a sort of gospel, imagining that all would be lost, if they had not the medicine at the attenuation which the authors of pharmacopœias have been pleased to mark out. In the first part of our manual, that which contains the medicines, we have attached these several cyphers to each substance; but we did it rather to satisfy the demands of those who had not courage enough to lay aside these arbitrary authorities, than to obey our own conviction. All homœopaths, even Hahnemann himself, make use of different attenuations, from the 1st to the 30th, and not one of

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those who have entered the least into the spirit of homœopathy, any longer regard those ancient cyphers than as purely *arbitrary* marks. In spite of all this, we still bring them forward in this work, not as a rule to follow, but only to avoid making a reproach respecting our pharmacopœia, that it is not so complete as the preceding ones, and wanting in what certain individuals yet consider as the *sine quâ non* condition of all success in homœopathy.

3. *Of the Denomination of Homœopathic Attenuations.*

71. We have already said, in speaking of vegetable substances, that the preparations unattenuated, made with alcohol, are called *mother tinctures.* Caspari wished to make a distinction between those prepared from the extraction of dry substances, and those prepared from the juice of the fresh plant, in calling the first *essences* and the last *tinctures;* but this distinction has no value in practice, and this is the reason why we give to all the preparations made with alcohol, the name of *tinctures.* As to the attenuations, the most simple nomenclature to follow, and that which is in use in France, is to designate them by the name of their number, to wit: 1st, 2d, 3d, &c. and only to apply this denomination to preparations made in the proportion of 1 to 100, so that, if we should prepare in the proportion of 10 to 100, we must only give these names of 1st, 2d, &c. to each second attenuation of this series. In this way we shall always have the advantage of easily knowing the fraction of the primitive drop in each attenuation, since all the denominators of these fractions increase as the powers of 100. In the 1st attenuation each drop contains the 100th part of the primitive drop; in the 2d, the 100^{2nd} or the 10,000th; in the 3d, the 100^{3rd}= 1,000,000th part, &c., so that in the 30th, each drop will contain but the 100^{30th} = the $100{,}000^{10th}$ part of the primitive drop.

72. Besides this denomination, the Germans have still another, which, for them, is not less clear than the one of which we have just spoken, but which, literally translated into French, would give rise to the most serious errors. It is the way of designating the attenuations by the fraction which each one contains of the primitive drop, and thus to give them the name of *millionth, billionth, trillionth,* &c., as far as the *decillionth.* By this process, what we call *millionth,*

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would be the 3d attenuation, since, in effect, this contains in each of its drops the 100^{3rd} = 1,000,000th part of the primitive drop. If the French understood by these words, billion, trillion, &c., the same cyphers as the Germans, nothing would be easier than to know, each time, the precise attenuation, which they were to designate, since the denominators of fractions increase each time two zeros, all that would be necessary would be to divide the number by 2 to obtain the ordinary cypher of the attenuation. Thus in dividing by 2 the number of 6 zeros, which represents the cypher of million, we obtain 3, which is to say that it is the 3d attenuation, which has thus been designated; but it is not the same for the rest of these names. What the French would call the trillionth, would be the 6th, since 1 trillion = 1,000 billions = 1,000 milliards = 1,000,000,000,000, which gives 6 times two zeros; but what the Germans understand by the trillionth, is the 9th, since, with them, counting is not as in France; 1,000 millions = one billion, 1,000 billions = one trillion, &c.; but on the contrary, a million millions = one billion, a million billions = one trillion, which causes an increase not of 3 but fully of 6 zeros, each cypher representing one of these names.

73. To have a good understanding of what in their writings the Germans would designate by these names, we should always have present in the memory, that, with them, these names constantly represent a *millionth* power, and thus augmenting each time 6 zeros, equivalent to 3 times 2 zeros, they find their application every *third* attenuation, and correspond in this respect with the *Roman* cyphers, which the Germans employ, not as synonymes of the Arab cyphers, but to designate the *millionth powers*, that is to say every *third* attenuation. The following is the table of designations used in Germany, for the attenuations made in the proportion of 1 to 100.

Mother tincture = 0

First attenuation	= 1 =	100	= hundredths.
Second	„ = 2 =	10,000	= ten thousandths.
Third	„ = 3 =	I	= *millionths.*
Fourth	„ = 4 =	100 I	= hundred millionths.
Fifth	„ = 5 =	10,000 I	= ten thousand millionths.
Sixth	„ = 6 =	II	= billionths.
Seventh	„ = 7 =	100 II	= hundred billionths.

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Eighth	atten.	= 8 =	10,000 II	= ten thousand billionths.
Ninth	„	= 9 =	III	= trillionths.

And so on:

Twelfth	„	=12=	IV	= quadrillionths.
Fifteenth	„	=15=	V	= quintillionths.
Eighteenth	„	=18=	VI	= sextillionths.
Twenty-4th	„	=24=	VIII	= octillionths.
Thirtieth	„	=30=	X	= decillionths.

74. To avoid all error, each time that in a German book, or in a literal translation, we shall meet one of these cyphers, we should always multiply by 3 the *Roman* cypher, in order to obtain the *Arab* cypher, corresponding to it, which in France gives its name to the attenuation. The Germans only write their attenuations in *Roman* cyphers, since they scarcely ever make use of the intermediate attenuations, such as 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, &c., and that is what the translators of homœopathic observations should always bear in mind, so as not to write for VIII^{ooo}, the signs 8th glob. 3, but correctly 24th glob. 3. The same should be taken notice of by the pharmaceutists, who ought always to know in the cases, where chance may place in their hands a prescription written by a German physician, which should exhibit X^{ooo}, that this does not mean the 10th, but truly the 30th attenuation. As to the custom adopted to call in French as well as in German the same attenuations, *billionth, trillionth, decillionth*, &c., it may be continued, taking care constantly to call to mind, that these cyphers are not correct, except in the first of these tongues; for otherwise, we should render into French the trillionth by the *quintillionth*, the sextillionth by the *undecillionth*, and the decillionth (the cypher of which that represents the fraction has 60 zeros) by the *unde-vigesillionth*.

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CHAPTER IV.

OF THE DISPENSATION AND PRESERVATION OF HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES.

1. *Of the Dispensation of Homœopathic Medicines.*

75. HOMŒOPATHIC medicines are generally administered in the form of powder. To effect this, we mix the drop or the prescribed number of globules with a few grains of sugar of milk, and enclose it in a paper, to be administered to the patient either dissolved in a spoonful of water or in the dry state. The sugar of milk being only intended in this case to act as the vehicle and not to produce a new dynamization, we have no need of rubbing it up with the medicinal dose; we should even guard against doing it, if we wish that this last should not act with too much force, since by doing so, we should still increase the power. Again, should we wish this dose to act more promptly and with more energy, we dissolve it in a spoonful of water, which immediately developes more powers, and presents them to the organs in a greater extension than whilst the dose is taken dry. In some cases also, in order not always to administer to the patient a white powder, which might in time become disgusting to him, we may add to the sugar of milk a small portion of the powder of cocoa, liquorice or salep; these powders will give to the doses another colour, without interfering, in the least, with their virtues. The quantity of sugar of milk we ought to add to the dose is usually 2, 3 or 4 grains; but for those patients who would not be satisfied with such small powders, we may add as much as they wish.

76. Another method, not less frequently made use of in homœopathy, is to dissolve the dose we wish to administer in a quantity, 4 or 6 ounces, of water, and to give to the patient a single spoonful, or several, at intervals, more or less extended. As, in this case, the water is no more designed

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than the sugar of milk, to augment the powers of the doses, but only to develope them, and render the reception easier, it would equally be adverse to the end proposed, to submit this solution to new succussions. In general, the best way to obtain these solutions is, to put the dose in a bottle of a sufficiently large size to permit to pour on it the wished for quantity of filtered water, and to leave the medicine dissolve of itself; after which we give to this solution some shakes, sufficient only to well mingle the parts, without, however, operating a new division of molecules. We will only add, that if, for each solution, we give a new bottle, we shall do better than if we should make the solution in a tumbler belonging to the patient himself, for, notwithstanding the most careful recommendations on the part of the physician, these tumblers are scarcely ever cleansed with sufficient care, to prevent all alteration of the medicine by the particles which might remain of the preceding medicine.

77. Finally, a third mode of administration is, to make the patient *smell* the medicine. To effect this, we put a single globule, impregnated with the attenuation we wish, in one of those little tubes, which we make use of to preserve the saturated saccharine globules, and we place the bottle unstopt in one of the nostrils of the patient, who inspires the air from it. Should we wish to increase the dose, we make the patient snuff up more or less strongly, according to the case, with the other nostril. If the nostrils are plugged up by a cold, a polypus, or something else, the patient should inspire with the mouth, in holding the opening of the vial between the lips. For small children, we hold the vial very near under one or both nostrils, when asleep. Lately, Hahnemann, to increase the effects of olfaction, has preferred dissolving the globule in equal parts of alcohol and water, in a bottle of the capacity of about 150 drops, and having shaken this mixture some seconds, to make the patient smell it; as, by this process, the powers of the globule are more developed, and the surface upon which the evaporation operates, becomes at the same time larger, there is no doubt that it is well calculated to accomplish the object.

78. In homœopathic prescriptions, we generally make use of the same abbreviations as those which are found in the repertories. In the formulæ, we usually designate the number of required globules by a cypher, placed like the numeration of a fraction, above the cypher indicating the degree of

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attenuation. Thus Aur. 3/15 means 3 globules of the 15th attenuation of Aurum. Others indicate the number of globules by points, above all the Germans, who then mark the attenuation by a *Roman* cypher, as for example, Aur. V···, or Aur. V^{ooo}, which in each case means Aurum 15th, 3 globules. Others again, above all in prescribing whole drops or grains, write as follows: Aur. 15th gtt. ij. or gr. ij. &c. which means Aurum 15th, 2 drops or two grains. To indicate the quantity of sugar of milk we should add to the medicine, we usually write below the line mentioning the medicine *pulv. sacch. lact.* q. s., if this quantity should not exceed 2 or 3 grains; otherwise, if we would add more, we indicate the quantity by grains, &c. The same holds good respecting the water in which we would dissolve the dose, and which we generally indicate thus: *Aq. dest.* unc. 4 or 6, &c.

79. In cases where the imagination of the patient must be gratified, we add to the medicinal doses a few powders of sugar of milk alone, and indicate generally by the side of the line which contains the name of the medicine the numbers of the powders which should contain the dose, each one, and afterwards by the side of the other line, the numbers which should contain only the sugar of milk. Thus, for example, if we wish to give the patient 6 powders, of which 3 only contain the medicine, (Aurum for example,) we would write, should these powders be taken alternately,

Aur. 3/15. No. 1. 3. 5.
Pulv. sacch. lact. q. s. No. 2. 4. 6.

or else, if the three first of these powders should contain the medicine:

Aur. 3/15. No. 1. 2. 3.
Pulv. sacch. lact. q. s. No. 4. 5. 6.

A still more simple way consists in not indicating all the sugar of milk in the prescription, but placing the numbers which should contain this vehicle only, behind those which should contain the medicine, and separate them from these last, by the following sign (#), as for example:

Aur. 3/15. No. 1. 3. 5. # 2. 4. 6.

or else:

Aur. 3/15. No. 1. 2. 3. # 4. 5. 6.

2. *Of the Preservation of Homœopathic Medicines.*

80. The preservation of homœopathic medicines exacts,

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