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Medical Journal

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Dr. Chas. E. Davis.

Paper Read Before the World's
Columbian Exposition
Auxiliary Congress,Department of Medico-Climatology at
Chicago, May 30, 1893.Mr. Chairman and Committee
on Medico-Climatology for the
World's Columbian Exposition
Congress Auxiliary,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

When some weeks since I received an innocent looking and complimentary circular from your Chairman asking for suggestions and subjects, I should like to hear discussed before this section of the World's Congress Auxiliary, I, out of the riches of my experience or the wealth of my imagination gave three subjects; little did I dream in the guilelessness of my innocence that in due time those same subjects and suggestions should "bob serenely up" like the traditional lightning rod man's note in the form of congratulations and an assignment with instructions as to when, where, etc., my paper would be received. In vain did my supplemental suggestions of excessive preoccupation, probable inability to attend your meeting not even my "embarrassment de richness" of three subjects would avail, for your Chairman with that peculiar "shiftiness" which did credit to his yankee ancestry or Chicago citizenship, I don't know which, and the "foregone-of-course-ative-ness" which marks the able committeeman and the successful practitioner, he quietly and confidentially suggested that I treat briefly the first subject and "touch upon the others 'incidentally' as I went along," and naively proceeded to allay all misgivings by giving me this truism. "Who so fitted to treat a subject as he whose experience has led him to appreciate its existence and importance, and whose observations and reflections 'in extenso' could alone enable him to give it proper place in the universal economies." Of course that settled it, and he is responsible for what follows.

The subject upon which I desired outside opinions were the result of twelve years observation while a resident with an invalid family at Eureka Springs, Ark., following seven years practice in this city, and were first impressed upon my mind by the fact that my own and I think the generally accepted conception of the conditions indispensable for a prime health resort, were many of them either wanting or reversed, at that place. To be sure the altitude, air, natural drainage, pine forests, freedom from malaria, etc., were faultless, but instead of the ideal, equable climate, while not

excessively so, it was decidedly variable, having the four seasons distinct—instead of strong mineral water, it is as nearly simple Oxide of Hydrogen as runs out of rocks anywhere—instead of stupendous mountain scenery, it is merely kaleidoscopic—intricate in endless variety, and yet I had daily evidence of its efficiency in curing a wide variety of diseases, and I am today not aware of its equal in this respect on this continent. It is pre-eminently a place where "pathological puzzles" get well. What is the matter with the popular conception?

My subject as might be inferred from the above facts were: First, "The Relation of Variable and Equable Climates in the Development and Conservation of Physical or Vital Force." Second, "The Inhibition of Pure Spring Water (as distinguished from mineral spring water) as an Alternative and Reconstructive in Acute and Chronic Diseases."

It were folly on an occasion like this when the wealth of the world is spread out before you in this World's Fair City demanding your attention and study to attempt a paper upon any scientific subject which would require extended thought or close application upon your part. I shall, therefore, only give you a sort of synopsis or statement of the principles involved with illustrations but hope to do so in a way that will arrest your attention, trusting that the importance of the subject given me by your Honorable Committee for treatment, namely the development and conservation of physical and vital force upon which the whole science and art of our profession rests, will command your respect. Moreover I deem an *exhaustive* treatment of these principles, (in view of your preparatory academic work as physicians) unnecessary, since I shall enunciate few new facts, considering myself fortunate if I am able to present the old ones in new forms or relations. The practical importance to us as Physicians of a proper conception of the relations of variable or equable climates in the development and conservation of vital force becomes more and more apparent as our civilization places our patients more and more under the influence of their nervous systems making the matter of climate or environments stronger factors in the basic conditions of life while it provides the means of ready access to any climate desired thus making it incumbent upon us to be able to select suitable climates as important aids for cure as far as may be for almost every physical condition.

I may state as a basic fact with reference to vital force that its presence in a given place, like every other product of nature, is prima-facia evidence that suitable conditions exist, and its quality and degree is an exact

index of the perfection of those conditions inasmuch as it is the product and expression of those conditions in different localities.

I may briefly illustrate this in the vegetable and plant life by noting that in the tropics where heat, moisture and carbon are abundant and in condition and relations suitable for rapid and free organization into vegetable and woody fibre, we find the heaviest growth in given areas, and as we approach the poles in either direction where moisture and heat diminish we find a corresponding lack of growth and size. Histologically the difference in size consists largely in the relative size of the cells, hence tropical timbers of the same species are less dense, and tropical fruits of a given species while larger and richer in color, contain a less ratio of fruit acids than those of higher latitudes.

Referring to the distribution of man on the planet, we find that his endowment of physical force is controlled largely by latitude, also, the matter of nutrition in him being a more involved and complex function than that in plant life, its conditions seem more arbitrary, consisting in what might be termed diagrammatically a series of reflex and complex impingements on the nervous centers under suitable stimuli which exercise, is the necessary and prime condition for its development.

By referring to those parts of the earth's surface which present the greatest evidence of man's activity and intense vitality, we find it chiefly in the Temperate Zones where the climate is not too hot, producing relaxation on the one hand or too cold, causing over-stimulation or exhaustion on the other. In addition to these general facts we find the most intense life at those points where a variable climate predominates, passing often with sharp, sudden changes through wide ranges of both heat and moisture. These conditions keep the system on the alert for the production of vigor, for the maintenance of vital equilibrium and that it may successfully resist the impairment of vital functions, and this in turn develops all possible power in given constitutions in a manner somewhat analogous to the systematic exercise of the athlete in the development of his muscle. This continues during the prime of life or until the nervous centers become weakened by over use or age, at which points are the beginnings of disease, and a pathological condition ensues, characterized by weakness, to recognize and remove which and to strengthen the failing nerve centers, is the practical matter which chiefly interests us as Physicians. Here the conservation of vitality demands our attention.

In constitutions whose condition indicates excessive wear or exhaustion from exposure (other than that incident to life under its

best conditions) as a rule a more equable or less taxing and usually a warmer climate is indicated. In other constitutions where an ataxic condition exists an equable, but cold or stimulating climate may be indicated and this may be supplimented by dryness or moisture, by high or low altitude, by sea air or by an almost infinite variety of other conditions as widely varied as are the conditions of different constitutions under different diseases. The principle in each case being to recognize the physical want and select a climate with reference to its special indications. The history of the profession shows a lamentable inappreciation of these important matters preferring to rely upon the desultory administration of drugs, which give at best irregular aid, whereas these matters while in some cases not apparently producing as marked or sudden physical effects, by their constant action, produce more uniform and permanent ones, and I can congratulate our profession upon the service this department and the American Health Resort Association is, and has, been giving the profession by its investigations; and those of you who have not given this important matter extended and systematic study will be more and more impressed with its importance as you become acquainted with the practical facts which its acquaintance brings.

It is not the province of this paper to send consumptives or asthmatics to New Mexico or Colorado, or cases of nervous or uremic diseases or general debility or adenomas to Eureka Springs, Ark., or specific diseases to Hot Springs or any other locality, more than it would be for the Pathologist to direct his patients to any given remedy which lies in the province of the profession as Theraputists, but rather to enunciate the general principles and indications involved and to assure you that by their proper consideration your hands may be indefinitely lengthened in many cases where without it you and the Pharmacist cannot reach.

Your committee also requested me to give my observations on the inhibition of pure spring water as distinguished from "Mineral" waters as an alternative and reconstructive in chronic and acute diseases. In the limits of a paper like this I can best serve you by calling your attention categorically to the following facts in this connection, on the nature and extent of its use as a solvent and eliminant in the physical economy.

First, "Pure water" is the greatest solvent in nature.

Second, Pure water in sufficient quantity is the hardest thing to find in nature.

Third, water is the largest single factor in healthy digestion, assimilation and excretion.

Fourth, most diseases arise from and depend upon defective solution

distribution and elimination of matter soluble in pure water, from which it follows that most diseases not characterized by secondary pathological conditions should be cured by the proper exhibition of pure water.

Fifth, "Mineral Water" is water "spoiled," except for an exceedingly small number of special uses.

The same may be said of medicinal waters of all kinds, especially so far as their solvent power is concerned. A given solution whether formed in the laboratory of the earth or of the chemist is good only for special and very limited cases, whereas pure water dissolves out both pabulum and waste from the same substance, carrying the one to the proper organs for elaboration into tissue and thought and the other into the systemic sewers.

The great importance of pure water as a solvent and eliminant in the latter function in maintaining health in the physical economy as compared to all other general or special foods or fluids is best shown by a consideration of the fact that while general or special conditions, may demand general or special sustenance or stimulation, always whatever it is taken into the body, its waste, together with all other waste ~~there~~ or material which is constantly forming as a result of vital processes is dissolved out and carried off by its special action and so universal and important is this function that it may be stated as a general fact that all fluxes, congestion, indeed most diseases to which we are heir, owe their origin to impairment of systemic sewerage.

You are already familiar with its power in surgical diseases controlling inflammations, cooling and washing out the blood, promoting the absorption of inflammatory exudates, disposing of acrid secretions, promoting healthy granulation, etc. Filtering, boiling and sterilizing are simple attempts to remove the grosser impurities and but partially restore its solvent power. But enough has been said, I think, to impress upon you the infinite value of pure water for general use over that whose solvent power has been in any way impaired aside from the possible evil resulting from the foreign substances in solution, except "when done to order" for special purposes.

In closing allow me to thank you for your kind attention and courtesies extended and to assure you that the time is fast coming when the doctor will be expected to exercise the same knowledge and judgment for accuracy in results with his patients in prescribing changes of climate and water as he now does with drugs, and this can only be secured by an equally accurate knowledge of their location and powers.

CHAS. E. DAVIS, M. D.,
Eureka Springs, Ark.

Subscribe for the JOURNAL

Medical Journal

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EUREKA SPRINGS, ARKANSAS.

W. A. REESE, M. D., Editor,
A. J. GIBBS, M. D., Associate.

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This journal has an actual circulation of 1,500 copies, and we intend to make it 2,000 within the next few months. Advertisers can make a note of this and verify it if they doubt the truth of it.

Pure Water.

The writer, if not the first, was among the first who adopted the theory of these waters depending for their therapeutic effect upon the fact that they were very pure; holding almost nothing in solution, consequently had a very high solvent power, and that it was evident that the less any given water held in solution the greater its power to dissolve. The writer was the first to write the Springs up from the PURE WATER stand point, in an article published in the *Times* in 1883 and there gave the modus operandi of cures by pure water and showed as Dr. Davis does in the excellent paper read before the World's Auxiliary Medical Congress, that the purer the water, the wider its range of adaptability in the cure of disease, and that when it held any mineral, salt or other matter in solution, its office or use was circumscribed, might be good for one thing or for a limited class, but that its scope was necessarily circumscribed, while pure water by its high solvent power, re-dissolved and took up for elimination the waste or morbid tissue, and for the first time in print boldly proclaimed as to the character of Eureka Springs water what is now universally admitted; but what the publishers of all guides previous to that time had not dared to put in a book, and to this hesitancy on the part of those who had charge of the advertising here may be charged the general lack of knowledge of the curative properties of these water and what is now generally understood by scientific men, and in the furtherance of which Dr. Davis' paper will do so much.

It may be esteemed a late day in which to educate the profession or the public as to the true value of these spring waters, but better late than never, and as we have held for years, that we can never expect the patronage of the public to these Springs until the physicians who are the advisers of the people shall become to understand the medical uses of these waters.

This is one task to which the JOURNAL addresses itself and we promise our readers that at least theoretically they shall be informed as to what we honestly believe to be, if not, the very best, then the best with only a very few exceptions in the world, and when they send patients here they can do so intelligently, can prescribe this water, this air, this scenery and climate as they do or would other remedies.

Old Medical Landmarks.

The recent demolition of the old St. Louis Medical College building and a year ago that of the still older, Missouri Medical college building in St. Louis, takes away the oldest medical landmarks west of the Mississippi, and effaces from sight forever what was dear to thousands of the foremost medical men in west and south. The old lecture room, the pictures, the old tables in the anatomical room where so many hours were spent in hard and faithful study, the old seats where so many days, for six or seven hours a day we heard from the lips of the noblest and best, words of medical wisdom that sank deep into our hearts, and from lips that alas, now with few exceptions are sealed in death,—these are all sacred memories, and will recall to those who attended there from thirty to fifty years ago many reminiscences of those halcyon days. We shall in our next issue begin a series of articles, giving our recollections of student life in the Missouri Medical college and many incidents connected with the St. Louis school will be given.

We should like to get the names, as nearly as possible of all the members of the classes of 1859-60 and 1860-61 of the Missouri Medical and to each we will send a copy of the JOURNAL free for one year when favored with the addresses. At present we only know five or six out of the 300 that probably attended those two winters. Many have crossed the dark river, others remain. We should like to know where they are.

Our State Society.

The Arkansas Medical Society held a three days session at Batesville, closing 2nd inst. The officers for ensuing year: President, Dr. D. C. Ewing, of Batesville; Vice-Presidents, Dr. A. Guthrie, of Quitman, Dr. W. W. Bailey, of Fort Smith, Dr. E. A. Baxter, of Melbourne and Dr. D. I. Jones, of Haynes; Treasurer, Dr. A. L. Braysacher and Librarian Dr. R. B. Christian, both of Little Rock.

The Association was given an excursion on White River from Batesville to Newport.

A resolution was adopted and a committee of twenty appointed to get the next meeting of the American Medical Association at Hot Springs. This would be a deserved compliment to the comparatively few noble men there who have held aloft the banner of honorable and legitimate medicine in the midst of the horde of quacks and medical mountebanks that have infested that good city, Dr. Kenner is a notable example. We trust they will succeed in getting so large and honorable a body of physicians to hold their next meeting in our state. It will honor the state, as well as Hot Springs, to have them come.

Cholera.

There is no longer any question of the imminent danger of cholera visitation to our shores this season, in consequence of the great increase of it in Russia (in spite of the cold weather) and the immense travel invited by the World's Fair. The prime thing to do is to clean up, and purify your water, but the cleaning in the most of the cities and towns is of the most importance, as the

water supply with few exceptions is less objectional than the sanitary condition.

This little city for once is in good condition; as good as can well be made until we have a complete system of sewerage. At Present the sewerage extends to only a part of the city, but most of the hotels are connected with the sewerage as it is now, and the offensive water closets have been burned. To clean up, should be the order all along the line if we would be sure of preventing cholera in 1893.

Prominent among the states without any medical law is Georgia, whose pride has been to be called the Empire state of the South. It is claimed that there are fully 700 physicians there who could not obtain license in any state requiring an examination or even a diploma, and the refuse has been dumped into such states as Georgia, Kansas and Ohio. While our own state law is very defective, it is an improvement on what we have had and beats none by long odds. But the *mas-fed* element is here to stay as the legislature excepts them from examination in every bill it passes.

Barnes Medical college, St. Louis, is only a year old, but is to the front with one of the finest and best equipped buildings in the country, a faculty that commands the respect of the best and ablest of the profession and as evidence of this we only need to refer to the fact that the class the first year was over 250 and the graduating class of seventy, quite out-stripping some very old and apparently well established schools in St. Louis. The sons and brothers of physicians are taken at half rates, as well as the sons of clergymen. This is destined to be a great school. Read their advertisement in this issue.

The good citizens of Hot Springs are greatly troubled over the "drummer" question. They say that "the foulest stigma upon the fame of this health resort is the odious practice of hotel and doctor drumming that again prevails despite the influence of popular sentiment in opposition to it. The result will be that Hot Springs will become, in the course of a brief period, exclusively a winter resort, with a season lasting from the middle of January to the middle of April, and the other nine months the large hotels will remain closed, while the little ones quarrel over the bones. At least \$75,000 a year is spent by the hotels in keeping up the drumming system, and it is said that the sum will exceed \$100,000. If the hotels would utilize this amount, together with what business men would be willing to contribute in advertising the curative qualities of the thermal waters and the city of Hot Springs as a pleasure resort in the leading newspapers of the United States, the city would need no drummers to fight over the people who come here, but would need more and larger hotels to accommodate the influx of visitors desirous of enjoying the benefits and pleasures to be here derived and enjoyed."—*Times-Echo*.

This is what the people of this city will have to come to. We need not stay here and complain of hard times and want of visitors, while visitors are being drummed and victimized.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letter from Dr. Lanphear, editor *Medical Index*, and professor in the University Medical College at Kansas City explains itself, and we are pleased to aid the doctor in making the correction.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.,
May 13, 1893.

EDITOR MEDICAL JOURNAL:

In the announcement of the summer course of lectures at the Chicago Post-Graduate Medical school by Lawson Tait, of Birmingham, Reginald Harrison, of London, Schauta, of Vienna, Price, of Philadelphia, etc., by an unfortunate mistake of the printer I am placed as a resident of New York and my subject is not mentioned. The topics discussed by myself will be embraced in the title: "Some Achievements in Intracranial Surgery," and my remarks will be based almost entirely upon my personal experience, which in number and variety of cases is more extensive than that of any other American surgeon. Inasmuch as this work has been done in Kansas City, may I not ask you to kindly make a note of correction as to my field of labor. Thanking you in advance for so doing, I am
Very truly yours,
EMORY LANPHEAR.

We have had some friendly criticism of the form of the JOURNAL, its being in newspaper, rather than the somewhat stereotyped pamphlet form. We see no reason whatever for regret as to this, for it is not only much cheaper, but it comes from the press, and starts to the reader the same day fresh and crisp, while the same amount of matter put in pamphlet form would require some days to fold, bind and cut before mailing.

We believe the folio is the coming style of the Medical press, and that instead of monthlies and quarterlies, we shall have dailies and weeklies.

There are already a number of weekly medical publications and at least one daily, and that in Chicago, in the west, the home of new ideas, of utilitarian progress.

There is no good sense in paying for anything two or three times what you can get it for, and that is about the difference between the sheet and the pamphlet form of any publication, and of course subscribers and advertisers are expected to pay it, in increased prices of subscription and for advertising. No, we are satisfied with the form of the JOURNAL.

The Barton County, Missouri, Medical Society meets the first Thursday in each month at Lamar. It includes five counties, viz: Cedar, Dade, Vernon, Jasper, and of course Barton. Dr. W. M. Terry, of Lockwood, is president, Dr. A. A. Dye, of Lamar, is vice-president, and Dr. A. Van Meter, of Lamar, Secretary. Dr. T. V. Duckett, of Milford, Mo., was booked for a paper at the last meeting on "Bowel Troubles Incident to hot Weather."

DON'T FORGET THE MEETING OF THE NORTH TEXAS MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, DALLAS, JUNE 20, 21 and 22D, AND DON'T FAIL TO GO.

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SYPHILIS.

Differential Diagnosis Between Soft Chancre and Syphilis.

J. C. Day, M. D.

The author states among other points that soft chancre make its appearance immediately after infection; is followed by suppurated bubo; is merely a local disease; does not require mercury for its cure and is capable of being destroyed by caustics.—While syphilis appears only several weeks after infection; is followed by indurated bubo; is a constitutional disease; requires mercury for its cure and can not be destroyed by the use of caustics.—*Medical Times and Hospital Gazette*.

The following circular was passed as a warning to visitors by the City Council of Hot Springs, and is equally applicable to this place, for it is not possible for any set of drummers to beat the outfit we have here:

A WARNING TO YOU.

Don't listen to any one who volunteers advice about doctors. No regular physician will require more than \$5 in advance.

If you have letters to a physician deliver them in person. If drummers find you have such letters, they will tell you the doctor is out of the city, dead, quit practicing, drunk, or something of the kind.

Drummers on the trains, on the streets or at the hotels or boarding houses, will pretend that they are visitors.

DRUMMERS ARE PAID TO STEER YOU TO DOCTORS.

I, W. E. Shannahan, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a circular adopted by the City Council of Hot Springs, March 1, 1890.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 6th day of March, 1890.

JOHN LAUGHRAN,
Mayor of Hot Springs.

W. E. SHANNAHAN

[Seal] Clerk.

We know a doctor who boasts that he never reads medical journals. He claims that when he left college his medical education was completed; he had no more to learn. The *California Medical Journal* would say to this doctor, that he "is a drone in the medical hive. He is not a safe practitioner, nor a fit associate for progressive men." We imagine that he would not only not be a fit associate for medical men, but that he would not be a safe person to have around sick people, for his meddlesome gossip might lead the patient to disregard some important instruction given by the physician.—*Mississippi Medical Monthly*

We are in receipt of program of the twenty sixth annual meeting of the Arkansas teacher's association which will be held at Morrilton, June 27-30. Pres't A. E. Lee, Russellville, corresponding sec., H. A. Nickell, Ozark. A full attendance is desired and expected, and a pleasant time promised for all, as Morrilton is not only central to the state but a wide-awake city. We wish the the birch-wielders four days of unalloyed pleasure and instruction after a year of hard work. Reduced rates on all railroads, and teachers entertained by citizens of Morrilton.

Medical Journal

FIFTY CENTS A YEAR.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE MENTION THE JOURNAL.

Send us clubs of five for two dollars to any address, not necessarily to the same post office.

Send us reports of your medical society, proceedings and time of meeting.

We were promised an article in reply to our strictures on Homeopathy in the last issue, but it came too late and will likely appear in our next.

Among our exchanges we are pleased to mention the Oklahoma Medical Journal, though in appearance somewhat youthful like ourselves, still it has room to grow and has a great country in which to grow.

The Mississippi Valley Medical association will meet October 4, 5 and 6, at Indianapolis. The secretary is Dr. F. C. Woodburn, 399 College ave., Indianapolis, Ind., to whom all papers or communications should be sent.

Dr. Bransford Lewis, of St. Louis has favored us with a copy of two papers, one, "A materialistic view of Sexual Impotence," the other, "Senile Hypertrophied Prostate," both of richly pay persual and treat intelligently, subjects too generally neglected by physicians.

Our old friend, Dr. J. W. Lan-ius, formerly a resident of this city, was here for a couple of days about first of the month in the interest of Neurosine and Dioburnia, both of which have been extensively used here, and with the best results, are standard preparations from a good house.

The practice of drumming for doctors and bath houses is not quite so rife as it was a few months ago, being now confined probably to only a few boarding ing houses. Be it said to the credit of our people, that they generally disapprove of it, and are aware that it injures the good name of the town.

It is pleasant as well as profitable to meet some of the traveling men, and none more so than Dr. A. S. Robinson, representing Reed & Carnick, New York. He is a native Arkansan, and if after an hour's chat with him, you were not convinced that Kumyss was the best food for the debilitated, you would be inclined to use it out of respect for him.

We took pains recently to investigate as to the truth of the rumors that have been set afloat to the effect that the influence of the Crescent hotel of this city was given to a Homeopath, and assure our readers that it is not the case and they need have no fear of their patients falling into such hands by a visit, or in stopping at the Crescent. The management assured us that the house had no physician, recommended none, treated all alike and would continue to do so; and we say this is as it should be for we think it a very small business for a cheap boarding house, never mind a grand hotel like the Crescen. No, the Crescent is too big a concern for such a small business.

EUREKA SPRINGS LOCAL.

The Fourth. It is now settled that we are to have Independence day celebrated here in good style. First with a grand barbecue at Sanitarium lake, one and a half miles south of town, and also at the Summer normal assembly grounds in the city with a basket picnic and the famous Prof. Leroy will give a day and evening exhibition on the wires with other attractions that insure a full day for visitors. Reduced rates on all rail roads.

The Summer normal course of entertainments will begin July 7 and continue six weeks and from the program we expect a better series than those of the two previous years. Visitors will surely enjoy them.

The recent improvement at the Basin Spring reflect credit on the authorities as well as the general cleaning they have given the city. An old-time visitor remarked this morning that he had never seen the town so clean and in such good order.

Nothing more surely indicates the character or strength of any interest than its journal or organ, and judged by this standard and taking the Texas Journal of Health published at Dallas as the representative we should put a high estimate on the profession of Northern and Central Texas.

Those coming here for recreation cannot do better than to see our George—George Mullin and his saddle ponies. George is an old hand at the business and knows a horse from head to foot and never keeps any but the best, and prides himself in securing those that are not only gentle and perfectly safe for a woman or child, but the kind that can get a move on them without a whip. If you want a whiff of the morning air or to enjoy the moonshine on horseback, see George, and he will surely supply you.

A Good Diuretic. R fl. Ext. Buchu Holland Gin aa 3ii. Fl. ext. Pareira Barva Fl ext. Stone root Acetate Potass aa 3i Simple Elixir qs. ad. 1. qt M Filter.

The much advertised Anti-fat is a fluid extract of bladder wrack (fucus vesiculosus.) It is prepared from the fresh plant (preferably) seven and a half pounds being used to make 40 oz. of the extract, with proof spirit as the menstrum. NEW IDEA.

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MRS. EVA METCALF.

STENOGRAPHER TYPE-WRITER. COPYING NEATLY AND PROMPTLY DONE. Office: Landaker House, Eureka Springs, Ark

Eureka Springs and Carroll County Medical Society.

Meets First Thursday in Each Month. —OFFICERS:— W. A. REESE, M. D., President A. J. GIBBS, M. D., Vice Pres't L. W. WEAVER, M. D., Secretary J. D. JORDAN, M. D., Treasurer All regular physicians in good standing invited to meet with us.

The Casarean Section and Its Substitute.

Dr. C. P. Noble (American Journal of Obstetrics) says: Casarean section in typical cases is a safe operation. It should be performed preferably before labor, and not later than the first stage of labor. The classical operation is to be preferred to puerperal hysterectomy in typical cases, because it is equally if not more safe, and because it preserves the fertility of the woman. Puerperal hysterectomy is to be preferred in certain atypical: (a) Cases, seen late, in which infection of the birth canal and atony of the uterus are to be feared. (b) Infected cases. (c) Cases complicated by large fibroid tumors of the uterus. Symphysiotomy will probably supersede Casarean section done for the relative indication. Embryotomy is no longer justifiable on the living, viable child as an elective operation.—Lancet.

Dr. N. L. Webb, of Millington, Tenn wrote under date of March 29 to Codliver Glycerine Co, of St. Louis.

You advertise Codliver Glycerine as most palatable. I have a patient who cannot take cod-liver oil, she has tried several preparations, but the taste is very nauseating to her. I want to try Codliver Glycerine, if it is tasteless. Send me a bottle by Express at my expense: I don't want it unless it is tasteless, for she cannot take it. The last I tried was Scotts Emulsion, but she was nauseated by it. On May 18th, Dr. Webb writes:—

The Codliver Glycerine came all right, and gave entire satisfaction. It was the only form of codliver oil she could take without nausea: Under its influence her appetite improved, and she grew stronger. I had her moved to Memphis, to an Infirmary, but only for the good attention, nursing, etc, she would get. She took one bottle of Codliver Glycerine, and nothing else; when that gave out she took no more medicine, as her improvement had been so decided, all that she needed was nursing and careful diet. I am more than pleased with the preparation, and shall prescribe it when indicated.

Congestion of the Bowels in Influenza.

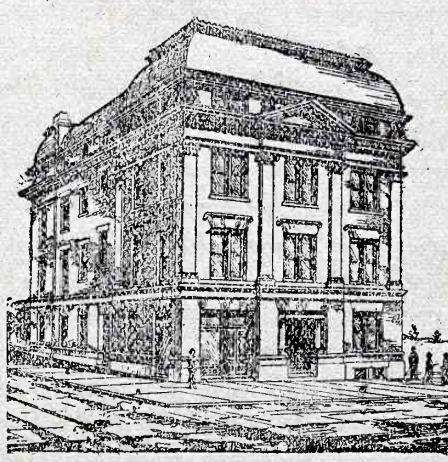
Geill reports that the epidemic of influenza in the asylum for insane of Aarhus, during 1891-92 was characterized by a constant hyperæmia of the bowels, sometimes accompanied by bloody stools.—Hospitals-Tidende, 1892 p. 565.

We do not endorse, nor are we responsible for the views of our correspondents.

Eureka Springs Railway Time Table. Number 28, For Government and Information of Employees in Effect Sunday, April 6, '93, at 6 A. M.

West Bound Trains.			
Stations & Sdgs.	Freight No. 5 L.A.M.	Mixed No. 3 L.A.M.	Pass'g. No. 3 L.P.M.
Eureka Springs	11 40	7 50	4 50
Gaskins	11 50	7 57	4 57
Narrows	12 12	8 04	5 04
Seligman	1 10	8 35	5 35
East Bound Trains.			
Stations and Sidings	No. 2 Pass'ger A.M.	No. 4 Mixed A.P.M.	Freight No. 6 A.P.M.
Eureka Springs	10 20	9 08	3 30
Gaskins	10 13	9 01	3 10
The Narrows	10 05	8 53	3 00
Seligman	9 35	8 22	2 10

All trains run daily, excepting Nos. 5 and 6, which will not run on Sunday.
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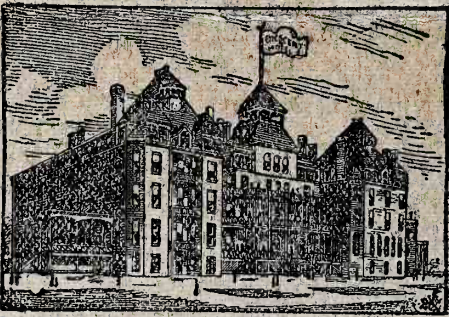
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Homeopathy Again—Some Statistics.

Dr. Ellis, in his article in the May number of the JOURNAL gives some statistics of the comparative success of Homeopathy and as he calls it Allopathy, in some public institutions, and one or two of them in the state of New York. We had not at hand any proof of the incorrectness of the figures and percentages, but we will be pardoned if we say that we took them with salt, and while we have taken no pains to verify their truth or untruth, we herewith present, for the consideration of our readers, some facts as to the management of the Ward Island hospital in New York City that shows how as we said that figures could be made to lie.

We quote from the *New York Medical Gazette* of May 22, 1880.

"Some six months ago our attention was called, by one of the inmates, to certain abuses which were being carried on in the Homeopathic Hospital on Ward's Island. At first we thought that the statements were made vindictively, believing that no matter how much the homeopaths might differ from us in matters purely medical, they still were gentlemen, and had as keen a sense of gentlemanly honor as any of us. It seems, however, that among the lights in the homeopathic ranks there are to be found men who will stoop to do and to sanction acts so contemptible that the greatest criminal would blush to be thought guilty of. And yet these men call themselves gentlemen. We have of late been investigating the charges with a view of collecting proof sufficiently overwhelming to justify us in bringing the matter before the Legislature, but the ubiquitous newspaper reporter has given the whole story to the public rather prematurely for our plans. Here it is, copied from one of our leading dailies: 'On Ward's Island (N. Y. City) is the Homeopathic Hospital. This was the first public hospital ever secured by the homeopaths, and it is costing the taxpayers of the city \$60,000 a year. The homeopaths, so it is alleged, discovered that the convalescent patients at the hospitals got passes to go to and from the city, and at once utilized the discovery. Instead of giving passes, the applicant was told to go, and when returning, to call at the Commissioners' office and get a new permit. Thus, it is said that the same patient often counted as two, three, four, or more patients admitted. Numbers of them were sent out in this manner a dozen times. By this means the admissions and discharges (as cured) were increased 300 per cent., and the percentages of deaths, of course, was correspondingly low. The mortality in the three leading hospitals, the first year after the Homeopathic started, was: Bellevue Hospital, 12½ per cent.; Charity Hospital, 8½ per cent.; Homeopathic Hospital, 6 per cent. On the publication of this result homeopathic organs grew jubilant. The same course was pursued the ensuing year, and the result (on paper) was about the same, while all the time the actual percentage it is declared, was about 18. After nearly three years of this adroit

management the Commissioners began to find it very troublesome to be issuing so many fresh permits to the same individuals, so an order was issued to let parties wanting passes have them. But the homeopaths were equal to the emergency, and the next device, it is alleged, was to discharge the sick and keep the healthy in the building. This piece of strategy it is said, has been carried out during the past year, and when the annual report for 1879 is published the mortality report of the Homeopathic Hospital will once more appear (on paper) astonishingly low.'"

It is a curious coincidence, to say the least, that the author has been informed by a medical friend, who was, at about this time, serving as interne in the Kings County Hospital, that a colored patient was there admitted, suffering from the worst form of mercurial salivation, who declared that he had just been discharged, as cured, from the Ward's Island Hospital.

Abscesses Following Typhoid Fever.

M. Melchior gives the history of a boy 11 years old, who, after typhoid fever, was attacked by a peculiar form of abscesses. They began to develop during the first week of convalescence and healed after three months. Six months later new abscesses appeared on the left calf and the anterior face of the right tibia. They developed very slowly, without pain or symptoms of inflammation, healed very slowly, and a tendency to reopen; they contained a thin, reddish pus without special odor. From the pus Melchior cultivated short bacilli with rounded end, resembling the bacilli of Eberth. The author has made a long series of experiments in order to ascertain whether they were really the bacilli of Eberth or a species of bacilli resembling these; as, for instance, the bacterium coli communis. By cultivating bacterium coli communis in milk the milk becomes solidified; when the bacterium coli communis is cultivated in bouillon containing 2 per cent. of milk-sugar and some chalk, lactic acid is produced and, by its action, carbonic acid is liberated. The experiments showed that the bacilli found in the abscesses neither solidified milk nor changed milk-sugar into lactic acid. By cultivating these bacilli on agar colored by means of litmus, the colonies were not surrounded by a red halo, as occurs with the bacterium coli communis. In short, they gave all the reactions of the true bacilli of Eberth, and the author therefore believes that the bacilli of Eberth may remain for a long time in the body after typhoid fever and provoke inflammations of a specific kind.—*Hospitals-Tidende*, 1892, p. 1021.

Treatment of Alcoholism.

Brandes reports that Americans have introduced the Cure of Dr. Monroe for alcoholism into Denmark. Some habitual alcoholics were selected and treated in a hospital ward, under supervision of Professor Brandes. All of the patients had frequent vomiting during the treatment; they seemed to abhor alcohol in every form, and to be cured of their fatal habit. (Later experience has shown that they have almost all relapsed.)—*Ugeskrift for Lager*, 1892, vol. i, p. 565.

Rapid Method of Locating Intestinal Wounds.

Dr. D. D. Crowley (*Occidental Medical Times*) says: Large fecal accumulations materially hinder the insufflation of hydrogen gas, usually increasing the time required to pass the ileo-cæcal valve by five to six minutes. Fæcal accumulations also obstruct the point of the rectal tube, and may at time prevent the gas passing into the rectum. Insufflation of hydrogen gas does not materially hinder the suturing of the abdominal wall, nor does it force the intestines from the abdomen during insufflation, as is often stated. The carbolyzed solution employed answers two purposes: by removing blood and other extraneous matters, and by acting as an element through which the escape of gas from an intestinal wound becomes visible. The use of gas alone reduces the time required in exploring the abdomen for intestinal wounds at least seventy-five per cent., but with the addition of an antiseptic solution, the time can be reduced ninety per cent. With gas and fluid no difficulty is experienced in ascertaining the presence of the smallest wound in the intestine. A wound one-third to one inch or more in length, in any part of stomach, may be located by these means. A small wound, one-quarter of an inch in length on the posterior surface, or a small valvular puncture in any part of the stomach, is not always readily located by the use of gas and fluid; but two exceptions, as I have ascertained, usually do not require surgical interference.—*Americ. Lancet*.

Death of Lady Lister

It is not often that we feel justified in noticing in our columns the domestic grief of even the most eminent members of our profession. But the death of Lady Lister from acute pneumonia, whilst traveling with Sir Joseph Lister in Italy, is an event so unexpected and so sad that we feel constrained to make it an exception. Lady Lister was not only the devoted wife of a most distinguished surgeon, but was also the daughter of one of the greatest leaders in modern surgery—the late Mr. Syme, of Edinburgh. In public gatherings Sir Joseph and Lady Lister were seldom far parted, and they were equally together in their times of rest and remote places. How far Lady Lister assisted her husband in his great labors is not for us to inquire, but those who enjoyed the benefit of his correspondence will guess that she was indeed his true "helpmeet." We cannot under such circumstances withhold from Sir Joseph Lister the expression of our sincere sympathy, which we are sure will be echoed by the whole profession not only of Great Britain but throughout the world.—*Lancet*.

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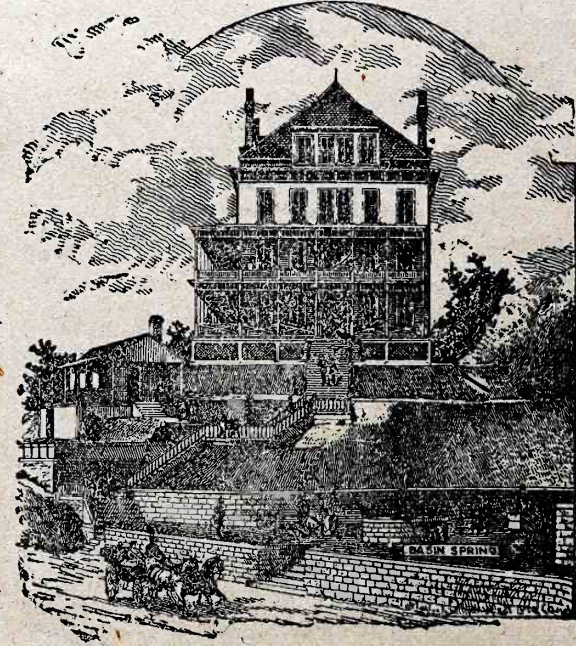
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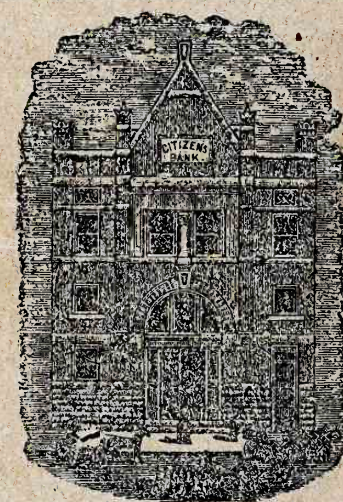
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