The Pseudo—History, Philosophy, Uses and Results of Medicated Inhalation" Unmasked.

LETTER NO. II.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK HERALD:—

In my letter of yesterday I referred to the disreputable and despicable source from which this slanderous attack upon inhalation came, and to the fact that its redoubtable author copied my list of authorities from the Specialist, of Sept. 1, took three weeks to procure and make extracts from them, and then unobtrusively paraded them before the public, as a proof of his acquaintance with the subject. Any schoolboy in the land might have accomplished this feat equally well; and not having any selfish or dishonorable purpose to subserve, he would not have perverted and misquoted the text. But of this more hereafter.

I now come to the inquiry, who wrote these letters, falsely put forth over the signature of a quack, whose vulgar style is clearly seen in his "Almanac" and in his "Six Lectures," which, for unscrupulous mendacity, can only be rivalled by the fictions of Munchausen! I saw at a glance that the pretended writer had nothing to do with them beyond adding his name, and the considerate paragraph immediately preceding it, by which he strives to "bewegle invalids to his office, by the assurance that it will "give him pleasure to cure them."

The last sentence of each article is all that is genuine. I speak with a two-fold confidence on this point, for I was forewarned, as the following notes will show, of what was "being got up" for my especial benefit. Here is the first one received:—

THURSDAY, July 19, 1855.

DR. R. HUNTER:—Are you acquainted with the work of Alfred Beaumont Maddock of London? I find in it all the pith, sometimes the words, of your celebrated letters on that subject (I mean inhalation), and I will soon give, pro bono public, some extracts from this work with comments on your plagiarism. (No signature.)

The spite and falsehood manifested in this note only made me smile, and my mirth was somewhat increased on receiving, two days afterwards, the following letter in the same handwriting, and on paper of the same color, ruling and stamp. I mention these otherwise unimportant matters to show the unmistakable identity of the authorship of the two notes. Number two lays bare the plot:—

SATURDAY, July 21, 1855.

DR. HUNTER:—Will you allow a patient and a friend to address you? The intelligence may not be worth much, but it is given with the kindest motive. You know me well, and I would give my name, but (were the subject named my informant might get into trouble and accuse me of a breach of good faith.

Yesterday I saw a person who is attached to the office of the Fitches; he tells me they have sent to Europe and have obtained all the works on inhalation, and that they have offered a Dr. Barber, an English physician, and a highly literary man, to commence a series of letters over his own signature, and proceed regularly with them, showing the origin of the system in Humphrey Davy's experiments, and all that has been written on the subject, with a view to depriving you of any merit in the treatment, as to its discovery, and showing, also, that the treatment fails in most cases. He says that they have been for some months obtaining all the testimony on the latter head that could be obtained from many of your patients on and within a few days, particularly from a Mr. Bird, who has written several violent letters against you and your system. I understand that Dr. Barber as yet declines entering on the business, although a good offer has been made to him. It would be well for you to see him, or get some one to do so. He is not very fond of the Fitches, and I think might leave them. I understand that Dr. Barber attends all their surgical cases, and has a supervision of all letters received and written to the establishment.

FROM A FRIEND.

The writer claims to be "a patient" and "a friend!" who has been "informed" of the scheming going on, and consents to be guilty of a "breach of good faith," providing it is kept a secret. He is intimately acquainted with the internal affairs of this centre of slander and conspiracy, for he tells us, "they have sent to Europe and obtained all the works on Inhalation." These they have offered to "an English physician and highly literary man," that he might commence a series of letters "over his own signature." Doubtless this "physician and highly literary man" had a spark of self-respect remaining, it appears that up to that time—July 21—he had "declined to enter upon the business," or to appear in the public prints, as a traducer of inhalation, and it is probable that he finally consented to compromise the matter by writing them on condition that the unprincipled pretender (for whom he prostituted his medical knowledge, and from whom he received his hire, should assume the authorship.

He believe us, however, that they had been obtaining all the information they could from my patients. No artifice, it seems, was too mean and contemptible for them to resort to. It appears, too, that "the physician" was fully aware of the character of his employers, for notwithstanding the "good offer," he was "not very fond" of them.

Another fact comes out in this letter from "a friend," viz., that all the letters received and written in the establishment were the production of this "highly literary man." This is that the public are imposed upon, and the hideousness and deformity of empiricism rendered externally respectable, while all is rotten and leprosome beneath. Here, then, until proved otherwise, must I fix the authorship of the two letters which have recently appeared on the "History, Philosophy, Uses and Results of Medicated Inhalation."

No one would regret more sincerely than myself to wrongfully wound the feelings of any man, and I deem it but justice to say, that in proving, by the anonymous notes now published, that the articles on inhalation were not written by the person ever whose signature they appeared, it would grieve me to find that I have unjustly attributed them to the anonymous writer—whom I need scarcely add I regard as Dr. Barber himself, or some friend possessing a peculiar and deep interest in his affairs—should time prove that another than the one suspected is the real author. To all right thinking people it cannot but be a source of pain to discover that an intelligent member of an honorable profession has prostituted alike his honor and his talents at the shrine of "filthy lucre." Tomorrow I shall expose the fallacy of his statements and the selfishness of his motives. Your obedient servant,

R. HUNTER, M. D.,
Physician for Diseases of the Lungs, No. 828 Broadway, N. Y.

October 3, 1855.

LETTER NO. III.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK HERALD:—

I come now to expose the fallacy of the statements and the selfishness of the motives which characterize the articles under consideration.

Were it necessary for me to give any further apologies for entering upon this defence of inhalation, I might urge that I am only acting in self-defence, assailed as I am by the scurrility so bountifully put forth. My identity as the object of this unprincipled attack is sufficiently established by the frequent use of the terms "quacks," "pretenders," being the title of my monthly journal, in which the whole subject of inhalation, its history, practice and results, are fully and fairly discussed.

The false pretense of the motive assigned for writing on the subject of inhalation, is rendered apparent by a few facts. Since my first advocacy of it in this country—in 1851—I have claimed for this practice the confidence of the public and the profession, not alone because of the successful results attained by it in my own practice, but on the ground of the high professional character of many of its European advocates. In the spring of 1852 I procured a review of Mr. Maddock's book on inhalation in several newspapers, among which may be mentioned the Albany Evening Journal and the Albany Knickerbocker, the latter of which papers copied the entire preface. During the summer of 1853 I advertised the preparation of an American edition of Sir Charles Scudamore's work, with an introduction, notes and an appendix by myself, which I was prevented from completing for want of a publisher containing the manuscript. In the winter of 1854-4, I published a "Practical Treatise on Diseases of the Throat and Lungs, with their treatment by Inhalation," in the preface to the first edition of which, I gave the names of Sir Charles Scudamore and Dr. Maddock, as among the ablest advocates of this practice. In my first letter on inhalation, published in the autumn of 1854, in all the principal papers of this city, the following passage appears:—

"It is not claimed that inhalation is entirely a new practice. It was brought under the notice of the profession, and practised with very great success, by Sir Charles Scudamore, a distinguished English physician; and about the same time by Dr. Murray, of Dublin, and many others. Of late years, as experience suggested new remedies for inhalation, it was found correctly the operation of those previously known, and improved the rude and imperfecta appratus employed, its success has been such as to establish beyond the possibility of cavil, the confirmed and undoubted consumption may be cursed even under desperate circumstances."

In the seventh letter of my series, published in the Times, Herald, Tribune, Home Journal, Mirror and other papers of this city, the reader will find what my claim stated, as follows:—

"I have devoted the experience of years, to erect the facts on which inhalation is based, into a system of practice, applicable to every form of the melancholy and complicated maladies which have their seat in the organs of respiration. And I have now the high satisfaction of seeing my labors rewarded by the success which has already given publicity to my practice, and in the public estimation, which is spreading its fame not only throughout the United States, but the world.

"Inhalation gives us access to the air passages and cells of the lungs, for the application of medicine. But it will at once be seen, that the mere act of inhaling is in itself no remedy. The remedy lies in the medicines which the physician prescribes, while the kind of medicine—the strength and form of administration—must be regulated by his experience and professional knowledge."

In letter No. 16 of this series I again referred to the subject, and pointed out the manner in which inhalation was previously practised in this country, and by some in this city. Here are my remarks:—

"After having spent years in laborious study and investigation, to reduce the experience on which inhalation is based to order, I introduced it into the United States in the Spring of 1851, as a rational and systematic practice in pulmonary diseases. Prior to that time the attention of the profession in this country had been but imperfectly directed to the subject. Their experience consisted chiefly in burning rosin and tar on a heated shovel, or inhaling iodine from a teapot. One physician of this city, prominently identified with the treatment of throat and lung diseases, used to direct his patients to rub iodine on the chest on retiring to bed, and then to draw the blankets over the head, that the iodine, rendered volatile by the warmth of the body, might be inhaled—thereby compelling the poor sufferer to breathe over and over, not only the poison thrown off from the lungs, but the offensive exhalations of the body."

And in my last letter of this series, (No. 18) I distinctly denounced these imperfect new systems of inhalation. I observed:—

"I might instance as another class the tribe of imitators who follow me with their pretended new systems and improvements on inhalation. Whatever appeals strongly to the good sense of mankind also appeals with equal force to the avarice of the impostor. An honorable man scorns to steal merit as an honest one to steal gold—but the mean in spirit follow our footsteps, borrow our language, our ideas, and our reputation."

Again, in the first number of the Specialist, published three weeks before the appearance of the first of these letters, the false pretence of which I am now unmasking, I gave no less than sixty distinguished authorities who had written on the subject, and disclaimed priority in the following paragraph:—

"To inhale is as natural as to swallow, and has probably occurred to the mind of every physician a thousand times. To claim a 'new system of inhaling' is as absurd as it would be to claim the discovery of a new system of breathing, or a new passage to the stomach. The idea is one thing; knowing that we can inhale medicines, and another to know what medicines we ought, and in what proportion we should inhale them to cure disease."

These he had read, for he alludes to the Specialist, and copies these very authorities. And yet, in the face of all this evidence he has the impudence to assign as his motive for writing against inhalation that we had advanced "bold and confident claims to novelty." I cannot conceive a bolder piece of mendacious effrontery than this, the very purpose of which was to disguise the dishonorable and mercenary motive he had in view.

To-morrow I will expose his false quotations and gross misrepresentations. Your obedient servant,

R. HUNTER, M. D.,
Physician for Diseases of the Lungs.

No. 828 Broadway. New York, Oct. 6, 1855.

The most Successful Operation of late has been the introduction of the new pen and pencil case, (Lownde's patent), made by WILWARTH, 44 Maiden lane. Simple, convenient and durable; it is fast superseding the use of other styles, which may also be found at the same place.

Jet Ornaments.—A Complete Assortment, consisting of bracelets, brooches, earrings, necklaces, chains, chatelaine, cuff pins, studs, at OSBORNE, BOARDMAN & TOWNSEND'S, 327 Broadway, corner of Spring street.

Singer's Sewing Machines.—We have the pleasure of announcing to our friends and customers that we are increasing our manufacturing department with all possible dispatch. The introduction of our improved machines, running at double speed, and accomplishing twice the quantity of work in a day, has caused a sudden rush of orders. In a few days we shall have doubled our weekly product of machines, and will supply all orders promptly.

I. M. SINGER & CO., 323 Broadway.

Charles' London Cordial Gin.—Mr. W. Scribaner, Druggist, 114 Chambers street—Sir: Having suffered much the last few years from a disorganized state of the urinary functions, I was induced, by the advice of a medical friend, to try the effect of Charles' London Cordial Gin. I have great pleasure in stating that after the use of the second bottle, which I bought of you, I have been greatly relieved, and am of opinion, if used in the incipient stages of urinary derangements, it will prevent the encroachment of confirmed cases of diseased kidneys, gravel, and other concretions. Yours, &c.,

A. T. MILLER

Editor "Journal Useful Knowledge," New York.

For sale, in Broadway, by Hegeman, Clark & Co., No. 441; C. H. King, corner of John street; J. Meakim, No. 497; Crumbie, corner of Fourteenth street; Le Roy, No. 771; Horney, 756; Delme & Co., 636; Badeau, corner of Twenty-first street; Fagnani, No. 937; at all hotels, and of druggists and grocers generally.

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Wilson's Dandelion Coffee.—This Truly valuable preparation is a luxury as a breakfast beverage, and a safe and effectual remedy in all cases of dyspepsia, indigestion, sick headache, and all bilious and liver complaints. Sold wholesale and retail by Hegeman, Clark & Co., G. V. Rushton and all respectable druggists throughout the States. Principal depot corner Twenty-seventh street and Third avenue.

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India Rubber Fancy Articles, Toys, Dolls, canes, pens, pencils, balls, &c., at the Goodyear rubber depot, No. 205 Broadway, between Chambers and Warren streets. N. B.—New articles can be found at this store as soon as produced.

Tuttle's Fancy Store, 345 Broadway, is by all odds the most attractive establishment on Broadway, as a museum of elegance and taste. It is full of novel, rich and brilliant articles of ornament and utility, from small toys to please the children, to the most magnificent styles of personal and household ornaments and conveniences. In beautiful articles for presents, for all sorts of people, there is no stock in this city that can approach that of Mr. TUTTLE.

Free Excursion to West Flushing, on October 9th, when there will be an auction sale of those beautiful building sites. Refreshments on the ground. For free tickets, maps and all particulars, apply to

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Hill's Improved Instantaneous Hair Dye.—Best in use for black or brown; 4 shillings a box; permanent; no fade; recommended by chemists and editors. Sold or applied at No. 1 Bleecker street, 45 Nassau street, New York; and at 247 Fulton street, Brooklyn.

Whiskers or Moustaches Forced to Grow in six weeks, by my unguent, which will not stain or injure the skin. $1 a bottle; sent to any part of the country. R. G. GRAHAM, 585 Broadway; Zeiber, 54 South Third street, Philadelphia.

Hill's Infallible Unguent—For the Growth, health and beauty of the hair; no new preparation; is of sixteen years' standing, and gives the best of satisfaction. Sold at No. 1 Barclay street, New York; and at I. W. Wood's, 247 Fulton street, Brooklyn.

Tan, Pimples, Freckles, Eruptions, Saltrheum, erysipelas, tetters, sallowness, and all skin deformities—it is, moreover, the very best shaving compound ever used. Powdre subtile uprears hair from low foreheads or any part of the body. Warranted. Liquid Nugent, hair dye and restorative, at the old depot, 67 Walker street, first store from Broadway, New York; Callender, 88 South Third street, Philadelphia; Bates, 129 Washington street, Boston; Hance, Baltimore; Mrs. Hayes, Brooklyn, &c.

Clirehugh's Wigs and Toupees—With his newly invented skin division, continue the admiration of all wig wearers; light, thin and elastic, they combine a style of arrangement and correctness of fit, which outrivals the finest head of hair. Every variety of size and color, to be had at 152 Fulton street, west corner of Broadway.

"Like Bees in a cluster"

The bedbugs will lodge,
And all other attempts
But LYONS' they'll dodge.

Of course they will. We ever heard of killing all kinds of insects, and rats and mice, save by using Lyons' powerful pills and powder. Depots, 424 Broadway and No. 6 South Eighth street, Philadelphia.

Hernia.—Only Prize Medal Awarded to MARSH & CO. by the Industrial Exhibition of all Nations, for their new patent radical cure truss. References as to its superiority:—Professors Valentine Mott, Willard Parker and John M. Carnochan. An extensive list of names of mercantile and other gentlemen cured by this truss may be seen at Marsh & Co.'s, No. 2½ Maiden lane, New York, and Marsh, Gordes & Co., No. 5 West Fourth street, Cincinnati, Ohio. Open from 7 A. M. until 9 P. M.

Gold Medal Trusses.—Benjamin's Brass spring truss, No. 1 Barclay street, opposite the Astor House, never rusts nor grows weak from use. Retains the rupture with ease, and effects more radical cures than all other trusses.

The Oxygenated Bitters have Received the strongest testimonials of any medicine in the world for the cure of dyspepsia, asthma and general debility, and is worthy the confidence of all who seek a remedy for these complaints.

The Best Hair Dye.—Dr. O. M. Ballard's received the premium at the World's Fair, and may be relied upon as the best; will color the most perfect brown or black. For sale or applied. Office and store 500 Broadway, New York.

Hyatt's Life Balsam.—Rheumatism in its most painful forms, also scrofula, old ulcers, and the worst cases of diseases of the blood, great debility, liver complaint, kidneys, incipient consumption, &c., are most certainly cured by this great purifier. Principal depot, 246 Grand street. Seventy-five cents per bottle.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment are safe and certain remedies for salt rheum, scrofula, rheumatic and cutaneous affections—the one acting externally and penetrating the pores; the other internally on the blood and the organs of digestion, purifying and renovating the vital functions of the body. Sold at the manufactories, 80 Maiden lane, New York, and 244 Strand, London, and by all druggists, at 25 cents, 62½ cents, and $1 per pot or box.

Married.

On Tuesday evening, Oct. 2, by the Rev. James Millett, at the residence of the bride's mother, Mr. ROBERT J. GREGORY to Miss SARAH ANNE WALDRON, all of this city.

On Wednesday, Oct. 3, by the Rev. P. Allen, AARON D. BEAUVET to ELIZABETH JANE SMITH, both of Spring Valley, Rockland Co., N. Y.

On Thursday, Oct. 4, by the Rev. F. T. Tiffany, of Kinderhook, at the Church of the Annunciation, GEORGE WHITCOMBE to EMILIE A., youngest daughter of D. A. CUSHMEN, of this city.

On Friday, Oct. 5, by the Rev. Thomas Towell, in Calvary Chapel, Twentieth street, near first avenue, Mr. WILLIAM SHAW to Miss MARY ANN CAMPBELL, both of this city.

On Wednesday, Oct. 3, by the Rev. J. Banvard, JOHN LABEY, of Mount Nugent, county Cavan, Ireland, to Miss HANNAH M. FOSTER, daughter of the late James Foster, Esq., of Rossville, Staten Island.

On Thursday, Oct. 4, by the Rev. Dr. Ferris, ROBERT J. WALKER to MARIA LOUISA, daughter of the late Medad Platt.

In Brooklyn, on Thursday, Oct. 4, by the Rev. Mr. Kerr, JAMES M. BANNATYNE to Miss JESSIE GILMOUR, both of Glasgow, Scotland.

In Brooklyn, on Thursday, Oct. 4, by the Rev. J. D. Wells, GEORGE BROMHEAD, of Port Jervis, N. Y., to JOSEPHINE, daughter of Dr. John B. McMunn, of the former place.

On Wednesday, Oct. 3, by the Rev. Dr. Harris, at Grace Church, White Plains, DELIA, daughter of James Dick, Esq., to ALFRED B. SANDS, of New York city.

In Fitzwilliam, N. H., on Wednesday, Oct. 3, by the Rev. A. M. Bridges, Mr. JOHN R. KIMBALL, of New York, to Miss KATE O., daughter of David Fullam, Esq.

At Cheshire, on Monday, Sept. 17, by the Rev. Mr. Ball, WILLIAM S. HATES, of this city, to Miss ANTOINETTE, daughter of Ryer Bristol, Esq., of Cheshire.

Died.

On Friday, Oct. 5, CORNICK MCAVINEY, in the 48th year of his age.

Suddenly, on Saturday, Sept. 29, of apoplexy, JAMES H. BRAINE, Esq., merchant, of this city, in the 61st year of his age.

The funeral will take place this afternoon, at two o'clock, from the Church of the Ascension, corner of Fifth avenue and Tenth street. The friends of the family, those of his son, S. Wentworth, and of his son-in-law, Rev. Charles Reynolds and John B. Wilson, are invited to attend, without further notice. The remains will be taken to Trinity Cemetery for interment.

On Wednesday, October 2, PHEBE ELIZABETH SMITH, aged 18 years.

The relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, this afternoon, at one o'clock, from her late residence, No. 423½ Columbia street.

On Friday, Oct. 5, MARY ANNE GAW, eldest daughter of Alexander and Elizabeth Gaw.

The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, from her late residence, No. 217 Mercer street, to-morrow afternoon, at half-past one o'clock. Her remains will be taken to Trinity Cemetery for interment.

On Friday morning, Oct. 5, FRANCIS NETTER, aged 77 years.

His friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from his late residence, No. 97 Eleventh st., to-morrow afternoon, at half past one o'clock. His remains will be taken to Calvary Cemetery for interment.

On Friday morning Oct. 5, MARY ELIZA A. MASTERSON, youngest daughter of Peter and Mary T. Masterson.

The friends of the family, and those of her grand-mothers, Mrs. Masterson and Mrs. Quinn; and those of her uncles, Patrick, James, Hugh, John and William Henry Masterson; and John, Patrick and Henry Quinn, and Michael Treacy, are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, from her late residence, corner of Fifty-eighth street and Broadway, this afternoon, at one o'clock. Her remains will be taken to Calvary Cemetery for interment.

On Thursday, Oct. 4, JOHN MOWTON, Jr., son of John and Rebecca Mowton, formerly of Baltimore, aged 30 years.

His friends and those of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from the residence of his father, 187 East Twenty-first street, to-morrow afternoon, at two o'clock His remains will be taken to Green Mount Cemetery, Baltimore.

On Friday, Oct. 5, JANE ELIZA, wife of Cornelius Crowe, second daughter of the late Stewart Wm. Campbell, of the 42d Highlanders, aged 30 years.

The friends of the family and those of his brothers and brothers-in-law, John Fitzgerald and P. F. Boyle, also those of her brother, Wm. S. Campbell, are requested to attend her funeral, from her late residence, No. 5 Monroe street, to-morrow afternoon, at two o'clock. Her remains will be interred in Calvary Cemetery.

On Thursday, Oct. 4, WILLIAM PETTY, aged 104 years.

The relatives of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from his late residence, 287 West Twenty-seventh street, this afternoon, at one o'clock.

Tuam and Roscommon papers please copy.

On Friday, Oct. 5, of consumption, WILLIAM R. GREEN, aged 28 years.

The friends and relatives of the family, and the members of Tompkins Lodge I. O. of O. F., also the members of Empire Hose Co. No. 40, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral services, from his late residence, 44 Eighth avenue, this afternoon, at three o'clock. His remains will be taken to Paterson, N. J., on Monday morning, at eight o'clock.

On Friday, Oct. 5, WILLIAM GRANGER, aged 44 years, 9 months and 11 days.

The friends and relatives of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from No. 1 Fifth street, to-morrow afternoon, at two o'clock, without further invitation.

On Friday, Oct. 5, Mrs. FREEWARLD, widow of Charles Freewarld, hatter, deceased.

Her friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, from her late residence, Third avenue, near Fifty-second street, to-morrow afternoon, at one o'clock.

On Tuesday, October 2, in Hamilton avenue, South Brooklyn, after a long and painful sickness, ISABELLA, wife of Francis R. Walker.

Glasgow papers please copy.

On Friday morning, Oct. 5, at six o'clock, ELIZA, wife of Charles F. Leavitt.

The friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral services, at her late residence, No. 87 Clinton street, Brooklyn, to-day, at twelve o'clock.

In Brooklyn, at the residence of C. C. Dunkens, Oxford street, Capt. JOHN MOORHEAD.

His friends, particularly shipmasters, are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from the residence of Mr. C. C. Dunkens, Oxford street, near Dekalb avenue, this afternoon, at half-past two o'clock.

Michigan papers please copy.

In Brooklyn, on Friday morning, Oct. 5, after a short illness, Mr. JOHN LAWIS, son of William and Mary Jane Lewis, aged 27 years and 12 days.

The friends and relatives of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from his late residence, Portland avenue, near Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn, this afternoon, at two o'clock, without further notice.

On Thursday, Oct. 4, at Belleville, N. J., MARY ANN, wife of Jas. H. Barclay, and eldest daughter of William R. Hodge, in the 25th year of her age.

The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, from the Hoboken ferry, foot of Barclay street, on Monday morning, the 8th inst., at ten o'clock.

On Thursday, Oct. 4, HENRIETTA DEVOE.

The friends of the family, and of her brother, Isaac H. Devoe, are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, from her late residence, No. 105 Grand street, Jersey City, to-morrow afternoon, at four o'clock.

On Friday, Oct. 5, MARGARET ANN, wife of Adrian Stillwell, aged 30 years.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, from her late residence, at Fort Hamilton, to-morrow afternoon, at two o'clock.

At Great Barrington, Mass., on Wednesday, October 3, MARY P., wife of Geo. R. Ives, of Brooklyn, aged 37 years.

The funeral will take place at Great Barrington on to-morrow. The friends of the family are invited to attend.

On Sunday, Sept. 30, at Portsmouth, Va., of yellow fever, while on a mission of duty towards his fellow men, Doctor EDWIN HUNTER, of this city, aged 33 years.

ADVERTISEMENTS RENEWED EVERY DAY.

MEDICATED INHALATION.

THE HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, USES AND RESULTS OF "Medicated Inhalation" in the treatment of lung diseases.

LETTER NO. III.

BY DR. S. S. FITCH, No. 714 BROADWAY, N.Y.

OCTOBER 3, 1855.

THAT IT IS AN OLD PRACTICE, PROVED—OTHER PRETENSIONS EXPOSED—A FAILURE—NO VALUABLE INFORMATION IN LAST GIVEN—INTELLIGENT PHYSICIANS GENERALLY REPUDIATE IT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK HERALD:—

SIR—In my two former letters I have stated facts and cited authorities proving conclusively that the treatment of lung diseases by "medicated inhalation" is an old familiar one, thoroughly tested in hospitals and private practice by numbers of the most distinguished physicians of Europe, long before it was known, and that it is valuable only when employed in connection with general and constitutional treatment, and then only in some special cases.

In view of these facts and authorities, the reader will no doubt be surprised, as he well may be, at the cool audacity and assurance exhibited by those who are practising this treatment as if it were a novelty, in claiming that they have made recent discoveries, are using new remedies, and are employing skill hitherto unknown.

But there is not less audacity and falsehood in several other equally cool assumptions made by these inhalists. I will notice a few of them; and

1st, That "medicated inhalation" is, in fact, in the hands of these men, a successful treatment. This involves a question of much more importance to the invalid than that of novelty. It is, in truth, a matter of small moment to him whether the treatment is new or old, if it is but successful—if by it lung diseases are really cured; and I have unmasked the preposterous pretensions to novelty principally that the reader may see, in the attempted gross deception on this point, how much reliance can be placed on the assumptions of the men who are perpetrating it in relation to their treating their patients, and, indeed, any other pretensions set up by them.

Now, what has been the result of this treatment, as employed by these men? I answer, an utter and miserable failure! A failure as much more complete and disastrous than has attended the practice in the hands of the European physicians I have referred to as I have said, the skill, knowledge and experience employed in it by those great men, is superior to that of the medical neophytes here. On this point, as well as others, I do not speak without authority. From the great number of consumptives who have consulted me, both personally and by letter, after making trial of this treatment, I have positive information of its worthless and injurious character.

Said a broken hearted father, who called on me, with his invalid son, a few days ago—"I wish I had known of your book, so as not to be duped! My son has tried inhalation faithfully five months under Dr. ——, and has sunk more rapidly day by day. No, I suppose, it is too late to save him, and he must die. If the doctor had only done anything for him, or given him anything, but he did nothing but to make him breathe this cruel smudge. Why, sir, I had often to force him into the room, and employ two men to hold him and make him breathe the poisoned air; with which the room was filled. If I did that doctor justice, sir, I should go and shoot him where he sits." These were his words. From all quarters comes the uniform testimony—"It has done me no good, and I know of no one it has." I appeal to the reader, have you found any one cured of consumption by this treatment alone? It may have been tried in your neighborhood. Has it cured, or been of any essential benefit? Well, the failure in your midst is not an isolated case. The same result is witnessed everywhere, and the only reason why there is not on all hands a public denunciation of the practice by the poor duped victims themselves, is that every one imagines he is the exception, and all others are being cured. Such is the supposition, not because the fact of cure in a single case is known personally to any one, but because the "inhalists" say they cure—and for no other reason. It is unwise to be thus deceived.

It may be said, however, that certificates of cures have been published. But on this point also a deception is attempted. It has been asserted that there has been given to the world the history of over a hundred cases of diseased lungs, in which inhalation alone has been successful. But, reader, have you seen any such certificates or letters? Of course not; and yet, if there is such a number, why have they not been published at all. There have been published what purport to be the facts of three cases, I think no more, of all or any that have been treated by inhalation alone in this city within the last two years; and the history of these is not given by the inhalists themselves, but over the name of another physician. If the reader will take the trouble to investigate them, he will find that only one of them has any name had the consumption at all, and that that one is now no better. The other two will say themselves, as they have said, that they only had bad colds, no ulceration of the lungs, and no consumption; that during the treatment their "inhaling doctor" did not pretend they had consumption. They were applied to to give certificates, but refused. It will be found, too, that they took other treatment beside inhalation during the well known period. Only three cases, then, in two years, and not true! Certainly this is feeble and unsafe evidence upon which to rest one's confidence in the efficacy of a medical practice. But it is all that the public have before them as to the result of this treatment within the last two years, the time during which the "speculation" has been in progress. Let me caution the invalid against unfounded assumptions of its success. They are not true.

Indeed I ought to say, in defence of "inhalation," that it should not be judged by its want of success in the hands of these men. To judge it thus would be to reject it as absolutely worthless in all cases. But this is not true. When judiciously used, in proper cases, in connection with general and constitutional treatment, it is of value. There is sufficient reason why it has so utterly failed when employed by these Newly Fledged inhalists. It has fallen into unskilful hands. Young men without knowledge or experience in general medicine, little practical acquaintance with inhalation and less with disease, have taken it up for a speculation. It is a cheap and convenient practice for such a purpose—useless in their hands for any other. In Europe it has been employed by skillful and honest physicians. Look at some of the distinguished names—Sir James Clark, Sir John Forbes, Sir Charles Scudamore, Elliotson, Riadore, Crighton, Laennec, Trousseau, Tou, Hufeland, Neumann. With these giants in medicine—these great lights that have illuminated the world—now compare the band of pigmies that are riding the hobby "inhalation" here. The comparison. I confess, is ridiculous, but necessary. It will enable you to see why the treatment by the latter is so ludicrously worthless, while it had some value in the hands of the former; why it should not be entirely thrown away.

2d. The pretension that really valuable information has in fact been given to the public by these inhalists.—This is untrue. The readers of their advertisements have observed, probably, the assumption made and frequently reiterated, that not only the inhalists are now for the first time introduced to the notice of the public and the medical profession, but that it is in fact being unfolded and that substantial information is being given in regard to it. This claim is artfully and plausibly presented, and unless the reader is on his guard he may be deceived into the belief that it is true. But, with singular consistency, this pretension is as baseless as any of the others I have unmasked. It is not true that one single fact or item of information has been for the first time given to the public by the publications of the "inhalists," which physicians and other well informed persons, have not long been familiar, with the single immensely important (!) exception, that certain men may be found at certain places in the city, who doctor by "medicated inhalation." If I am wrong in the foregoing statement, the reader will easily correct me. Their publications are before the world. Examine them with reference to this point. What do you find? Beside the statements that consumptives may inhale volatilized medicines, (but what, is not stated,) and that these men administer such medicine in this mode, with advantage, you find blundering, incorrect descriptions of the various forms of disease to which the respiratory organs are liable, and certain ridiculous assumptions in regard to "regular practice," "quackery," &c., that is all—absolutely all. I ask any physician what single piece of valuable information he has obtained from any of the publications of the inhalists? I ask the general reader what new light they have shed on his mind? He has learned that certain men in this city pretend to cure consumption by inhalation alone, and he has seen stated a theory on the subject which, perhaps, appears plausible. When sifted from the unsupported assumptions with which their papers are filled, I ask again, is not this all? It certainly is so.

3d. The pretension that physicians generally approve the treatment of inhalation alone for lung diseases, as conducted by any of these men.—This, too, is utterly untrue. What evidence of the fact is there before the public? I reply, not a word, excepting the bold assumptions of these men. It is true that, some time since, the sanctity of private correspondence was evidently violated, and a number of letters from physicians were paraded in the newspapers, accompanied by a statement that the writers of the letters endorsed therein the practice. But they did, in fact, no such thing. The letters were nearly all simple letters of inquiry, asking for information upon the subject of inhalation. A few of the writers, indeed, added that the idea of inhalation struck them favorably. If I remember correctly, one only endorsed it fully. This is the length and breadth of the proof adduced to support this pretension. The truth is, intelligent physicians everywhere condemn and repudiate the treatment of lung diseases by inhalation alone. I may add, it is to be hoped that those physicians who found their innocent letters of inquiry metamorphosed into endorsements of a practice they condemn, will in future be more careful, properly appreciated the act of publishing their private correspondence, and felt duly honored when they found themselves strung up as trophies of conquest like scalps on the belt of the Indian warrior. Also, that they found the reply returned to them satisfactory, viz: in substance, that none of them knew enough to practise inhalation, and that they were all disbelievers scamps who did not send their patients to the New York Inhalist!

It is the common trick of empirics in medicine to take shelter under the wing of the "regular faculty," to counterfeit their endorsement, to pretend a horror of quackery, and to strut about in stolen plumes. This dodge will deceive only the weak.

Having exposed the baselessness of the principal pretensions of the inhalists, we are now prepared to state and reply to the question:—

Why is medicated inhalation when used alone for diseases of the lungs an irrational, unsuccessful and dangerous practice?—This question opens a broad field, embracing the whole philosophy of disease and medicine. But without exploring the entire field, I can, I think, if the reader will give me his attention, answer it satisfactorily in a few paragraphs—and this I will do by-and-bye.

Let me add here that persons interested in the treatment of lung diseases should not permit their attention to be diverted from the full investigation and exposition of "medicated inhalation," now being laid before them, by any collateral questions of "authorship," or by any personal abuse I may be the subject of. Such things will not certainly divert me from my purpose. It is immensely more important for the invalid to know that "inhalation," as practised in this city, is an imposition, than to know who it is that unmasks it. If any person, however, feels curiosity on this point, I will say that the letters I am here publishing are written by myself in connection with my associate and brother, J. P. Fitch. Not a line by any other person.

Yours respectfully,

S. S. FITCH, A. M., M. D.

Author of "Six Lectures on Consumption," and Physician for Diseases of the Chest, and all other chronic complaints of male or female. Office 714 Broadway, N. Y.

FEVER AND AGUE.

NEW PRINCIPLE! NEW REMEDY! NO POISON! RHODES' FEVER AND AGUE CURE;

Or Antidote to Malaria; for the prevention and cure of fever and ague, or chill fever; dumb ague, and other intermittent and remittent fevers; also of bilious fevers, accompanied by typhoid symptoms; typhoid fever, yellow fever, ship and jail fever, general debility, night sweats, and all other forms of disease which have a common origin in

MALARIA OR MIASMA.

These diseases are common to many localities of the United States; but wherever they prevail, North, South, East or West, they all equally spring from the same miasmal cause. The great variety of symptoms and forms of disease is owing principally to difference in age, sex, constitution and habits of the sufferers; but as the cause is the same, they will all equally yield to a remedy that is competent to overcome or remove that cause.

By the laws of nature, every principle has its opposite, and for every disease, or cause of disease, there is a re-agent, or in other words a specific remedy. All malaria, whether arising from marshes, stagnant water, decomposition of animal and vegetable matter, or even newly cleared lands, is the same in character and effect; is a poison floating in the atmosphere, causing disease to all who breathe it. In accordance with those unalterable laws governing the unerring affinity subsisting between opposites, there is in the preparation before us offered to the public—

THE NATURAL ANTIDOTE TO MALARIA,

which neutralizes the poison whenever it comes in contact with it, even in the ocean air, and when taken internally completely purifies the system affected by it of its baneful influence, and thus restores and preserves health.

The remedy is believed to be entirely new, and unknown to any but the proprietor, who distinctly claims the following extraordinary results from its use:—

It will instantly check the ague in persons who have suffered for any length of time, from one day to twenty years, and by continuing its use, and observing to the directions, a radical cure will be effected, the patient continuing free from the complaint for ever, unless subsequent exposure to malaria should make its use again necessary.

In its operation upon the poison in the system, it will immediately relieve all the distressing symptoms of bilious or ague diseases, and when the disease is cured, it will entirely prevent the accession of

GENERAL DEBILITY AND NIGHT SWEATS,

which so often follow the administration of other medicines. The patient at once begins to recover appetite and strength, and continues to improve until restored to per