In the course of your professional career, you will not only walk about among these holy mysteries, but you will come often as a friend within the sanctuary of the domestic hearth, be intrusted with the most profound secrets of the human heart, witness those holy gushings of soul in affliction, which the world should never see, and hear that to which the world should never listen. O let me conjure you to begin to cultivate, even now, those habits of thought, and those graces of character, which shall make you a becoming witness and depositary of mysteries so holy, secrets so sacred.

Thus may you perform well your part, and consolation as sweet and as abiding as ever was pressed to the lips of mortal shall be yours. The rich will reward you bountifully. The poor will offer you all they have to give, the offering of a grateful heart; and there shall abide within you the rich consolation of having faithfully and acceptably served your generation.

THE HIGH POTENCIES.

BY A. LIPPEE, M.D.

When the profession was first told of the new preparations of drugs, made in a peculiar manner by Jœhnichen, and termed by him High Potencies, when Dr. Gross first published his cases of cures he had accomplished with these novel preparations, the profession was startled by the novelty of the thing.

It was then, that such Homœopathic physicians as had the courage to try these unheard of doses, in order to induce more of their colleagues to make the experiment and decide on that subject, published cases of cures. With others I published some cases as early as 1846. Since then we have come to no nearer settlement of this question than we were first. We have now a history of doses. There have been no new arguments brought forth against the high potencies for some time; it is a mere repetition of old arguments, or no arguments at all.

As it must be interesting to every Homœopathist to obtain a

short history and a correct knowledge of the point in question, I shall here give a short sketch.

There has been a diversity of opinion with regard to doses which began soon after Hahnemann promulgated Homœopathy: as the same causes that first created this diversity of opinion continue, that diversity must likewise continue.

Hahnemann began his experiments with crude drugs, giving them in much smaller doses, as was then customary in the old school; giving but one remedy at a time. This was then a great step. Very soon Hahnemann gave smaller doses triturated, and potentised his medicines.* Later he gave pellets, in order to divide even a drop of a potence; still later, he gave the 30th potence. In the same ratio as he obtained a mastership over medicines through continued provings on the healthy, he found himself compelled to lessen the size of the doses. Not all his disciples followed him up. They accepted his practice as far as it suited their convenience; but they did not acquire as much knowledge of the effects of drugs as the master did, and therefore could not find it necessary, nor were they capable to do like he did. Should the last edition of the Organon—still in manuscript and in the hands of Madame Hahnemann—be ever published, I am quite certain we would learn that Hahnemann gave in the last years of his practice and of his life, much smaller doses than the 30th.

When Jœhnichen sent his first high potencies to such physicians as were known to possess the necessary acquirements to make trials with these small doses—trials to confirm the results of the experiments made by Jœhnichen himself—it was the old, true disciples of Hahnemann to whom he addressed himself, and who made these experiments. Dr. Gross was the first physician who published a series of cases, and it was this, his publication that induced others to try these new preparations. All those that found fault with Dr. Gross's cases, did so from prejudice; they never

* In 1821, he first made provings with charcoal, knowing it to have cured ulcers on the feet; and denying that this was the chemical effect of Carbon, he wished to know what effect it had on the human organism. The provers not obtaining any satisfactory symptoms, wrote to Hahnemann, who then for the first time made a trituration of Carbon 1 to 99 up to the 3d, and then advised the provers to repeat their experiments, as now by this process the medicinal powers of this otherwise inert substance were *developed*. From this trituration we obtained the charcoal symptoms.

tried these preparations, or if they did, they were not capable of experimenting. They treated them in the same manner as a celebrated professor treated all the Homœopathic cures ever published up to 1845; who wrote six folio volumes, finding for each reported cure some witty excuse—negating in this manner Homœopathy. These folio volumes, too bulky for publication, lay still in St. Petersburg—a curiosity. As little as these folio volumes, written by a man of great talent, could stay the progress of Homœopathy in Russia or elsewhere, so little could the less talented fault-finders with Gross's cases stay the progress in our own school. Dr. Staph confirmed the statements of Dr. Gross, and then the opponents began to make themselves known. Rummel first made the attempt to destroy the credit Jœhnichen's preparations had gained. He ordered a druggist to make the high potencies—he administered them; he did not deny that they had effect, but denied that they were any better than the ordinary preparations. This argument, with a slight variation for the worse, is again used by my friend Dr. C——, in a paper read before this Society at our last meeting. And here a few words as to such argumentations.

The propositions of these kinds of opponents are:

1. We want to know whether Jœhnichen's preparations are really high potencies.

2. We do not know how Jœhnichen makes his high potencies.

3. We make them ourselves.

4. The high potencies we made ourselves, had no effect over 50 or 60.

5. Jœhnichen's high potencies are said to have a very superior power, so testified by many respectable physicians.

Therefore, as the high potencies we made ourselves according to our own notion had no effect, Jœhnichen's are a humbug or imposition, and not what he represented them to be. They are only low potencies.

We do not know how Jœhnichen's potencies were made; how then can we try to imitate them, and not even make use of the little knowledge we have of his modus operandi? He used a much larger vehicle than was ever done before; and may not this be *the* secret? As the imitation had no similarity with the original preparations, how could any man in possession of his reasoning powers expect to obtain the same results?

If we even did know how Jœhnichen made his high potencies, is there any one among us who would make them?

Jœhnichen spent six years of his life, sacrificed all his comforts and his means, to enrich the science with what might have turned out to be but an experiment. Have we any such enthusiast among us? any one who would first sacrifice his all, and run the risk of then being called a fool and an impostor? If Jœhnichen made a mistake in his numbers, which is very doubtful, he could have never done it intentionally; he may have done it as a bad arithmetician. It was the ill usage he received at the hands of his opponents, opponents without cause, this worst of all insults, "ingratitude," that determined him not to gratify them by publishing his mode of preparing medicines; and so long as they live, we shall not know any more than we do now.

We can neither by any positive proof determine whether or no Jœhnichen's so called high potencies are what he represents them to be, but by taking all things into consideration, we may obtain a negative certainty that they are.

Jœhnichen was a gentleman of very accurate observation; he possessed a thorough knowledge of Homœopathy and Materia Medica, all of which is evident from his published cases. He was engaged ten hours a day, for more than six years, to accomplish his preparations.

Jœhnichen was a true friend of Homœopathy, and his former reputation having been good at all times, we have no reason to disbelieve him. That Jœhnichen's preparations are *different* from any other preparations formerly used, I conclude from the fact, 1st, That after the administration of those preparations, we perceive new symptoms, and that these new symptoms are always characteristic of the remedy. 2d, That their effect is more intense, and lasts longer. 3d, That these effects are not so easily disturbed by other influences.

That Jœnichen's preparations are better than any others ever made before, I conclude from the facts. 1st. That they cure where others did not. 2d. That all such Homœopathic physicians as made an impartial trial with the *genuine* Jœhnichen's High Potencies, have gradually adopted them altogether in their practice, and *exclusively*, as Nunez, in Madrid, Bœnninghausen, in Münster, and others, all of them being the most successful practitioners, the

acknowledged masters of our Materia Medica, and not, as was erroneously stated in a late publication, lost their practice or returned into the ranks. This assertion is "a mistake." "Homœopathy is going down," has been the cry of the enraged "*old school.*" "The smaller,—the smallest doses are going down," is the cry in the rear, scarce to be heard by the sturdy advance guard; the sound becomes dimmer, and will soon cease.

The only positive proof against Jœhnichen's High Potencies, and the only one admissible as evidence, in contradiction to facts stated, is, that all those that doubt the evidence given in favor of Jœhnichen's potencies, will make the experiment. Let every one who is capable, administer, in a given case, one dose of Jœhnichen's highest potencies, of the true Homœopathic remedy, and if, after waiting a reasonable time, and no improvement following, the lower potence produces even a considerable amelioration, or a cure, let such cases be published. That is exactly what we wish Allopathic physicians to do with Homœopathy; we expect to have reports, not like Professor Andral's of the French Academy, who was not capable to experiment, but well-reported cases, with the remedy well selected, and the result must be an acknowledgment of Jœhnichen's merits.

CURE OF MARSHAL ST. ARNAUD, MINISTER OF WAR UNDER LOUIS NAPOLEON.

A REMARKABLE cure has lately been effected on Marshal St. Arnaud, the present Minister of War under Louis Napoleon, which has caused no little sensation among the various circles of Paris. We extract the following in relation to it, from the Journal de la Societé Galliciane, Vol. 4, No. 1:

Every one knows that the Marshal left Paris in a state of health which inspired the greatest fears among his friends and even his physicians, who had been in attendance on him. His departure for the south of France was decided on by his medical advisers. Arrived at Marseilles, the Marshal put himself under the care of Dr. Chargé, and his health became restored in so short a