

From Wood College (J^g)
WALLACE (JOS.)

CHOLERA :
ITS CAUSE AND CURE.

BY
JOSEPH WALLACE,
BELFAST.



BELFAST :
JAMES MAGILL, DONEGALL PLACE,
AND OTHER BOOKSELLERS.

1866.

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ITS CAUSE AND CURE

BY
JOSEPH W. ALLEN, C.

M.D.

JAMES MAGUIRE, DONOR OF THE
PLATE

AND OTHER MEMBERS

OF THE

CHOLERA:

ITS CAUSE AND CURE.

At the present time, when the Cholera is making its appearance, manifestly in its worst and most malignant form, in many of the great cities of this kingdom, and generally over the Continent of Europe, it is the duty of any one who believes he has a remedy to make it known to the public, so that those suffering from it may, at the earliest moment, be enabled to avail themselves of the most speedy and safe means of recovery.

It is well known that the predisposing causes to this disease are imprudent excesses in either eating or drinking—chiefly the latter—and uncleanness. Many people think that drinking strong alcohol helps to keep off attacks of Cholera, but such is not the fact; the statistics of Cholera in all countries and climates show clearly that the drunken patient is sure to succumb to the attack, whilst those who recover are usually of the sober or temperate class, and not one in a hundred contracts Cholera who is habitually sober or temperate.

Dr. Forsayeth, in the *Medical Press and Circular*, of 23d May, 1866, writing on Cholera, says—"A Russian physician states—'It is a positive fact that Cholera does not seize on its victims at hazard, as many say. It has been ascertained that out of every *hundred* individuals who die of this disease, *ninety* are in the habit of drinking ardent spirits to excess.'"

Mons. Huber, who saw 2,160 perish in twenty-one days of Cholera in one town in Russia, says—"It is a most remarkable circumstance that persons given to drinking have been swept away like flies. In Tiflis, containing 20,000 inhabitants, every drunkard has fallen—all are dead, not one remains."

Dr. Rhinelander, visiting Montreal in 1832, states—"The victims of the Cholera are the intemperate." A Montreal journal states—"That not a drunkard who had been attacked had recovered, and almost all the victims have been, at least, moderate drinkers."

Dr. Bronsen, of Albany, states—"Drunkards and tipplers have been searched out by Cholera with such unerring certainty as to show that the arrows of death have not been dealt out with indiscrimination; there seems to be a natural affinity between Cholera and ardent spirits; and their habitual use, in the smallest quantity, seldom fails to invite the disease and render it incurable when it takes place."

Professor Sewall, M.D., visiting New York, says—"That, of 204 cases in the Park Hospital, there were only six temperate persons, and that these had recovered."

Dr. Adams, of Dublin, affirms—"Our foreign reports testify that drunkards are carried off at once by this dire disease; but those who, by a daily use of a moderate quantity, debilitate the tone of the stomach and biliary organs become easy victims to the Cholera."

The Rev. William Reid, of Edinburgh, in his "Temperance Cyclopædia," says—"Dr. A. M. Adams, Professor of Medicine in the Andersonian University of Glasgow, has favoured us with a classified statement of the previous habits and conditions of health of 225 Cholera patients treated by him during the epidemic of 1848-49. From this table it appears that, whilst those patients who were represented to him as being of temperate habits died only in the proportion of 19.2 per cent., those who were of the intemperate habits died in the enormous proportion of 91.2 per cent."

These examples might be multiplied, but what are given must strike any one with the fact that alcoholic treatment must be the most dangerous, and also that abstemiousness is a great safeguard against Cholera.

The temperate who have died from Cholera may have weakened their digestive organs by a previous use of tobacco or something else almost as deleterious. It is evident, therefore, that whatever be the cause of Cholera its attacks are promoted by intemperance in eating or drinking, or want of cleanliness in person or habitation. The real cause of Cholera, and of its spreading from place to place with such rapidity is still a mystery, unknown to science; but this much is known, that we can to a large extent control its movements, retard its progress, and prevent its worst attacks from producing fatal results. The God who allows this malignant and appalling disease to punish those who disobey His laws, either through ignorance or carelessness, has, in His wisdom, provided a remedy, indigenous to the country where Cholera first made its appearance, inexhaustible in its abundance, and all-powerful in its efficacy, as simple as it is abundant, and as prompt in action as it is powerful in its effects, and that remedy, in one word, is coffee.

This remedy I discovered in the year 1858, but did not make it much known until recently, when I printed a paper which I submitted to the Academy of Sciences in Paris, and the substance of which, so far as it relates to Cholera, will be seen in the appendix.

In treating of this disease, it is right that we should know something of

THE HISTORY OF ASIATIC, EPIDEMIC, MALIGNANT, PESTILENTIAL, OR BLUE CHOLERA.

This most terrific scourge in the shape of disease that has attacked mankind for hundreds of years, perhaps, made its first outbreak in 1817, at Jessore, a large city in the Presidency of Bengal, in India; it lies on the South side of the Sunderbunds, or Delta of the Ganges—a great tract of country, as the map shows, much intersected by brackish rivers and streams from the leading branches of the Ganges. Here are to be seen alligators, tigers, &c., in swarms, revelling in the midst of

chronic vegetable and other decompositions, generated by a most scorching sun. The noxious, deadly exhalations, wafted Westward by the pestilential winds towards the kingdom of Oude, made great havoc on humanity over the whole province of Bengal. A second wave of the pestilence went South—invading all Hindostan. A third and far more formidable wave of this devastating disease took its fatal course through the Burmese Empire—Siam Malacca—to the most remote parts of China, and afterwards invaded all the islands of the Indian Ocean, having been three or more years in its course. It broke out afresh in the North of India about the very place where the first stream had apparently died out; this outbreak followed the usual Westward course, but it divided itself into two streams, the one invested Astrachan, Cabul, and the provinces of Russia, about the Caspian Sea, the other stream running Southward invaded Persia, Arabia, Syria, and apparently expended itself on the borders of the Mediterranean. In the year 1829, taking a wide range, it crossed over the Don and Ural mountains, thence to Europe, going across Russia, and in 1830 it raged with intense fury in St. Petersburg and the city of Moscow; the next year it progressed through Austria, Poland, Bohemia, Hungary, Prussia, &c. In October, 1831, it was first seen in Sunderland—and the following year was scourging both London and Paris, then across Ireland, from whence it passed to Canada in the following year, and also to the United States and West Indian Islands. It returned two years later to France, Portugal, and Spain. In 1837 we find it at Naples and Rome, where and when it appears to have died out.

The efforts of the medical faculty to stay it were of the most extraordinary character—they seemed completely to lose any little sense they previously had—using the most opposite remedies and the most heterogeneous mixtures imaginable, without any useful result, as might naturally be expected. The disease subsequently travelled over nearly the same pathway, reaching these countries in the years 1848-9, and again in 1854, and on each occasion found the medical faculty as badly prepared to grapple with the Cholera as their predecessors had been on its first appearance. On some occasions its character became somewhat milder than it had been on the previous attack, and something of this mildness was credited to the doctors' improved skill; but they little deserved it, as they are at the present hour as badly prepared to cope successfully with the disease, and as much at sea about a proper remedy as they were on its first appearance forty-nine years ago.

The public must, therefore, prepare to meet the threatened attack of Cholera without having the slightest hope of aid from their physicians, as if there were no doctors in existence; in fact, if the public knew the whole truth, they should fear the doctors more than the disease, for I will show out of their own mouths that every course of treatment adopted by them killed more patients, by from five to thirty per cent., than the disease would have done if left alone. I will prove what I say from their own statistics and admissions.

I will now proceed to consider the causes alleged for the production and spread of Cholera from the mouths of different authorities—men of position and influence in both schools of medicine.

THE ALLEGED CAUSES.

To quote from the "Dictionary of Medical and Surgical Knowledge." "By some it has been attributed to foul and noxious air, bad drainage, impure water, to subtle and deleterious agents floating in the atmosphere and imbibed into the lungs, to eating bad or diseased rice or potatoes; while others attribute it to meteoric changes. Nor does uncertainty end here, for the question whether the disease is infectious or not is still undecided; nor indeed are medical men yet certain in what parts of the body the Choleraic disease first manifests itself."

Dr. Jules Cloquet, of Paris, considers the cause of Cholera to be a sideration of the nervous system, and it is, in reality, the proximate cause, looking at it from the ordinary point of view. But I look upon the sideration of the nervous system *which we see produced* in Cholera as an effect of the electrical or epidemic disturbance in a system pre-disposed to be attacked by Cholera or any other epidemic which the atmosphere is in a condition to propagate.

It may not be out of place to mention a most curious theory attempted to be set up as the cause of Cholera by a lady, who announced to the Paris Academy of Science very lately that she had discovered the cause to be a diminutive "winged leech" which she found in the stomachs of those who died of Cholera. She "produced the beast" for microscopic examination, but most unfortunately for her theory, this creature must, as a rule, attack the lungs in preference to the stomach, from the peculiarity of its formation; and, if it had such power as she insinuates, would, if it invaded the lungs, produce a most formidable array of symptoms.

In Cholera, however, the symptoms do not correspond to any irritation produced by parasites in the digestive track. They create fever, with a continued high and bounding pulse, heat of body above the normal standard, tenderness to pressure on the seat of pain, dryness of the skin, &c., whilst Cholera symptoms are just the reverse.

"Lauries' Homœopathic Medicine" gives as "*Predisposing Causes*—Intemperance in eating and drinking; insufficient or unwholesome food; the use of unripe or of cold indigestible fruit and crude vegetables; cold drinks when the body is overheated; exposure to exhalations from decayed animal or vegetable matter; residence in low, damp, dark, ill-ventilated dwellings; excessive fatigue; suddenly suppressed perspiration; sudden mental shocks, or moral emotions—as fright, fear, grief, and especially passion; neglect of cleanliness; constitutional debility; serious derangement of digestive organs; weakness of the bowels, &c. As any or, at all events, several of these in conjunction, tend to favour the invasion of the disease, they ought, when practicable, to be carefully guarded against or removed.

"*Exciting Causes*—These are generally said to depend upon some peculiar atmospheric conditions. Fear, or fright under ordinary circumstances, produces an electrical disturbance in the human body from the shock, and according to its degree or intensity will its effects be felt. Any one who has observed the fact must know that the bowels frequently get loose at once, there is an absence of all desire for food, and you feel quite unnerved. Here is an instal-

ment in advance of Cholera symptoms—the porch is open for the invader, he takes possession, the effects of the fright continue, and Cholera assumes the supremacy, which would not be the case under ordinary conditions of the atmosphere.”

We hear a good deal about eliminating the Cholera lately. It is one of the last scientific anti-Cholera medical war sounds. Eliminate what? Let us enunciate first what Cholera is. If it is poison which has got into the blood from the air we breathe, the water we drink, or the food we eat, which sums up what medical men’s minds who take that view are revolving round at present, one would think the efforts of nature at *elimination* are sufficiently great without giving her a helping hand, with castor oil, &c.; for the process of *elimination is the cause of death*, but *does* castor oil, if it cures or has any power over Cholera, do so by elimination. I think any one who has given the matter any sound thought will say that is impossible. If we meet with a case of blood poisoning, for instance, say from hydrophobia, do we attempt to eliminate the poison by emetics or purgatives? No; we know that would only weaken the patient to no purpose; the only possible way to get the patient well is to antidote or neutralise it, as is related to have been done by Dr. Vandesveer during the last century, who gave “*Scutellaria Laterifolia*” (scull cap) and by which he repeatedly saved the lives of 400 persons and 1,000 cattle. If we meet with a case of opium poisoning, when it has passed from the stomach, or even before, do we give purgatives? No. We give strong coffee, which antidotes it, and thus the patient’s life is saved in the mildest, most effectual, and, therefore, most scientific manner. If we meet with a case of Cholera poisoning, why should we not also treat it in a like scientific manner?

A person may live on cod-liver oil, for instance, because it possesses no purgative property, under ordinary circumstances, but we couldn’t exist on castor oil. For why? It possesses a *poisonous* property which when it gets into the system causes it to eliminate the serum from the blood, and like Cholera, in a degree, would cause death if persevered with. Now, if after giving castor oil in any case of Diarrhoea, we find it causes the purging to lessen, which it must do otherwise the patient can’t recover, we cannot call that eliminating the poison from the blood, any more than when we see the somnolence of opium poisoning subside under coffee, which we know is purely antidotive treatment? The fact that *coffee in three to five minutes* produces both in opium poisoning and in Diarrhoea or Cholera, a most miraculous effect towards recovery; that opium sometimes in over-doses causes vomiting and purging, has been proven (see Homœopathic provings of that medicine) that according to the dose and capability of resisting its influence so will the effects be more or less sudden in the attack in opium poisoning; that in Cholera we find the patient at times being as suddenly attacked with the disease in all its virulence, as opium acts on those it poisons. All this would readily lead us, reasoning from analogy, to adopt the theory of blood poisoning in Cholera, seeing we have such a near parallel in opium poisoning, for with precisely the same treatment we get precisely the same results, with this difference, that in point of time the Cholera patient will generally recover soonest.

I will now proceed to demonstrate what I conceive to be

THE REAL CAUSE.

It is an established fact that the process of life is carried on by chemical action, that chemical action generates heat and electricity, and *vice versa*. The human body is, therefore, one great chemical laboratory and galvanic battery. The nerves are the conducting, or telegraphic, wires for carrying the electric fluid to and from all parts of the body; but if these wires are composed of an inferior conducting material, they will either be very slow in action or unable to retain as great an amount of heat or electricity as is necessary for keeping the machine in working order. The material which composes the nerves being got from the blood, if that blood be in a vitiated or impure state their conductivity must also be vitiated or impaired, the electricity of the body must, therefore, be feeble and the more easily disturbed; hence the great perturbation which we see produced in the human electrical machine when the epidemic atmosphere (which we will assume to be in a negative electrical condition) makes the attack or "*breaks the bad barrier*" set up, and which we designate by the name of Cholera.

That the atmosphere, during an epidemic of Cholera, is in a negatively electrical state can be perfectly demonstrated. Ozone, which is oxygen electrified, is found to be deficient in the atmosphere, and there is, also, at such times, an excess of organic matters floating about in the water and all around us: these, it is well known, neutralise and absorb ozone, hence its partial absence from, and the consequent negative electrical state of, the atmosphere. Man generates a certain amount of electricity for the purposes of health, but if you give him either a very large shock or dose of positive or negative electricity instant death is the result; the air being in a negative electrical state will, by the law of compensation, abstract from him so much, if it can, as will put him on a balance with itself. The body, on parting with it, lets it out by the natural conducting mediums—the points of the fingers and toes—hence the coldness first felt in them; and just as the body is in a position to generate anew more than sufficient to meet the demand will it be able to resist this lowering of its vitality, which is nothing more or less than threatened rapid decomposition. The sensation of fear or dread which is experienced by and seen on the countenances of those suffering from Cholera is similar to that which is experienced by one in an insulated condition, surcharged with either electricities, and parting with it gradually to the atmosphere through the natural conductors—the hair, fingers, and toes.

"When the supply of nervous influence to a part of the body is cut off, the temperature of that part falls below its ordinary degree, and when death is caused by severe injury to, or removal of, the nervous centres, the temperature of the body rapidly falls, even though artificial respiration be performed, the circulation maintained, and, to all appearance, the ordinary chemical changes of the body be completely effected."—*Kirke's Physiology*.

As nervous influence is another expression for vital or positive electricity, and the deficiency or want of it produces a lessening or rapid falling of temperature, we can easily understand, by adopting the assumption of the negative electrical condition of the atmos-

phere, how coldness and collapse sets in so speedily, especially when we take into consideration that this electrical or nervous disturbance causes the liver to cease secreting bile from the blood and the kidneys to cease purifying the carbon of the venous blood, to fit it for combustion in the lungs and skin, and consequent production of animal heat. The blood is thus turned into poison by the retention of the carbon in it, as well as the urea, which is a most pernicious poison; and, except a very rapid change can be made, electrically, so to speak, death must inevitably follow.

The air, as well as water, &c., being more highly charged with the products of decomposition will be the more poisonous, and, therefore, less nutritious; and, passing certain bounds, according to the amount of health or disease-resisting power of the individual, will an attack of Cholera be ushered in. Fermented bread, fermented liquors, or alcohol, which is a product of fermentation distilled—all are produced from natural foods going through the chemical process called fermentation, which is a destruction of much of their original nutritive or life-giving properties. They of themselves, so altered in composition, can never be changed into pure or healthy blood again by any known aid to digestion—from an unhealthy or impure blood you never can have otherwise than unhealthy tissues or bones. The body has not the tear and wear or life-force for any great length of time, and it is a fact well known to the most advanced mesmerists that, according as they live on the plainest and most nutritive foods will their magnetic and electric power be increased, and *vice versa*. This science, however, is totally unknown to the Royal College of Physicians. No matter how healthy we were, or are, we cannot live any great length of time in that state in which we use exclusively even partially decomposed foods or drinks. *As a rule*, however, *we die slowly*, not hurried into a state of collapse, as in Cholera; and we see a person, just before a Cholera attack, in what we might call tolerable health, yet in a very few hours—it may be in a very few minutes—he may be dead, of which an instance recently occurred in a street in London, where, from walking up the street, apparently well, a man was seen to suddenly run across the street, cry “Oh!” and drop down dead.

The conditions which predispose to Cholera are constantly with us. The exciting or atmospheric cause we have every now and then in a degree, so that isolated cases of an aggravated character may take place any hour. But it is only when those great periodic epidemic waves approach us that such intensely desperate cases of Cholera occur as that related.

It has been noticed in towns where Cholera is prevalent, that meat gets putrid and fruit decays much more rapidly than in towns where Cholera does not exist. A blue mist has also been observed hovering over towns or places where Cholera prevailed; but any one may observe a bluish light to follow the cloth or rubber that excites the glass cylinder, after developing and throwing off of positive electricity, during experiments.

To sum up. The fact of the great nervous centres being primarily attacked, the deficiency of ozone in the air, the increase of decomposition going on around us, that persons under the influence of fear succumb to Cholera during an epidemic, that magnetism alone is sufficient to cure it, that the attacks are at times so sudden and

virulent that they can be recovered even more rapidly than they took ill with coffee alone, that the system is not in the least injured or impaired by such an attack, and that the epidemics come to us at particular periods—the greater ones usually every seventeen years—all point to a distinct electrical disturbance in the atmosphere, and that of a negative condition; and consequently it is a functional and not an organic disease.

There is another fact which I have observed lately. In a case of gastritis, of several days' standing, I gave my specific for that complaint which never failed me in any case before. The patient was unable to feel any marked change in any respect during two days' treatment—an occurrence which I never experienced before. The thought occurred to me that there may be a Cholera impression being produced or complicated with it, and if so, the coffee must obliterate it. Accordingly, I gave him ten minims of coffee, and inside three minutes he declared he felt himself getting markedly better. I repeated it every five minutes after, and he got up and went about his business quite well inside half an hour, without a particle to complain of—gastritis and all gone. Now, I had tried coffee often, by way of experiment, on others before under apparently similar conditions, but it never produced the least perceptible effect. This, I conceive, further demonstrates my position—viz., that there is a more than usual electrical disturbance in the atmosphere.

I had another similar case a few days ago, but which ended in well developed Cholera symptoms. He had been suffering from pain in stomach and indigestion for ten days previously, purging and vomiting, frightened look (and he expressed great fear for himself), coldness all over, feet were very cold, pain in stomach very severe. The purging had continued for five hours. Hot water was applied to the feet and legs, and *coffea* given every five to ten minutes in ten to thirty drop doses, and he felt almost well enough in one and a quarter hours, and went about his business. He took the medicine with him, and he related several days after, that his bowels kept a little loose for two days, but not to annoy him, as he felt no fear, seeing he had the specific, which he could feel controlling the bowels in a few minutes at any time. He remarked, if he had an inclination to go to stool and took a dose of *coffea*, it would go off instantly, and this without the least unpleasant sensation afterwards. This is a very remarkable power of *coffea*. It has another characteristic which no other remedy has in Cholera, and that is, it stops the vomiting always first: the upper part of the body first feels its grateful action. It then extends itself to the furthest extremity, driving, as it were, the morbid influence out of the system by the road it came.

I will now proceed to consider the treatment of Cholera by both schools of medicine, and as the oldest is entitled to priority, let us examine, in the first place,

THE ALLOPATHIC TREATMENT.

“The Dictionary of Medical and Surgical Knowledge” begins by saying—“After the immense experience had in this disease, it is a remarkable fact that as much uncertainty exists as to the best

mode of treating Cholera as there is doubt with regard to its pathology, cause, or the part primarily attacked ;” yet in the *first stage* is recommended every two hours, or after each stool—

“ Carbonate of ammonia, one scruple ;
 Prepared chalk, half-ounce ;
 Aromatic confection, two drachms ;
 Cinnamon or peppermint water, seven ounces ;
 Laudanum, one drachm ;

“ Mix, two tablespoonfuls for a dose. When the relaxation is great two drachms of kino should be added to the mixture—the same dose being given as before. The vomiting in the early stages may often be arrested by taking an effervescing soda powder to which a teaspoonful of brandy has been added, and by placing a folded cloth, wrung out of cold vinegar and water, across the pit of the stomach. Strict attention must be paid to diet and regimen during the prevalence of Cholera, care being taken not to weaken the body by a poor or reduced dietary ; and, though *farinaceous foods are best suited*, they should be mixed with a due proportion of animal substance, &c.

[Why should the animal substance be taken if it is not so well suited as the farinaceous ?]

“ Where the bowels are confined (in Cholera !) a dose of castor oil will be found one of the safest aperients, or a powder composed of two drachms of magnesia, one scruple of powdered rhubarb, and ten grains of ginger, mixed in peppermint water.

“ When against all [these] efforts the disease runs into the second stage, the symptoms must be closely watched, [!] and the moment the evacuations begin to lose their natural characters, [when did they not ?] the heat of the body declines, and flying cramps are felt, every means must be employed to restore bile to the system, keep up the animal heat, and subdue the pains. To effect these objects, a suppository of ten grains of soft opium is to be immediately passed up the fundament, [!] one of the following pills given as directed, and, as the hot bath produces too much exhaustion, heat must be kept up by tin bottles filled with hot water applied to the feet, legs, and thighs and under the arm pits, and, if possible, one over the abdomen or stomach. Take of

“ Powdered Camphor, twelve grains ;
 Opium, nine grains ;
 Calomel, eighteen grains ;
 Quinine, nine grains.

“ Mix thoroughly with extract of dandelion, and divide into six pills, one to be given every hour. Between each pill half-a-wine-glassful of the following restorative mixture is to be given to the patient. Take of

“ Camphor Water, five and a-half ounces ;
 Aromatic Tincture, one ounce ;
 Brandy, one ounce ;
 Spirits of Sal Volatile, one and a-half drachms ;
 Spirits of Sulphuric Ether, two drachms.

“ Mix. As a stimulant, small and repeated doses of brandy and soda

water or champagne, as often as the strength of the patient seems to demand it. As the pain caused by the spasmodic state of the muscles is of the most acute description, the limbs must be rubbed vigorously with the following embrocation. Take of

“Tincture of Soap, one ounce ;
Laudanum, ten drachms ;
Spirits of Hartshorn, two drachms.

“Mix. Or, in cases of intense suffering, flannels dipped in the following liniment, are to be laid over the parts after having been well rubbed with the above embrocation. Take of

“Flour of Mustard, two ounces ;
Turpentine, four ounces.

“Mix, and add—

Olive oil, three ounces ;
Spirits of camphor, two ounces ;
Spirits of hartshorn, two ounces.

“Mix thoroughly, and apply in the manner directed. When the collapse comes on rapidly, and the heat of the body, in despite of the bottles of water applied to it, [there is no reference made here to the immense quantities of poisonous rubbish poured into the patient, or that they should be expected to do any good or bring back health] declines fast, one or two QUARTS OF WARM gruel, with a couple of drachms of turpentine, are to be thrown into the bowels by the enema apparatus till the abdomen appears distended, the object of this large injection *which may be repeated once or twice* is to restore warmth to the system and give a *brief* support to the exhausted body [and Pharmacopœia he should have said.] It must be borne in mind that when one suppository comes away another [cork!] should be substituted. When the serum of the blood [called the rice water evacuations] begins to be discharged the thirst becomes intense. According to some authorities on Cholera all cold and watery beverages are condemned as dangerous. By others, however, they are approved, and *many patients are known to have recovered who were treated with cold water alone.*”

To fancy all a poor patient has to come through who passes the above ordeal would be difficult indeed; but put a *perfectly healthy* man through it all, and ask yourself could he possibly survive the treatment?

Dr. MacCormac says:—“I was singularly successful in 1832. Opium and calomel were freely resorted to. But *generally speaking*, collapse as well as *secondary fever*, which latter only prevailed when the weather grew cold, *was found terribly intractable.* During 1854 (however) the Belfast District Asylum for the Insane to which I was and am a visiting physician, was visited with Cholera. It broke out with startling suddenness, and forty of the inmates very rapidly perished. I began to fear for the whole establishment. I immediately had prepared some dilute sulphuric acid. I gave to every inmate about a drachm of the dilute acid in peppermint water—the existing cases having run their course to death or recovery. No other case of the malady occurred, &c.” He, therefore,

strongly recommends dilute sulphuric acid, and believes "it would make us virtually masters of the situation and render the ravages of Cholera really and truly a thing of the past." Contrast this with the following :—

DIFFERENT MODES OF TREATMENT OF THE CHOLERA IN 1854.

To the Editor of the "Belfast Morning News."

SIR,—I think some benefit would follow your publishing the following statistics respecting the results of different methods of treating Asiatic Cholera adopted during the epidemic of 1854.

The return is extracted from "The Report of the Treatment Committee of the Board of Health, London," which was published at the close of the epidemic.

The "report" includes the results of treatment in 2,749 cases of *developed Cholera*, in which the symptoms were so marked that the existence of the disease could not be doubted, and the reporters state that—

Of cases treated by calomel and opium, 59 per cent died.			
" "	calomel in large doses,	60	"
" "	salines,	62	"
" "	chalk and opium,	63	"
" "	calomel in small doses,	73	"
" "	castor oil,	77	"
" "	sulphuric acid,	78	"

As I am well aware how difficult it is to decide between the conflicting statements made respecting the merits of different plans of treating Cholera, I believe that your publication of this result of an investigation made by an impartial tribunal might be beneficial.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your very obedient servant,

SEATON REID.

Belfast, August 11, 1866.

Now, Dr. MacCormac says, in the *Medical Press and Circular*, speaking of a former epidemic of Cholera :—"The mortality, in many instances, was greatly enhanced by the homicidal practice which, I am sorry to say, was too much encouraged [by the doctors he means], of giving, and even repeating, draughts of castor oil. It was too bad." And again—"Aperient medicines, castor oil, salts, and the rest, demand the greatest caution. They should not be taken unless directed by a medical man. Aperients, in fact, when improperly exhibited, bring on diarrhoea, and diarrhoea, unless checked, is the too frequent stepping-stone to collapse and death."

In the *Northern Whig* of 6th August, 1866, we read :—"The *Eliminative Treatment in Cholera*.—Cholera is diminishing at the Liverpool Workhouse, in consequence of the eliminative or castor oil treatment adopted by Mr. M'Cloy, resident medical officer. Under the camphor and ice treatment, at first adopted, the deaths were 80 per cent., but under the eliminative treatment they have been reduced to 20 per cent." This is totally at variance with the experience of others ; and, when all is known, it will, most likely, be found out that the above apparently flattering result was obtained by the treatment of some delusive cases of very simple diarrhoea, which a small dose of coffee might have cured in a few minutes each.

Dr. Chapman, of London, created a stir last year in Paris with his ice treatment in Cholera, got the influence of the British Embassy in his favour, in order to get it adopted by the Academy of Sciences, no doubt with an eye to the Breant prize ; gave lectures on the subject, but failed to convince the French *savans* that ice was specific for Cholera.

In the *Dublin Medical Press*, of 15th August, 1866, we read from "London Notes"—"Of the treatment of Cholera not much that is new can be stated. The castor oil plan and ice bags have gone to the limbo of annotationists, where vaccination for cattle plague will ever remain."

In the *Medical Times* of 15th September, 1849, a French correspondent, speaking of the English treatment of Cholera, exclaims—"The English practitioner seems to act on the same theory as a sportsman who increases the number of his projectiles to increase the chance of bringing down the bird, by heaping draughts upon pills, like Pelion upon Ossa, in the hope that the mass may contain the sought-for ingredient."

Hooper, in his "Medical Dictionary," p. 385, says of Cholera :—"Such being the obscurity which hangs over the causes and pathology of this affection, it is not to be expected that there should be much accordance among practitioners as to its treatment, or much success from the use of remedies." And, in speaking of the writings of other leading medical men on the subject, he says that "they wrote with such acrimony and rancour that it was impossible to arrive at the truth."

Dr. Velpeau, who advocates opium (see appendix) in Cholera, admitted to the Academy of Sciences, in October last, that they cannot tell whether the remedies they used had anything at all to do with recoveries.

Dr. Elliotson,* a most enlightened Allopath, speaking of the treatment of Asiatic Cholera, says :—"As respects this country I cannot but think that, if all the patients had been left alone, the mortality would have been much the same as it has been. If all the persons attacked with Cholera had been put into warm beds, made comfortable, and left alone—although many would have died who have been saved—yet, on the whole, I think the mortality would not have been greater than after all that has been done ; for we are not in the least more informed as to the proper remedies than we were when the first case of Cholera occurred. We have not been instructed in the least by those who have had the disease to treat. Some say that they have cured the disease by bleeding ; others by calomel ; others by opium ; and others, again, say that opium does harm. No doubt many poor creatures died uncomfortably who would have died tranquilly if nothing had been done to them. Some were placed in hot water or in hot air, and had opium, and calomel, and other stimulants ; *which altogether were more than their system would bear, and more than would have been borne if they had been so treated even in perfect health.*"

Gregory pronounced that medical doctrines are little better than stark staring absurdities ; Dr. Dickson says, Sir J. Mackintosh was not the only man who left the profession of physic in disgust ;

* "Principles and Practice of Medicine."

Crabbe, Davy, Lord Langdale, and hundreds of others have done the same. The ancients endeavoured to elevate physic to the dignity of a science, but failed. The moderns, with more success, have endeavoured to reduce it to the level of a trade.

Dr. Rush says, "We have multiplied diseases—we have done more, we have increased their mortality."

Dr. Wm. Ferguson, Deputy-Inspector of Hospitals, aided in punishing army surgeons with the greatest severity who dared to assert that certain diseases were more easily cured without mercury than with it. He learned, however, soon after to his horror that far more victims had been sent to the grave by mercury than by the diseases which mercury had been given to cure.

The United States Surgeon-General issued the following order from his office at Washington, dated May 4th, 1863 :—

"It seeming *impossible* in any other manner to properly restrict the use of this powerful agent (calomel), it is directed that it be *struck* from the supply table, and that *no further requisition for this medicine be approved by the Medical Directors*. Tartar emetic is also struck from the supply table of the army. No doubt can exist that *more harm* has resulted from the *misuse* of both these agents in the treatment of disease, than benefit from their proper administration."

Dr. Pereira, in a lecture, says, "We can hardly refuse our assent to the observation of the late Sir Gilbert Blane, that in many cases patients got well in spite of the means employed ; and sometimes when the practitioner *fancies* that he has made a great cure, we may fairly assume the *patient* to have had a narrow escape."

Abernethy said, "There has been a great increase of medical men, it is true, of late years ; but upon my life, diseases have increased in proportion ; that is a great comfort." To whom ? The public or the profession—which ?

Dr. J. Johnston says, "I declare it to be my most conscientious opinion that if there was not a single physician, or surgeon, or apothecary, or man midwife, or chemist, or druggist, or drug in the world, there would be less mortality amongst mankind than there is now."

Franks says, "Thousands are slaughtered in the quiet sick room."

Reid says, "More infantile subjects are perhaps diurnally destroyed by the mortar and pestle than in the ancient Bethlehem fell victims in one day to the Herodian massacre."

Sir Astley Cooper says, that "The science of medicine was founded on conjecture, and improved by murder ?"

Opium and mercury appear to have been the leading remedies used all along by Allopathists, and to such a fearful extent was the last *medicine* given that Dr. Coffin relates a case of one who died of Cholera in America, at Memphis, Tennessee, "Whose stomach contained 2,200 grains of calomel (sublimated mercury), which unaccountable quantity had been duly administered by a member of the profession—the most learned of whom were in consultation in order to devise a remedy."

Could this patient have possibly recovered after such a charge of calomel, he might have been a model of a *living barometer*, and possibly could have aided us much in meteorological science, in so far as foretelling storms and other vicissitudes of the weather.

Dr. Simon, in the *Times*, says—"Wholesome food, pure air, and cleanliness are the only preventatives of Cholera that we are aware of, but none of these can give us perfect safety. *No matter what barriers we may set up, Cholera will overleap them all.* The virulent form of the disease, in which the patient is, as it were, struck down by death from the beginning, is comparatively rare in this country." Of the report of the commission appointed by the Government of India to inquire into the causes of the epidemic in 1861, he says—"That report was suppressed after publication out of consideration, we believe, for certain officials who incurred heavy censure for their alleged neglect when the disease broke out. The epidemic attacked more than 20,000 men, women, and children belonging to the British army. At Mean-Mear, 880 of our soldiers or their families were attacked out of 2,452 in the station, and 535 died (or over 70 per cent.) in little more than a month. With all their care, and attention, and long experience, the medical gentlemen who sat on this commission could give very little advice for the treatment of Cholera. *At present we have to contend with the destroyer in the dark.* 'Use every possible precaution against the disease, and then cease to think about it,' may sound a very homely piece of advice, but it will prove more serviceable than most of the nostrums which are thrust upon the public notice whenever the first signs of an epidemic are perceived."

Now, this piece of information comes home to us everyone. The Royal College of Physicians, who should be supposed to be able to give some sort of treatment, tells us very honestly and plainly—"No matter what barriers we may set up, Cholera will overleap them all," and as to any treatment which will cure with any degree of certainty, they are *at present in the dark!* Seeing such is the state of medical science, the Royal College of Physicians must surely hail the present as a boon beyond all price, and one which must awaken totally new ideas in their minds regarding medical science and the philosophy of healing diseases which they have been "*in the dark*" about for thousands of years, in consequence of their minds having been directed always from the truth instead of towards it. Whether this arose from its professors being interested in the prolonging of human suffering and the inventing or creating of new diseases, it is not for the writer to say; but that such has been the *usual practice*, at least since Paracelsus introduced mercury as a panacea for most diseases 400 years ago, all medical history testifies.

Addison lays it down as a maxim, that when a nation abounds in physicians it grows thin of people. Filibuster Henninpen seems to have agreed with the essayist, or he would hardly have informed General Walker, in one of his despatches, that "Drs. Rice and Wolfe died of the cholera, and Dr. Lindley sickened, after which the health of the camp visibly improved." Intentionally or not, the stout-hearted soldier suggests that the best way of getting rid of the Cholera is to make short work of the doctors. I totally agree with both the above, except they begin and do as Hahnemann advises—viz., learn to cure diseases in a simple and scientific manner.

Hahnemann's Organon of Medicine begins thus :—"1. The first

and *sole* duty of the physician is to restore health to the sick.* This is the true art of healing. 2. The perfection of a cure consists in restoring health in a prompt, mild, and permanent manner; in removing and annihilating disease by the shortest, safest, and most certain means, upon principles that are at once plain and intelligible."

A sample of this is given in the following:—Dr. C. Herring says—"Whilst travelling through Germany, he was invited to the house of a rich old gentleman who had been an invalid for twenty years. This gentleman had, at first, consulted two physicians of celebrity, but, as they quarrelled about his complaint, he determined to seek other advice. But first, he resolved that, if he could find three doctors who perfectly agreed upon his case without hesitation, to allow himself to be treated by them, but not otherwise. For this purpose, he had consulted many eminent physicians, whose opinions and prescriptions he had recorded in a book kept for the purpose, which, as may be supposed, had cost him a pretty sum of money, but never found any three who agreed respecting his case. This book had the appearance of a ledger in large folio, and was kept in the form of tables. In the first column were the names of the physicians, amounting to 474; in the second those of the disease, with explanations concerning its nature; of these there were 313, differing importantly from each other; in the third column were the remedies proposed—these consisted of 832 prescriptions, containing in all 1,097 remedies. The sum total appeared at the end of each page." This must have been a *scientific* curiosity!

Dr. Johnston says—"We hear medical men talking familiarly together and as unconcernedly about mercurial tremor, mercurial erythema, arsenical disease, iodism, narcotism, &c. &c., as though these disorders were inflicted upon us by Providence, instead of by their own mal-practices! It is by no means uncommon for one medical man to be called on to cure a disease which has been caused by the drugs of his medical brother!"

In Dr. Quain's examination before a Committee of the House of Commons, Mr. Roebuck asked if it would prevent accidents if prescriptions were written in English? "Not in the least," said Dr. Quain, *for the patient would not take it if he knew what it was.* And you think great advantage is derived from keeping your patient ignorant of what he takes? "*Immense advantage,*" was the reply.

Dr. Lyons, in *Dublin Medical Press and Circular*, of 15th Aug., 1866, speaking of a Cholera case treated by castor oil, rhubarb, and

* His mission is not, as many physicians have imagined it to be, that of inventing systems by stringing together empty ideas and hypotheses upon the immediate essence of life and the origin of disease in the interior of the human economy; nor is it that of continually endeavouring to account for the morbid phenomena with their nearest cause (which must for ever remain concealed), and confounding the whole in unintelligible words and pompous observations, which make a deep impression on the minds of the ignorant, while the patients are left to sigh in vain for relief. We have already too many of these learned reveries, which bear the name of medical theories, and for the inoculation of which even special professorships have been established. It is high time that all those who call themselves physicians should cease to deceive suffering humanity with words that have no meaning, and begin to act, that is to say, to afford relief, and cure the sick in reality."

opium, that died—"The vague and ill-defined employment of the term "*diarrhœa*" to indicate almost all forms of intestinal malady attended by flux in the absence of hæmorrhage is productive of much mischief, often leading to carelessness in both diagnosis and practice, with ultimate disappointment to physician as well as patient in not a few instances.

"Amongst the most common of the affections of the large and small intestines, which we meet in daily practice, some are of functional and some of organic nature, differing essentially in pathological character and yet confounded under the indiscriminating designation of "*diarrhœa*."

"That in Cholera *any special medication directed to the intestinal canal offers the least prospect of success*, Dr. Lyons wholly disbelieves. He regards it as a disease in which under a preternatural stimulus to the vasi-moter nerves of the intestinal apparatus, a *white hæmorrhage* is set up. He holds that the remedy which a scientific induction would indicate is *one applicable to the nervous centres*, and one capable either of *intensely stimulating* them, or of *modifying or controlling the profound impression* primarily made upon them. To attempt to stop the flux by acting on some part of the intestinal canal seems to him comparable to an attempt to stop the current of electricity through the Atlantic cable by acting on its outer covering. *The remedy to be sought must be one to act energetically on the dynamic nervous centres which preside over intestinal elimination.*"

Dr. Worms, head physician to the military hospital of the Gros Caillou, in Paris, speaking of the treatment of Cholera in the Academy of Medicine, in October last year says:—"He has seen Cholera pass so often to the Cholera stage during its treatment by opiates that in times of Cholera he dreads the use of opium; and, moreover, though that treatment may stop the evacuations, the stomach remains embarrassed, and the patient does not regain strength or appetite." He instances a number of Diarrhœa cases for which he administered "laudanum and opiate injections. But far from obtaining an improvement by this treatment, there was, on the contrary, an alarming aggravation. To the evacuations, which followed each other rapidly, was added vomiting. The evacuations assumed the character of Cholera. The voice grew weak and extinct, the pulse imperceptible," &c., &c.

In the face of this we have the following:—

"TREATMENT OF CHOLERA.

"The Royal College of Physicians have sent a reply, of which the following is the substance, to a letter received from the Privy Council through Mr. Simon, asking how captains of merchant vessels should act when proper medical attendance cannot be procured, so as to provide for the health of their crews against attacks of Cholera. The committee of the college think—

"1. That when opening medicine is required the mildest should be selected, as castor oil or rhubarb. Glauber's salts and Epsom salts are dangerous. The common belief that prolonged costiveness should not be interfered with during the prevalence of Cholera is erroneous. 2. That the master should ascertain by inquiry, morning and evening, whether any of the crew are labouring under Diarrhœa,

and if so the following recommendations are subjoined for his guidance :—3. That if a man be attacked with Diarrhœa he should, whenever it is possible, be sent to bed and kept warm, and some aromatic and astringent medicine, containing a small quantity of opium, should be given to him at once, and should be repeated every hour or two, according to the severity of the purging. It is suggested that ten grains of the aromatic powder of chalk and opium (of the British *Pharmacopœia*) should be so given in half a glass of peppermint water or weak brandy and water. Should this medicine not be at hand, five measured drops of laudanum may be substituted for each dose of the powder. Large doses of opium or of ardent spirits should be avoided. If the Diarrhœa should result from bad or obviously indigestible food, or if the discharges are unnaturally offensive and attended with griping pain, it would be desirable to give a dose of either of the gentle laxatives above named before administering the opiates. The diet should consist mainly of *beef tea*! or broth gruel, or *rice*. If the discharges become colourless and watery (the purging being of the kind commonly called ‘rice water purging’) and be accompanied with vomiting and coldness, the opiates should no longer be persisted in, and spirituous liquors should be avoided. The patient should be strictly kept in the recumbent position, he should be allowed to drink water freely, and should be abundantly supplied with fresh air. Warm applications should be used to the feet and legs, and a mustard poultice should be applied to the pit of the stomach. Cramps may be treated by *rubbing* the affected parts *with the warm hand*. In all cases, medical advice, when obtainable, should be obtained as soon as possible.”—*Northern Whig*, 4th August, 1866.

So here is the last essence of wisdom and knowledge of the science of medicine as adapted to the treatment of *Cholera*, from the heads of the Royal College of Physicians. Let us dissect or rather analyse this tit-bit of science—“When *opening* medicine is required” (in *Cholera*!), I should like to know? yet from the above the public are expected to know *when*! One would naturally think the bowels rather too open in *Cholera*! “Glauber’s and Epsom salts are dangerous!” This must be a recent discovery in *Cholera* treatment surely—for the public would never have dreamt of either in *Cholera*; that they are dangerous in other diseases is well known, however it’s well to be warned. No doubt some poor devils have paid the forfeit by their lives through trying to *cure* by those salts, and found they killed, and are, therefore, henceforth to be labelled “dangerous.” Very good! Again :—“If a man be attacked with diarrhœa he should be sent to bed and *kept warm*, and some aromatic and *astringent* medicine, containing a small quantity of opium, should be given to him at once, and should be repeated every hour or two, according to the severity of the purging. It is suggested that ten grains of the aromatic powder of chalk and opium [of the B. P.] should be given in peppermint or weak brandy and water.” Of course it is immaterial what “*astringent*” you use seemingly from this, provided you use one with a little *opium*. You (the public) can take your choice, only take *some* astringent; any of them should cure *Cholera* it would *seem*. Yet not one of them ever did, or why such a fearful mortality? “If the discharges (however) become colourless and watery, &c., opiates should no longer be per-

sisted in and spirituous liquors should be avoided." But what other medicines will *then* be used? Read for yourselves. *None*. Then all *medicines*, according to this concentration of medical knowledge, in such cases are useless, for not one is then recommended, but "In all cases (even this last) *medical* advice should be obtained as soon as possible." Yes, and the sooner the public knows this *mountain* of allopathic advice for Asiatic Cholera, which has not produced even the tail of a mouse, the better. They recommend to the *Privy Council*, at long and at last, when the *fatal* symptoms set in—"Cramps *may* be treated by *rubbing the affected parts* with the *warm hand*." Though last, not least, *mesmerism* has at length been promulgated by the Royal College of Physicians in London. They should have been privy to telling them to *rub downwards*. This any old woman knows, and this is the *summum bonum* of all the medical science known by the Royal College of Physicians! and this they will find in the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia under the heading "Zoomagnetismus, animal magnetism, or mesmerism!"

I may remark that it would be hard to get *beef tea* on board merchant vessels at sea for the use of sick people. However, it has now been sufficiently demonstrated by both schools of medicine that it is not only not required at all for the sick, but is *positively injurious*, and has frequently been the means of losing patients that rice would have saved. But this only shows how much value we must place on those marvellous emanations of wisdom which issue forth with their licences to kill—(as one medical man in this town designated medical diplomas)—in hand; instructed by such head pieces of scientific medical and regimenal knowledge.

Well might the poet say—

"Man, proud man, wrapped in a little brief authority,
Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven
As make the angels weep!"

We read in Mark v. 25, 26—"And a certain woman which had an issue of blood twelve years, and had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse."

Taking this in comparison with the evidence of the practice of physicians of the present day, must we not arrive at the conclusion that they knew as much 2,000 years ago, if not more, than now, for here we have a case of an issue of blood living for twelve years under the then treatment. I question if she would have lived the tenth part of the time under the present ordinary treatment.

To come to the

HOMŒOPATHIC ORDINARY TREATMENT.

I will quote from Laurie's large "Domestic Medicine":—

"*Symptoms*—This virulent disease (Asiatic Cholera) generally commences with giddiness, headache, singing in the ears, and general uneasiness, a sensation of flatulence in the stomach (rumbling of wind), or griping pains, rapid loss of strength, and a feeling of weight and oppression in the region of the heart. In the severest forms of the malady the patient suddenly falls senseless to the ground, as if struck by electric fluid. But in many instances diarrhoea is the first symptom, which, if neglected, soon becomes asso-

ciated with vomiting, severe colic, cramps, or convulsions, anxiety, and dread of dissolution which appears to be inevitable.

"In some, though not all, cases of Asiatic Cholera we find the lips, nails, and sometimes the whole skin of a blue colour; but, in almost every instance, the frame *loses its power of generating heat*, the pulse and pulsation of the heart are almost unfelt, and the circulation of the blood becomes stagnant.

HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.

"*Tincture of Camphor*, if administered upon the *earliest premonitory indications* of the attack, will *often avail* to prevent the further development of the disease, and will, at all events in a great majority of cases, avert fatal consequences; and if, moreover, the aggregate symptoms be such as are here subjoined, this medicine will, in most cases, suffice to effect a cure. The following are the particular indications in the early stage which call for the administration of camphor—[Here follows a list of symptoms which, if it could absolutely cure without fail, there is no need of any other remedy.]—such as *cramps, with protracted rigidity in the calves of the legs, &c.*, and in the muscles of the belly, sunken blue-encircled eyes, scarcely perceptible pulse, icy coldness of face and hands, and greatly diminished temperature of the whole body, vomiting and diarrhoea, diminished or suppressed urine, &c. Dose—One drop of strongest tincture every five minutes.

"*Veratrum* should be employed without a moment's delay when Cholera sets in in its worst and characteristic form, with sudden and violent fits of vomiting and purging, evacuations resembling rice water, severe cramps in calves of the legs, ice-like coldness of the entire body, even of the tongue, cold clammy sweat, feeble pulse, great thirst, excessive weakness, terrified look, &c., &c. Dose—Six globules every quarter of an hour in extreme cases, yet," he says, "*veratrum* is preferable where there is *considerable reactive power*." One would think, where that is the case, nature could do the work as well without as with the *globules*, particularly when these represent a fraction of the *billionth* of a grain of the original medicine.

Arsenicum is to be preferred to *veratrum* when the vital energies seem feeble, and as if disposed to sink rapidly. It may be premised, however, that this medicine is usually the most appropriate to be employed after the previous employment of *veratrum*. The particular symptoms for *arsenicum* are as follow:—" *Burning sensation* in the stomach and bowels, rapid loss of strength and extreme prostration, intense and insatiable thirst, with inability to swallow more than a few drops, cramps in extremities, clammy sweat, cadaverous appearance of the features and pointedness of the nose, pulse almost imperceptible, violent and painful retching, with scanty vomiting, suppression of urine, loss of speech, dread that recovery is hopeless and that dissolution is fast approaching. Dose, six globules every quarter of an hour (in urgent cases), or even every five minutes (when a fatal issue appears immediate) until the symptoms are modified. Then follows *cuprum*, *carbo veg*, *ipeac*, *nux vom*, *ciuta stramonium*, *secale*. The after-effects are treated adjuvantly with *phosphorus*, *acidium phosphoricum*, *china*, *sulphur*, *cantharides*, *rhus tox*, *bryonia*, *hyoscyamus*, *opium*, *lachesis*, *aconi-*

tum, bella, chamomilla, and antimon tart. Preventive medicines—Veratrum and cuprum acet.

Now, we are almost in as great a maze in this treatment as under allopathy, and every one must be struck with the want of certainty here exhibited. *Camphor* seems to be the remedy relied chiefly upon, but seeing allopaths have also used it in Liverpool and lost 80 per cent. by it in all stages, it must have a very little power in controlling Cholera. The dose of camphor used by American homœopaths is very little less than that used by allopaths, so we have both schools agreeing and trying the same remedy exactly for the same disease, but neither relying on it as a specific. The prevention of Cholera by medicine being of course prior to premonitory symptoms, supposing we admitted that symptomatic treatment was the right thing in Cholera, which we do not, one would naturally think according to the above that camphora should be almost a prophylactic; but here we have two subordinate medicines—*veratrum* and *cuprum*—given as “*preventive medicines*.” It cannot be clear, even to an infinitesimally biassed mind, that there is the least approach to a science in the homœopathic treatment of Cholera, as we understand the subject in England. The American homœopaths are a little more liberal or less bigotted about the dose, &c., than are our practitioners, although you will find there some who go so far in infinitessimals, that they prepare their medicines up to the 8000th dilution, or taking sixteen thousand places of figures to represent the fraction of a grain in one minum of the medicine given. Why, the very wafting, or even presence of the carbonic acid in the air during their preparation, supposing everything else to be absolutely and chemically pure, would antidote them millions of times over. We find, however, many homœopaths, eclectics, and allopaths agreeing in a great measure on the actions of many American remedies. Truth lies somewhere and everywhere, but it is so mixed up with unscientific doctrines and delusive experiences, that it is hard for the public to separate the corn from the chaff, but this much must be patent to all, that a medicine that will cure quickly in collapse, or in its worst and severest form, can have very little difficulty in subduing rapidly the premonitory symptoms, much less to prevent an attack.

To have a *true specific* for any given disease, or one that will eradicate it perfectly, it must cure, at least, as quickly as the disease has progressed in its attack, and the *patient must be better after the recovery* than he was before the attack, otherwise it is no specific. Now, no mineral known ever had or has such a power, either administered allopathically or homœopathically; it is not in the order of things that it should be so, and I defy it to be proven in a single case. In those cases where such is apparently the result, it was nature alone that cured, and, if the minerals were given in a crude shape, the seeds of organic disease have been sown, and the life consequently shortened. In every case of functional disease, which nature alone can cure, if let alone or is not interfered with, allopathic interference, as a rule, either retards, leaves the system loaded with mineral or other drugs, or changes the functional into organic disease, that is, in those cases that survive the treatment. Ordinary homœopathic treatment can scarcely retard nature in her efforts to cure, even when the wrong remedies are given, and in many cases

they do accelerate and aid nature in throwing off the disease ; but they are both admittedly deficient in Cholera, and have not a true specific for any organic disease, neither have the homœopaths, as a rule (as their works show), any one true specific for any given disease ; and although *aconite* ranks as the leading medicine in all *febrile* diseases, yet none of them rely upon it to carry them through, but go on changing from one to another, until at last nature has gained time to overcome the disease, and then that medicine which was given during the time that nature poured forth her greatest efforts, gets the credit of having cured the case, and is extolled in consequence. On looking over statements of reported cases, any unbiassed reader who understands the philosophy of cure must be struck with that fact, and it is one of the reasons which prevents many, no doubt, from joining the ranks of homœopathy. The allopathic school claim to have *one only specific*—quinine—for ague or intermittent fever, as the following remarks, from the *Dublin Medical Press and Circular*, of the 9th May, 1866, show :—

“*Quinine in the Cure of Ague.*—This is almost *the only specific we have* ; and, in its *unique isolation*, it has always been curiously regarded by scientific physicians. We ourselves have been at a loss whether to regard it as an earnest of other specific remedies yet undiscovered, or to view this fact of there being one specific remedy as (so to speak) a mere accident, not justifying the hope that disease generally was ever destined to be treated or cured by specifics.”

But allopaths, eclectics, and homœopaths, in America, obtain, they say, far more satisfactory results in ague from *cornus florida* (dogwood), *gossipium herbaceum* (cotton plant), *gelsemium sempervirens*, and other remedies ; so we cannot rank quinine as a true specific, as we understand the term, *i.e.*, *all powerful* in eradicating the disease. It is true but a small proportion die during the acute stage of ague, when treated by quinine, but the disease is made chronic in a large proportion of cases afterwards.

The elucidation of the action of a reputed purgative being able to check purging arises from the well-known therapeutic law that no two similar diseases or diseased actions can exist in the human body at one and the same time ; the one must destroy the other, and it is according to the intensity of either, which gains the preponderance ; if the medicinal be the most intense, the disease must be obliterated—and this is really the whole basis of the homœopathic law—“*similia similibus curantur*,” or “like cures like.”

There has very lately appeared an allopathic appropriation of the homœopathic remedy still used very generally by homœopaths in Cholera—camphor. The Emperor of the French had it for the army at the Crimea, in 1854, prepared by Mr. Headland, of London ; and it has been extensively circulated all over the world by homœopaths, in their books. But Dr. Rubini, who adopts the cure, considers his is different, because he uses the same spirits of wine as homœopaths use, saturates it a little more, administers a *four-drop* dose every five minutes, and they administer *five ors à drops at same intervals*. (See “Hempel & Beakley’s Homœopathic Practice.”) Now, this is, perhaps, the best known preparation except *coffee* for the treatment of Cholera. I used it over and over again. Until I discovered coffee, I certainly considered *camphora*, as always used by homœopaths in the first stages of Cholera, and now taken

up by allopathists, as good a specific for that disease as any then known; but the difference between the action of it and *coffee* is so great, that they must be seen or felt to be believed. *Camphora* is a very nauseous drug to take, as homœopathically administered; although tolerably prompt in action in the first stage, it is very slow, however, in comparison with *coffee*. There must be, of necessity, a great prostration and want of appetite left in Cholera cases after recovery, in consequence of the enormous loss by vomiting and purging, and the disease not being arrested in a proper manner; it always takes some considerable time to recover, even under *camphora*; there is, also, a tendency to returns of it. Now, with *coffee* this is not the case, and the extraordinary part is, that no matter how prostrate the patient is, even to the loss of voice in collapse, the strength returns almost at once, as before the attack, the appetite rather improved, and not the least weakness of the parts which were immediately affected by it, as is seen in cases illustrating the treatment given hereafter.

This I consider amply proves that the digestive track meets with no injury from the disease, or from my treatment, and that it must arise from some electrical disturbance acting on the nervous system. Under all other remedies, *i.e.*, where the disease has been either but *weakly combatted*, unaided or accelerated, as the case may be, by powerful drugs which act on the digestive track violently, there must be a weakness or soreness left, for a time, behind, but never where coffee is given promptly, as in the cases illustrated. They get well with such marvellous rapidity, and so easily, without any nauseating dose, that it seems more like a dream to them afterwards than anything else. Many, too, from the rapidity of the cure, although suffering intensely so soon before, think they could not have been attacked with Cholera at all.

This should be sufficient for the public, as to the knowledge of healing diseases possessed by those who stand reputedly high in their school, and who should know all that allopathy can do. It must be admitted that opium is not one of the most injurious of allopathic remedies for Cholera, if given in moderate doses; but then, as we see, it is *not known to have ever cured any*; for whether they get it, or no treatment at all, they die in about the same ratio—according to Dr. Elliotson—and so it must be at least useless.

It is a wonder that the peculiar character of the Cholera attack did not cause many long before this to think of my remedy. The sudden and protracted cooling of the body, &c., evidently pointed to a stimulant that would act at once on the skin by producing external heat, and have, at the same time, the double virtue of a medicine and a food. The excessive weakness of the pneumogastric nerves and other nervous centres, the persistent character of the vomiting and purging, like that produced by excessive alcoholic indulgences, which prevents the stomach retaining anything except coffee, as has been observed last year when given as auxiliary treatment in the Cholera Hospitals at Paris; the great power it has over all effects of fright or fear; the lowering of the pulse, which nothing else but coffee can restore quickly and permanently to its normal standard; the suddenness of the attack showing that the real scientific specific must restore magically as coffee does, or it is of no earthly use; the fact that it is drunkards chiefly or those who

use alcoholic liquors in some degree that are attacked ; that coffee is the best known remedy for sleeplessness from excited brain, or tremulous nervousness, even to delirium tremens ; that it acts at once on the sluggish kidneys ; is the most certain and quickly acting bowel astringent known ; that it arrests at once any pouring out of bile as is seen in sea sickness, for which it is a magical specific ; that there is no other food or medicine that, for the quantity, will support and conserve the strength of the body for anything like the same length of time, as it is well known that a cup of good, strong, and pure coffee alone, if taken in the morning, will sustain a man for twenty-four hours apparently as well as if he had got his usual food. Every virtue about it tells as plainly as possible that it cannot fail to arrest Cholera in the first stage almost instantaneously, in the advanced stages very rapidly, as I have illustrated, and therefore that the Great Healer who dispenses all things for man's good has allotted coffee as the antidote or specific for Cholera as sure as the mongoose antidotes the poison of the cobra, salt the poison of the honey-bee, and *hydrastis* that of ringworm.

In other professions or trades if there is anything that is felt to be wanted by the public, there is an effort made by those in that trade to supply it, which is generally tolerably successful, but in medicine has that ever been the case in a single instance ? No. The public have had to supply the want themselves. Quinine or Peruvian bark for ague, for instance, was in use long before the profession knew anything about it, and after they became aware of it they were very slow to adopt it. The public have not had a true specific for any known disease till 1858, and the profession whose *duty and business* it was to supply them, would not enter the natural field of investigation—the vegetable kingdom—where alone they can reasonably expect to discover what is wanted.

When we want an opinion on any subject we must go to those who are thoroughly conversant with that subject. It is not possible to get a sound opinion on any new specific or scientific system of healing diseases by those who are unacquainted with the scientific means of curing any one disease. As well could we expect one not conversant with electricity to give an opinion of the respective merits of the various galvanic batteries now in use, or one without education to demonstrate all the six books of Euclid, or measure the distance to, or the diameter of, the sun. So we needn't expect a very sound opinion from those who cannot cure any disease as to the merits of this or that specific, till they have given it a fair trial. If medical men understood God's laws of health and disease better, they wouldn't be insulted by such as the following going the rounds of the newspapers throughout the world :—

"*The Cholera in Russia.*—A St. Petersburg letter says :—'Special prayers have just been offered up in the Church of Isaac, by the Archbishop Isidore, to solicit the intervention of heaven to stay the Cholera. In five weeks, that terrible scourge has carried off 5,000 victims here. Of the persons attacked scarcely one in three escapes, and the epidemic carries off more than twice as many men as women.'—*News-Letter*, Aug. 17, 1866.

God helps those who help themselves. He, in His almighty wisdom, has given us a cure for, and prophylactic against, every disease in this world, and He has allotted coffee for Cholera. It is

by such means alone that His intervention can take place in disease. It would be more seemly, and in accordance with the spirit of the age, if medical men sought God to instruct them in healing disease as He did the Apostles, for "of themselves they can do nothing." Christ and the fishermen knew how to heal diseases, but then they didn't understand bleeding, blistering, purging, calomelising, opiating, and red-hot cauteries; and, therefore, wouldn't do for the present *scientific* system of torturing people. They laid on hands, breathed on the dying or dead, held their fingers opposite the ears of the deaf, &c.; but the only approach to this is the hand-rubbing of the Royal College of Physicians. Let us hope that they are going at last to "throw physic to the dogs," who have more sense, with or without an English prescription, than take it.

The *Dietetic Reformer* for April and July, 1866, contains an article on Cholera and its treatment, by L. S. Hough, A.M., Philadelphia, which appeared in the *Philadelphia Press* for September 1st, 1865. He advocates the relying on nature without any medicine at all, and demonstrates clearly that the great majority, if not all, cases, in its worst shape, can be recovered by the internal use of cold water alone, conjointly with external hand-rubbing, and sponging or bathing the skin with tepid water after reaction sets in. Of course, where nature is unaided by the specific medicine, it takes a considerable time before the system recovers the shock under this treatment, even supposing all should recover.

What a pity that the Royal College of Physicians couldn't give us a little more definite instruction in the expectant treatment of Cholera in collapse—something like the above. The fact of their having *discarded all medical treatment*, when pale or watery evacuations set in, is *very significant*. Can it be that they have really become convinced, at last, that *their medicinal treatment increases mortality*? I fear we can come to no other reasonable conclusion, or why should they discard all medicines? and, doing so, why do they not, at least, *attempt to learn* the science of hand-rubbing, or animal magnetism? for there is a science in everything that tends to lengthen life or lessen mortality, and it is high time the Royal College of *Physicians should know something about it*.

I now give a few more statistics, which will exhibit the practical results obtained by the respective systems of treatment:—

In 1836, in twenty-one hospitals in France and Italy—

Under Allopathy, the deaths were 63 per cent.

In ten hospitals in France, Germany, and Italy—

Under homœopathy, the deaths were 11 per cent.

In Vienna, where each hospital had a Cholera ward set apart, the following are the returns:—

Under Allopathy, or old school treatment, deaths were 66 per cent.

„ Homœopathy 33 per cent.

In Liverpool, in 1849, the hospital returns gave—

Under Allopathy, the deaths were 46 per cent.

„ Homœopathy „ 25 per cent.

In Edinburgh—

Allopathy 66 per cent.

Homœopathy 25 per cent.

In Newcastle, 1853—

Allopathy	50 per cent.
Homeopathy	20 per cent.

In Lisburn Union Workhouse, in 1854, the following are the results of the treatment by opium, stimulants, and calomel :—

In 71 cases 35 died.

In Bavaria—

Under Allopathy	12753 cases,	6163 deaths, or	48½ per cent.
„ Homeopathy	1269 „	85 „	6½ „

In Dundee Hospital—

Allopathy	157 „	87 „	61 4-5 „
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Liverpool Hospital—

Homeopathy	175 „	45 „	24½ „
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Stockholm—

Allopathy	4143 „	2177 „	50½ „
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Edinburgh—

Homeopathy	173 „	48 „	27½ „
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Copenhagen—

Allopathy	7515 „	4074 „	55 1-5 „
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In London Hospital, up to August 8th, 1866—

Under Allopathy, recoveries, 131 ; 206 deaths, or 63 per cent.

According to the newspapers from The Hague from the commencement of the outbreak to the 22nd June, 1866—

	Attacks.	Deaths.
Leyden	1021	649
The Hague	362	215
Delft	542	319
Rotterdam	824	503
Dordrecht	346	196
Gouda	140	73
Utrecht	688	382
Total	3923	2337

Or a mortality of about 60 per cent.

Cholera patients treated at Wishney Wolotschock in Russia—

	No. of Patients.	Cured.	Died.	Proportion of Deaths.
Treated Allopathically	93	24	69	74 per cent.
„ Homeopathically	109	86	23	21 per cent.
No treatment	49	16	33	67 per cent.

At Raab in Hungary—

Treated Allopathically	1,501	861	640	1 in 2½.
„ Homeopathically	154	148	6	1 in 25.

In Vienna—

Treated Allopathically	4,509	3,140	1,360	30 per cent.
„ Homeopathically	551	532	49	8½ „

In Hospital at Bordeaux—

Treated Allopathically	104	32	72	69 per cent.
„ Homeopathically	31	25	6	19 „

Extracted from *Journal of Health and Disease*.

In 1832-3 11,020 cases occurred in London alone ; of these 5,273 died, or nearly 48 per cent., and fully as many died in Paris alone last year.

In London, 1854—

Mortality under Old School treatment	..	..	..	45 per cent.
Homœopathic	..	..	..	17 "
Cases of Collapse, Old School	..	..	..	69 "
Homœopathic	..	..	..	30 "

It must be admitted that the ordinary old homœopathy is less successful in Cholera than in any other acute disease ; for from the same statistical returns, as an instance, we find in *Dysentery*—

Mortality under Old School	..	..	..	23 per cent.
Homœopathy	..	..	..	3 "

and other acute diseases in still more striking proportions.

THE RECOGNISED CHOLERA SYMPTOMS

are purging, vomiting, often preceded by rumbling, tension, or pain in the region of the stomach and bowels. Sometimes the patient feels a weight in stomach, a burning sensation, or heat and fullness, sickness, weakness, anxiety and dread, coldness, cramps in extremities, rapid sinking of the pulse, urine scanty, evacuations pale, tongue clean or but little furred. As the evacuations increase the burning in and about stomach gets more distressing, and the patient feels unquenchable thirst, but can retain nothing on the stomach (except the specific when given for the cure of the disease), the vomiting being of the character called "projectile," the pulse gets weaker and weaker, prostration increases, evacuations resemble rice water or are totally colourless, spasms or cramps mostly seize extremities, calves of legs, and arms. Sometimes the limbs get quite rigid ; cramps attack the bowels at times. In violent cases the spasms appear at commencement of attack (as in case No. 4), or the attack may set in so suddenly as to destroy life in an hour or so (as in case No. 3, where the evacuations were *enormous* in quantity and *every few minutes*). As the disease gets advanced the skin gets clammy and cold, livid or bluish, and feels like that of a dead person, the tongue and breath get cold, the patient's face gets pinched, sunken, cadaverous, vacant, sad, and anxious. Voice altered—toneless and in some instances suppressed—the alvine discharges and urine cease, and death steps in to finish up. In the severest cases the patient falls senseless to the ground, seemingly as if struck by the electric fluid (see case 7).

CHARACTERISTIC PECULIARITIES.

The griping pains of the bowels are relieved by pressure or holding in the breath (which shows their nervous character), the lowering of the strength of pulse, of the heat of the body below the normal standard (98° Fahrenheit), the cleanness of the tongue, cramps or spasms of extremities, the projectile character of the vomiting, clammy coldness of the skin, frightened and altered look, &c. ; whereas in dysentery the symptoms are totally different or *opposite*. Dysentery has *positive* inflammatory symptoms, an exalted

and bounding pulse, tenderness of region of bowels, &c., to pressure, heat of body above the normal standard, deeply furred tongue, hot skin, sometimes vomiting, and that not prolonged. Thus Cholera is *negative* fever.

Cholera is commonly considered to be an excessive loss of some of the natural secretions of the body, but strictly speaking this is not the fact; but rather the partial or total suppression of, at least, two of them, the bile and urine. Bile is the secretion which gives colour to the evacuations.

In Cholera, or the diarrhoea that precedes it, when we find the stools getting pale or watery we know then that bile is deficient, that the liver has therefore ceased or partially suspended the secretion of it, and when any one with purging observes this peculiarity he may be sure it will run into collapse and death, if bile is not speedily restored to the evacuations. This change coffee effects in a few minutes, and recovery follows quickly, as a matter of course.

I am come to

THE SPECIFIC REMEDY.

Coffea Cruda, or Tincture of Raw Mocha Coffee, prepared as in Appendix.

Adult dose—Three to ten drops in a teaspoonful to a tablespoonful of water every five minutes, prolonging the intervals gradually as amelioration sets in.

In the early stages of Cholera, when purging or vomiting has commenced for short time, three or four doses as above at five minute intervals, I have always found sufficient to restore the bowels and stomach to a perfectly natural state, as if there had not been the slightest derangement. Such cases with me have never exceeded twenty minutes. When rice-water evacuations, coldness of body, and spasms have set in, I would give ten drops at once, and three to five drops every five minutes after, with the addition of hand-rubbing for the cramps and coldness.

If the patient has been allowed to pass into the state of collapse, and when every energy of the body and mind has been prostrated, the same course of treatment will produce a like result, but I would advise the dose of ten drops to be repeated every five minutes till amelioration takes place, and three to five drops after. I would add hot applications to extremities and sides, hand-rubbing as before, and in addition, where practicable, *prolonged breathing through a handkerchief over the region of the heart*, this last will restore the vital spark when apparently fled.

In any case where the medicine* cannot be had the best substitute is a cup of strong pure coffee, prepared in the usual way, but without any chicory being mixed with it, as that is an antidote to its medicinal power. Let this be promptly given, and in the earlier stages of the disease, the Cholera will be arrested promptly, and in nearly all of the very worst cases, it will succeed.

In cases where opium, &c., has been given previously, I would give *thirty drops at once of coffee*, and repeat it in ten minutes or

* For the convenience of those who cannot prepare the medicine for themselves in the manner shown in the Appendix, I have provided small bottles of the tincture, ready for instant use, which can be had for one shilling each bottle.

so (as in case 8), and as amelioration takes place, three to five drops every five minutes after, and proceed as in other cases according to circumstances, as before stated.

And where coffee is not to be had, external heat should be applied as before, and whey given to drink to allay the thirst, and in the absence of whey, soft water or water that has been boiled and cooled again, should be given as frequently as necessary, only in a moderate quantity at a time, always persevering with downward warm hand-rubbing, &c., as before stated, when required.

The great majority of Cholera cases begin with diarrhoea. This if taken at the offset can always be cured by a single dose of coffee, or a cup of strong pure coffee, in a few minutes; and any case of seeming diarrhoea that *does not succumb* to coffee *at once* is not diarrhoea at all, but *dysentery*, which requires a totally different specific to cure it quickly.

Thus the *use of coffee will of itself teach the medical profession the difference* between diarrhoea or Cholera and dysentery—a matter *about which* they seem also to be at present *thoroughly in the dark*.

It has been urged by assumed authorities on this subject, that during Cholera people should change their mode of living as little as possible, as it is alleged to do so would weaken the digestive organs and predispose those persons to an attack of Cholera. Now, this is totally at variance with common sense and sound science. For we know that certain habits of living predispose people to attacks of diarrhoea and Cholera, and if so, that mode should be radically changed, such as alcoholic indulgences, eating fatty meats, acid or unripe fruits, vinegar, raw or partially decomposed vegetables, &c., smoking, or anything that tends to throw the body into an abnormal condition. Surely common sense tells us, that by such *radical changes* in our *mode of living* we would be able to lessen the chances of Cholera attacks, seeing we are avoiding that which predisposes to it, and if this is not done far more must take it. Besides, it is well known that the very same injurious or objectionable foods, &c., are often taken with impunity in ordinary times by those who live most irregularly without any seeming disturbance to health; but during an epidemic of Cholera few such could do so without suffering less or more. We feel there must be *something* more than ordinary going on over and above to excite to a Cholera attack, and which must be, in the first place, in the air; because, all other conditions were the same before that mysterious "blue mist" made its appearance among us.

Coffee I have proven to be the greatest accelerator of digestion known. All effects of over-crowding the stomach with fatty meats, rich gravies, and alcoholic stimulants are at once corrected by it. The French, as well as other nations, use it much—many of them habitually—after dinner, as an aid to digestion. It is also a very common thing with many to mix rum and other stimulants with coffee, which experience teaches them neutralises the otherwise injurious effects which alcohol produces.

Coffee is, in fact, the great functional corrector of the liver, restraining any sudden inordinate secretion or flow of bile to the normal standard on the one hand, and causing an *immediate* and healthy *secretion* of it where it has been suddenly, partially, or

totally suspended, as in Cholera or diarrhoea, on the other ; and this it will do in the twentieth to the fiftieth part of the time of any other known remedy, such as calomel, and that without other than beneficial after-effects, which is an impossibility with the ordinary deleterious drugs commonly used.

FOR PROPHYLACTIC OR PREVENTIVE TREATMENT

I would advise three minims of *coffea* to be taken three times a day, or, at least, night and morning ; but, for all ordinary purposes, I believe if we use *pure* coffee for breakfast, and at tea-time, prepared pretty strong in the ordinary way, that it would be utterly impossible for us to take Cholera, provided we lived temperately, and confined ourselves chiefly to farinaceous food, with milk, eggs, and butter in moderation ; always avoiding fermented breads, animal foods, alcoholic or fermented liquors, tobacco, drugs, *especially minerals, acidulated and medicated drinks* (all of which we see increase mortality), and anything that we know from experience disagrees with our stomachs. We should, as a rule, use pure wheat meal breads, or, in the absence of the meal, the best flour, with a large proportion of best bran mixed in it (this is especially required for debilitated constitutions). Use a sponge or towel bath every morning; the latter is accomplished by saturating a towel in cold or tepid water, squeeze a little of the surplus water out to prevent dripping on the floor—quickly moisten the skin from head to foot, and dry thoroughly and expeditiously, with a coarse towel. Ventilate all rooms well, keep the house clean, the body comfortably warm, in clean clothing day and night. Take a Turkish bath where practicable, once a week or fortnight—it is of infinite service in cleansing the pores of the skin and keeping it in a healthy condition. As fear greatly predisposes to Cholera and diarrhoea, it cannot be too strongly urged on all who read this work to have this simple remedy tried on the first occasion that presents itself. No matter how simple the diarrhoea may be, faith will follow the first trial from the fact of its rapidity of cure, and fear will for ever subside. Of all that have been told it, and had occasion to use it, not one had ever recourse to any other remedy : it has never failed in a single case, numbering, perhaps, many thousands. Every one has the same story—"I had a diarrhoea the other day, and, after trying other remedies, and not getting better, I was told of yours ; took a cup of strong coffee, and got perfectly well at once."

In getting well of any disease, there are many things to be taken into consideration. In ordinary treatment, for instance, where such quantities of mercury, &c., have to be taken, the time occupied in the recovery, the torture the patient is put to, the state the organism is left in, with the dregs of the medicinal effects sticking to it for life, the greater tendency to contract acute diseases, and the consequent shortening of life after, all these things must be considered in comparing modes of treatment and their results—that is, when recovery takes place under the old system—but it has been shown that under the new treatment no deaths have taken place ; while under the old, it has been computed that fifty millions of lives have been sacrificed that *coffea* might have saved,

a fact that should awaken the minds of all whose duty it is to conserve life, be they Kings, Lords, or Commons.

The *City Press* writing on *Cholera Preventives*, says:—"Whoever impedes the adoption of any such measures, woe be to him! The existence of some, and the misery of many, may depend on the power of his resistance to honest sanitation. It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the depths of the sea, than that he should be the agent of death and misery. If any of the guardians of our local affairs should now play at the game of resistance, supposing it to be a sublime conservancy, we will venture to tell him in advance that office is a prerogative, attended with responsibilities, and that the men who fail to do their duty in critical times belie the trust reposed in them, and merit the scorn of their contemporaries."

I give here a few cases as samples of this purely scientific or specific treatment which I have adopted after over twenty years close study of, and the application of hitherto untried remedies to, various diseases, and leave the public to judge for themselves between true medical science and an admittedly much worse than do-nothing treatment.

CASES.

No. 1. A young woman was seized suddenly with purging and vomiting at one o'clock in the morning. I was called on for my specific at eight o'clock (seven hours after); the vomiting and purging were now almost incessant, evacuations resembling rice water, excruciating griping pains in abdomen, severe and protracted cramps in extremities, icy coldness, with clammy sweat over the whole body. Hot applications and rubbings, with ordinary allopathic treatment, had only increased the evil. I ordered her a small dose of *coffea* (1 minum) to be taken every hour; she was perfectly recovered at four o'clock in afternoon of same day. She remarked that in about ten minutes from she got the first dose she felt considerably better, and the improvement kept increasing after each dose. She was up next day at her usual avocations perfectly strong and well. N.B. I may here remark that this case I didn't see till she was better at four o'clock. In all cases of diarrhoea it was known that my new remedy always cured like magic, and had never failed, and, as I made then no charge for my services, the people didn't like to disturb me before a timely hour in the morning, and, even then, owing to the virulence of the case, they had grave doubts of the possibility of recovery. I noted down the symptoms particularly at the time from the girl herself and those around her. Of course this case was looked on as a great wonder by those who saw it.

Case 2. A young lady, who had been suffering from chronic disease from childhood, took diarrhoea, and had been suffering for four or five days with it, getting gradually worse and weaker; she had tried every remedy she could get recommended to her. One dose of *coffea* cured her instantly; all pains ceased in a few minutes, and the next stool was a natural one.

Case 3. Mr. James Hazley, late of Cambria Street, Belfast, now of Utica, America, on 22nd July, 1865, had been complaining for twelve hours previously of burning and rumbling in the stomach

and bowels; he became suddenly seized with almost incessant purging and projectile vomiting of a great quantity of fluid matter; evacuations in a very few minutes had got quite watery; very severe cramps and pains in the bowels; the extremities got quite cold first, and this coldness extended all over the body; there was great prostration; the features got quite pinched; a great fear of death came on him. When I saw him—all this occurred in about a quarter of an hour after the attack had set in—the pulse was now gone to a thread. I told him he had Asiatic Cholera, and that he would get as quickly well as he got ill. I gave him ten minims of *coffea* at once, and three minims every five minutes after. Within ten minutes the pains were all gone; he vomited but once from he got the first dose, and had only two stools shortly after; after the third dose he got perfectly well, weakness and all gone; he took his evening meal, as usual, two hours afterwards; he declared that, but for my timely aid, he could not have possibly survived an hour. A week afterwards he told me he had not then gained all the flesh he had lost in the half-hour or so related above, although his general health since had not been so good for a long time.

Case 4. Mr. Richard Walker, of Tullygirvan, took suddenly ill at twelve p.m., with projectile vomiting and purging; cramps in the feet and legs so severe that he couldn't lie down; he felt great prostration, with coldness coming all over him; had tried opium, brandy, &c., but the stomach would retain nothing. I administered at once a large cupful of extra strong coffee, prepared in the ordinary way, and hand-rubbed his legs downwards; in five minutes or so he exclaimed—"My God! that is wonderful! I now feel quite well." Cramps and sickness were gone; he neither vomited or purged from he took the coffee; he went to sleep soon after. I saw him next day, when he said he had never felt better in all his life, and didn't feel the slightest return of any of the symptoms from the time I left him the night before.

Case 5. Myself. On 20th September, 1865, at seven, p.m., I took a purging, with pains, a good deal of rumbling in stomach and bowels, the stools were about every half-hour, they gradually became watery, prostration set in, the extremities got quite cold, and the body began also to get cold in spite of a most comfortable warm bed; being now one o'clock in the morning, I thought it time to stop it, as vomiting was beginning to set in. (I merely allowed it run so far by way of experiment.) I took ten minims of *coffea*, as in Mr. Hazley's case; the pains and sickness were gone in five minutes afterwards. Heat and strength fast returning, I took five minims more and went to sleep a few minutes after. Awoke at eight, a.m., perfectly well and strong, breakfasted with a relish, and went to business as usual. In this case there was neither purging or vomiting after the first dose. I may further remark that I had been subject frequently to attacks of diarrhoea and Cholera for a number of years; sometimes I was very ill indeed, and suffered much at these times from cramps in the bowels, until I made this discovery, when a single dose always sufficed to make me well, often in three minutes. In 1861 I commenced to take coffee in place of tea daily, and continued it for four years without intermission, and during all that period I had not a single attack of my old enemy. I ceased to take coffee for two months when the Cholera was so bad

in 1865 at Paris, &c. I had three attacks during that short period, one of them the foregoing. I returned back to coffee again, and haven't had an attack since.

Case 6. Mr. — (an habitual tippler) took ill with vomiting and purging at four o'clock in the morning; when I saw him at eight the stools were incessant; cold clammy sweat over him; his legs cramped; his body all cold; nothing he tried would lie on his stomach; even brandy would come off as fast as given. I administered a three minum dose of coffee every three minutes. In nine minutes he felt the heat coming back to him; the cramps gone; the vomiting and purging stopped instanter; he fell asleep in a few minutes more; awoke in an hour; breakfasted as well as ever he did, and said he never felt better.

Case 7. Mrs. S—, Kingsland, London. Took suddenly ill lying in bed at midnight, as if struck by electricity. She got all cramped and cold as ice; she felt the coldness of death coming all over her; was totally unable to move, speak, or make the least effort to alarm the inmates of the house. When discovered she had been about an hour-and-half in this state, getting worse; she was scarcely able to speak in an audible whisper, and could only say, "*I am dying.*" She got minum doses of coffee every five minutes, and she reported to me that *after the third dose she got rapidly well*; "the heat ran down to the points of her toes and fingers like a stream of electricity." Yet, she got nothing else than the few minims of coffee in a little water; she slept well after; had an excellent breakfast next morning, and was as well as ever she was. This lady called to thank me for saving her life.

Case 8. Mr. M. J., December 13, 1865. A day ill, with purging, cramps in stomach and bowels. He had been using opium, brandy, and other allopathic remedies, but was gradually getting worse; was afraid he could not recover. I administered half-a-drachm of coffee in water, to be repeated in a quarter of an hour, if not quite well. He called a few days after to tell me that he repeated the dose at a quarter of an hour, was quite well and asleep before the half hour expired; and had no return of it since.

Case 9. A young lad of fourteen years of age, on July 21, 1866, took purging, rumbling in stomach and bowels, with cramps, and coldness of extremities, which crept all over him. I gave him five minum doses of coffee every five minutes, and he was quite well and asleep before half an hour had expired. Can any one doubt that this case would not have been as bad a case as need be of Cholera, had the proper remedy not been used?

Case 10. On Saturday, 24th August, 1866, I was awoke at 2 A.M. to see Mrs. B., an elderly lady, who had been purging and vomiting from ten o'clock the night before. She had been troubled with indigestion for very many years, but had been in perhaps better health than usual the day before, and had partaken heartily of salmon and some cheese to dinner, both of which I had forbidden. Present symptoms—Vomiting, and purging of rice water evacuations, bowels moved every half-hour at least; feels chilly; burning and severe crampy pains in stomach; intense thirst; frightened look; feels very nervous; had taken brandy, &c., but vomited up all; pulse very irregular, intermittent, and so indistinct that it couldn't be counted; had just had a large watery stool, and vomited a large

quantity of watery stuff; very sick. Administered to her at once coffee, thirty drops, and twenty drops in five and ten minutes more, breathed on and hand-rubbed stomach downwards; she felt considerably relieved inside twenty minutes; sickness quite gone and stomach feeling much better; body quite a natural heat, with a slight glow over her; felt an inclination to stool, which proved quite ineffectual and passed off completely; gave her another dose at forty-five minutes past two; felt sickness returning; gave her ten drops more; the sickness passed off in three or four minutes more, when she felt quite comfortable and getting into a nice perspiration. Left her *coffee*, three drops to be taken every half-hour; saw her at half-past eleven, a.m., and she had had only one stool after, and had not been troubled otherwise since, and didn't require to take any more medicine; she got up immediately after quite well, and took her food much as usual. She called on 28th, three days after, to thank me for "the most wonderful cure she had ever heard of;" and to say that she felt herself so much better since than she had been before the attack; and that her old stomach complaint, that had troubled her for twenty years, hadn't been so well for as long as she remembered.

Ten more cases occurred in one house in one night, including the mistress of the house, seven children (one of them the baby at the breast), and two servants. The master alone was unaffected, he attended them all with my *coffee*; they all commenced purging and vomiting violently about the same instant—(at midnight in summer 1859); they were variously affected with cramps and pains in stomach, bowels, &c., but he alleges that by giving each adult one drop dose in a teaspoonful of water, and a proportionably lesser dose to the children, that all were perfectly well, and asleep in half-an-hour; and they all breakfasted in morning with more than a usual appetite, and remained quite well after. He further remarked that he observed each case immediately after the third dose, or in ten minutes, get suddenly better.

From the foregoing, we must be warranted in concluding that that which will with such certainty cure, will as certainly prevent, and *vice versa*. Coffee has been by me proven both ways, having used it as a prophylactic, with the most perfect success, on *myself* for over five years, as I have shown; and treated, curatively alone, over one thousand cases of Cholera and diarrhoea *without an isolated case of failure*.

The total helplessness of the medical profession to grapple with Cholera now, or at any other time, has caused the publication of the present pamphlet, which it is hoped will sufficiently awaken the public and the profession to the great want of some science hitherto unknown in medicine. It is really too bad that we have been now bed-ridden by medical men for thousands of years, and up to the present they know of *no single medicine that will cure any single disease with certainty*. This specific for Cholera the writer has been, since 1858, bringing before the public, chiefly through the Paris Academy of Sciences; but so much has been the opposition to all advance in medical science, as, for instance, Harvey's discovery of the circulation of the blood, Jenner's discovery of vaccination for lessening the virulence of small-pox, and Hahnemann's discovery of the "law of cure," which is firmly established and recog-

nised, by those who [really understand the subject, as being as immutable as Newton's law of gravitation, that it is not to be expected in the bounds of *medical reason* or toleration that this one of many discoveries of his should not be put to the ordeal of unbelief and condemnation without a trial. Such has always been the unphilosophical manner of treating anything likely to cure disease in a simple, safe, and truly scientific manner, and such will always be the case till medical men believe in God being able to save mankind. Without their aid, however, the *public can now treat Cholera themselves in a truly scientific manner*, which could never have been done before my discovery, either by lay or professional. The facts which I have demonstrated about mortality under the respective systems of treatment in Cholera, show—

Under Allopathy,	59 to 78 deaths per cent.
Under Expectant or Nature-curing, considerably less than allopathy.	
Under Homeopathic,	20 to 33 deaths per cent.
No deaths have occurred under my specific.	

This result should convince the most bigotted or sceptical. And those who, in the face of such facts, *will knowingly* put themselves under the *high mortality*, or old-school treatment, in place of adopting the simple scientific mode here demonstrated, are guilty of nothing more or less than indirect suicide ; and the time is not far distant when all such will be looked upon as having "bees in their bonnet," as the Scotch say, and placed under restraint in consequence.

In conclusion, I conceive it to be the *bounden duty of those* into whose hands we *intrust our lives for safekeeping, without delay or prejudice, dispassionately and honestly* (no matter from what source it comes) to *examine and test anything new, which has for its object the mitigation of human suffering and the lessening of mortality* in disease, more particularly when the means used are so simple and safe that any one can understand them ; and that the term "specific" will henceforth be *no longer a myth* in medicine, but *a reality*.

The above is merely an earnest of greater things in store to enable the public practically to find out the true physician at his post of duty to his fellow-man and his God.

Let those, therefore, *who desire to be known as true physicians, give my specific a fair trial*, and they will reap more benefit than they can hope to gain by *holding private meetings* to organise a plan to prevent the public from deriving that benefit from my discoveries which they are calculated to give.

A P P E N D I X .

THE BREANT PRIZE, FOR THE CURE OF ASIATIC CHOLERA AND DIARRHŒA.

COFFEA THE TRUE SPECIFIC — DISCOVERED BY JOSEPH
WALLACE.

*To the Secretary of the Paris Academy of Sciences, Imperial
Institute of France.*

SIR,—With this you will receive from me one box, containing half-a-gallon of tincture of *raw Mocha coffee*, which is the true *specific* and *prophylactic* against *Asiatic Cholera* and *diarrhœa* in every form. I also hand you a bottle containing six fluid ounces of tincture of *hydrastis canadensis*, or “golden seal,” which is the true *specific* for *ringworm* in all its various phases.

My formula for the preparation of the coffee tincture is as follows :—Steep one pound weight (avoirdupois) of well-dried and pulverised raw Mocha coffee in three and one third pints (Imperial measure) of strong alcohol for two weeks. Shake it well occasionally, filter through blotting paper, and it is ready for use.

My formula for the ringworm specific is this :—Steep one pound weight, as above, of the pulverised root of *hydrastis canadensis* in three and one-third pints of alcohol. Shake it well and filter, and it is ready for use.

For Asiatic Cholera, the dose of tincture of coffee which I conceive to be best is, from *three to ten minims* in a little water, to be given every *five minutes*. This, if taken when the disease breaks out, will, with one or two doses, completely and effectually stop all cramps, vomiting, and purging, as well as restore at once the heat to the surface of the body that has been absorbed or abstracted by the sudden collapse of nature, through the virulence of the disease.

I have, during the last seven years, treated about *one thousand cases of Cholera and diarrhœa with this remedy alone*; and in no case, except the first one of true Asiatic Cholera, was any auxiliary treatment necessary; and in that case the medicine had only been given every hour—the patient being in a state of collapse at the time—yet she recovered in eight hours (*vide* my paper of 22d December, 1858). The rest all recovered, every one in from five minutes to half-an-hour, by a more prompt administration and more liberal dosology. In fact, with my specific, no case of Cholera can reach to any greater degree of development after the first dose is administered to the patient. Its action is so marvellous and

magical, that it really must be seen to be conceived or believed restoring, as it does, at the same time, all the bodily functions as in health, which no other remedy can do. Every one who has tried it at my suggestion, speaks of it in unmeasured terms of approbation; and I am happy to inform the Section of Medicine and Surgery that Dr. Velpeau has ordered and received from me, at l'Hopital de la Charité, several days ago, a supply of my tincture of coffee, with formula, having promised (in his letter to me, per M. Henocque, of 20th November last) to employ it in some cases of Cholera which are still in Paris; and I have no doubt that he will also add his valuable testimony to so many hundreds of others. I find, further, that any ordinary case of diarrhoea or Cholera can be at once subdued almost as effectually, by a cup of strong *pure* Mocha coffee, prepared in the ordinary way. I have also demonstrated, in my paper of 9th October last, to an absolute certainty, that no one can possibly take Cholera or diarrhoea who uses pure Mocha coffee for his ordinary daily beverage.

This prophylactic power of coffee I consider to be of the utmost importance, as any approaching epidemic of Cholera can thus be averted; or, if commenced, could be averted in a day by proper measures.

This remedy is so simple, that *anyone* can demonstrate it—the wonder is that it was not discovered before. No doubt it would have been but for the fact that coffee is generally mixed with chicory, which antidotes it; consequently, its medicinal powers were but little known till I made my discovery in 1858; since which time it has got pretty well circulated, and it only requires to be now made known by the section of Medicine and Surgery, to be published over the civilised world. I do not mean to say that it will cure those cases always which have been mismanaged under ordinary treatment, where the disease has been allowed to run its course, and consecutive fever set in; or where the system has been surcharged with drugs, particularly minerals; for, in these cases, there has been a metastasis, or changing of the disease, and it is *no longer true Cholera*. As well might you expect to cure Cholera with a mixture of chicory and coffee, when we know they neutralise each other.

According to published statistics of Cholera, it must be plain to the most unscientific mind, that the ordinary treatment is as bad as can possibly be, and a disgrace to the age of science in which we live. I proceed to demonstrate my assertion.

At a discussion which took place lately, in the Academy of Sciences, a report of which I take from the *Leeds Mercury*, of 23rd October last, M. Le Verrier complained that the time of the Academy was taken up in condemning remedies without indicating those capable of arresting Cholera. Dr. Velpeau replied, in the following remarkable words—"To indicate efficacious remedies, is easy to say but difficult to realise. Cholera is often cured without remedies. Remedies were in some instances successful, in others they failed. Was it the patient cured himself alone, or was it the remedy that cured him? We do not know. How many persons are sure of their remedy? They speak of it confidently, yet the patient is lost. When the patient absorbs what is administered to him the cure is probable, but sometimes the

stomach refuses to absorb anything." He adds—"My advice is this—pour from three to four drops of laudanum on a lump of sugar, and swallow it. Repeat in two hours afterwards, and so on until the colic and vomiting pass away."

In my opinion, laudanum is the remedy under which so many die. And if a patient recover under it, was it the laudanum cured him? I hope, however, that Dr. Velpeau will allow its antidote, coffee, to take its proper scientific place—to which, from the foregoing, it has evidently been assigned by the all-wise Creator; for it is a God-like medicine for Cholera.

Surely it is not too much to say, that at least 5,000 lives would have been saved had my specific been used, as Dr. Velpeau and others were bound to do, during the present epidemic in Paris—seeing that I had its marvellous powers so well demonstrated to them in my paper of November, 1862.

Now, I assert, without fear of contradiction, that pure coffee never was yet given in true Cholera in which the stomach refused to absorb it, and that the case was not cured in consequence. It is true, that if forced on the stomach, and it in the act of vomiting, coffee may be thrown off; but, if the dose be repeated immediately after, it will be retained. Pure coffee will remain on the stomach when everything else will be rejected—and I further assert, that a single fair trial with pure coffee in true Cholera or diarrhoea, will convince the most sceptical of its being the most wonderful specific in the world. I have yet to learn of a patient lost under it, in *one thousand* cases of my own, and many thousands more treated by others. I can, therefore, speak confidently, in more than the ordinary acceptation of the term, in such cases; more particularly as every case, under proper administration, got better in *five to fifteen* minutes usually—not one exceeding half-an-hour.

The statistics of homœopathy, as established by Hahnemann, show in Cholera two recoveries, or 66 per cent., to one under allopathy, or 33 per cent. Now, allopaths say, homœopathy is a "do-nothing system," or "Nature-curing." Admit, for the sake of argument. But what did allopathy do for the extra 33 per cent. that died under that treatment?

I think all who consider the above remarks in the proper spirit, having the welfare of mankind at heart, and unbiassed by prejudice, must arrive at the following conclusion:—That, in Cholera, as in most other diseases, where the so-called active treatment and old system of drugging is practised, the chances which nature has of recovery are much lessened, and those cases which eventually recover in spite of the treatment, have had that recovery greatly retarded; not to speak of the after effects of medicinal and other chronic diseases, the result of that treatment—a state of things which cannot occur after purely scientific or specific treatment.

Under these circumstances, medical men who know of no curative treatment, ought to hail discoveries such as mine as a boon beyond all price, if only in their own practice, as they will enable them to know what curing really is.

I apprehend that the enlightened members of the medical and surgical section will coincide with my views, which have for their object the mitigation of suffering, the reducing of mortality, to

the minimum, and consequent laying of the foundation of true medical science. You will please observe, that my first communication on this subject to the section was as early as 1858, in which I gave a case of pure Asiatic Cholera as having been cured by coffee; and, from time to time, I requested, by letter, to be informed as to the result of my paper, but was not favoured with a reply. I again, in November, 1862, sent another paper further illustrating the specific powers of coffee in a dozen cases more of Cholera; and, on 9th October last sent, in another paper* with further illustrations of cases, including one frightful case (Mr. Hazley's) treated during the present epidemic in the most successful manner; and I subsequently forwarded, in a reply to Mr. Henocque's letter of 20th November last, written by order of Dr. Velpeau, a supply of my tincture of coffee and formulas above stated, addressed to Dr. Velpeau, at l' Hopital de la Charité. I would further submit—and I now lodge with you also a large supply of the specifics as above, for the use of the members commissioned for that purpose, to whom I would say that, as it is a well-known law that no two similar diseases can exist in the human body at one and the same time—as the one must displace or destroy the other—so is it with my specific in Cholera. I can most confidently affirm, from an experience in eradicating diseases, and particularly Cholera, which is second to none in the present day, that it is an absolute impossibility for Cholera to exist in the same body where my specific is given.

I now come to the specific for ringworm—the discovery of which (as I understand by the conditions laid down by the section of medicine and surgery, from the will of M. Breant) entitles me to the interest of the 100,000 francs prize.

In my paper, addressed to the Academy of Sciences on this subject, in 1862, I specified "*Hydrastis Canadensis*," or golden seal, as that specific; and I demonstrated it to be such in my paper of 9th October last, by giving six cases cured by it as specimens. Besides, I have not had a single case of failure with it yet; and the fact of a week or two weeks being sufficient to eradicate it in all the cases, is, I conceive, sufficient proof of it being the true specific for this disease—the course of which usually runs for years, if it could ever be said to have been truly eradicated before. "*Hydrastis*" is a medicine of such incontestible power over this class of disease that it is impossible it can fail in medical hands in any case of ringworm—a few days being sufficient to test its power over this disease, and prove it to be the true specific. The dose is one to three minims, in a little water, every three to eight hours.

In conclusion, I assert, and come here prepared to prove, if necessary, that I have far more than fulfilled all the conditions imposed on me by M. Breant† and the section to entitle me to the

* In this paper, you were told not to confound Cholera with dysentery, for which *aconite* is the specific.

† En résumé, la Commission du Concours Bréant propose à l'Académie de n'accorder cette année ni prix ni récompense, et elle croit devoir rappeler de nouveau que, pour remporter le prix de cent mille francs, il faudra:—

"1. Trouver une médication qui guérisse le Choléra Asiatique dans l'immense majorité des cas;"

prize of 100,000 francs, and the interest thereof. For quinine is not a perfect specific for intermittent fever, as is generally supposed, for it leaves a trace of the fever in nearly all treated by it. Neither is vaccination a prophylactic against small-pox, for a large proportion take the disease after, despite the vaccination; but my specific for Cholera not only cures instantaneously, leaving not the shadow of a trace of the disease, but at the same time restores all the functions of the body to a more natural and healthy state than before the attack; besides being, as well, a most perfect prophylactic against Cholera, as shown in my paper of 9th October last.

Again, *Hydrastis Canadensis* is unmistakably as perfect a specific for the class of disease (ringworm) as can possibly be, and certainly infinitely better than is quinine in intermittent fever, inasmuch as it has never failed.

Let those who doubt—test. I give the means to do so; and those requiring further explanation I am perfectly prepared to answer, and will find pleasure in doing so. I sincerely hope I have said enough to urge the Section of Medicine and Surgery in this matter in bringing it to a speedy and final decision; and trust that each member may be guided by the text—“Do unto others as you would others do unto you.”

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH WALLACE,

20, College Square East, Belfast.

Paris, 1st December, 1865.

At Mr. Charles Gardiner's,

52, Rue Basse du Rampart.

Ou

“Indiquer d'une manière incontestable les causes du Choléra Asiatique, de façon qu'en amenant la suppression de ces causes on fasse cesser l'épidémie;”

Ou bien

“Découvrir une prophylaxie certaine et aussi évidente que l'est, par exemple, celle de la vaccine pour la variole.”

2. Pour obtenir le prix annuel, il faudra, par des procédés rigoureux, avoir démontré dans l'atmosphère l'existence de matières pouvant jouer un rôle dans la production ou la propagation des maladies épidémiques.

Enfin, dans le cas où les conditions précédentes n'auraient pas été remplies, le prix annuel pourra, aux termes du testament, être accordé à celui qui aura trouvé le moyen de guérir radicalement les dartres ou qui aura éclairé leur étiologie.

Breant Prize founded 28th August, 1849.





