

**A LECTURE ON HOMOEOPATHY
BEFORE THE MEMBERS OF THE
BOYLSTON MEDICAL SOCIETY
(OF HARVARD MEDICAL
SCHOOL)**

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A lecture on homoeopathy before the members of the Boylston Medical Society (of Harvard Medical School) by C. Wesselhoeft

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LECTURE ON HOMŒOPATHY.

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(OF HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL).

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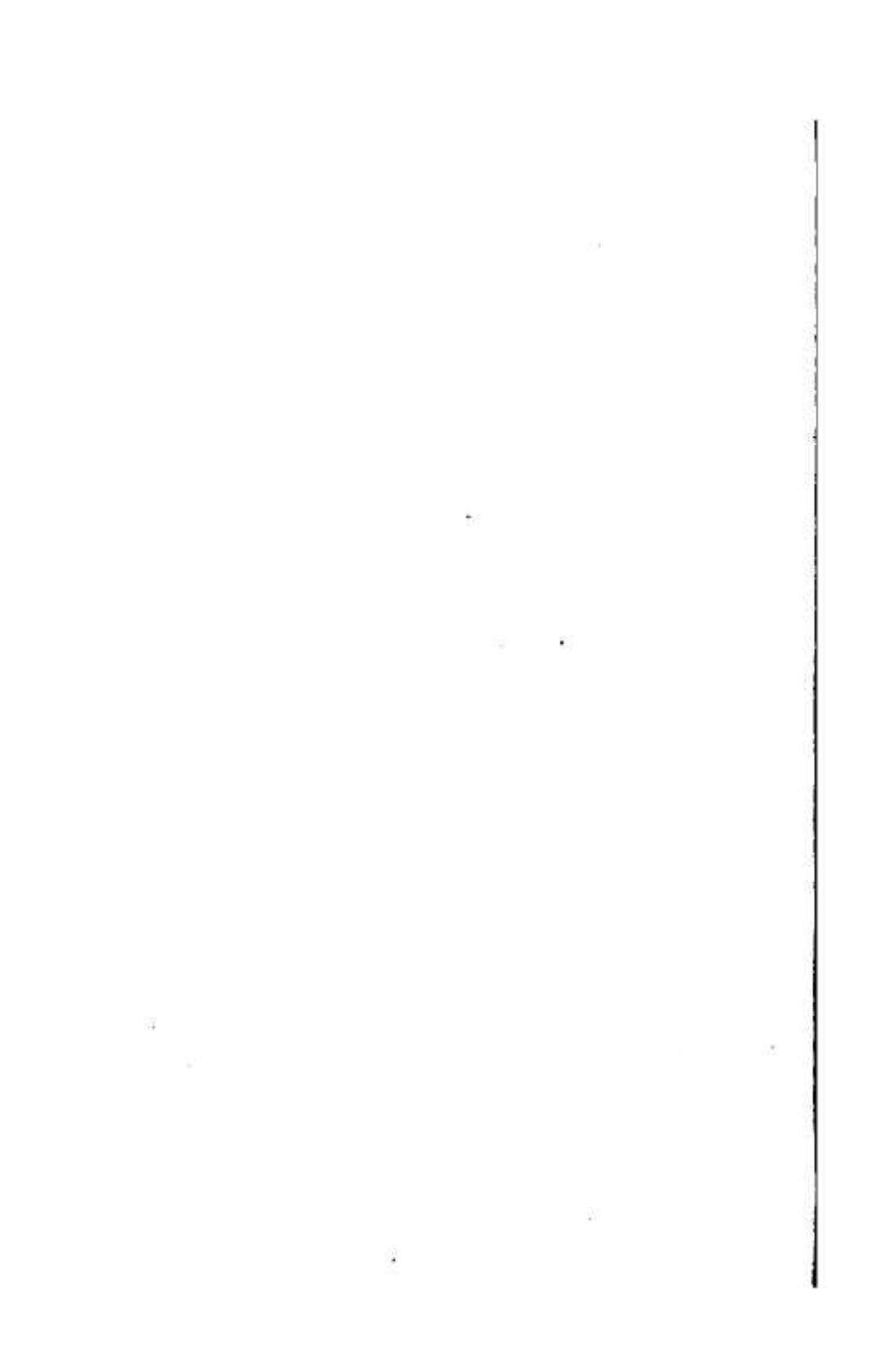
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PREFACE.

THE following pages contain a revised and corrected edition of the "Lecture on Homœopathy," etc., from the May and June numbers of the **NEW-ENGLAND MEDICAL GAZETTE**. The delay in the publication of this separate edition is a matter of regret, but is due to the illness of the author, to which also are to be attributed the non-correction of various errors contained in this article as printed in the **GAZETTE**.



INTRODUCTION.

EARLY in March the writer received a very polite invitation, from Drs. H. I. Bowditch and V. Y. Bowditch, "to answer some questions concerning homœopathy" to the members of the Boylston Medical Society, consisting of the advanced students of the Harvard Medical School. The proposal was gladly accepted; and it was arranged that each member of the class should write down a certain number of questions, from which the secretary of the society then made a selection, consisting of fourteen questions, the answers to which form the subject of the following paper. After listening to it, there followed a discussion of the subject by Dr. D. Hunt, and this was followed by questions concerning homœopathy on the part of the members. These questions and remarks were all to the point, intelligent and courteous, as I hope the unpremeditated answers were likewise.

As a matter of course, this paper is published with the hope, on the part of the author, that his treatment of the subject in so short a space may meet the approval of homœopaths, whose views, he trusts, were represented as fairly as the brevity of the allotted time and space would allow.

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LECTURE ON HOMŒOPATHY.

MR. CHAIRMAN, AND MEMBERS OF THE BOYLSTON MEDICAL SOCIETY, — When accepting your generous invitation to answer some questions concerning homœopathy, I did so with no ordinary sense of gratification. This I hope you will share with me when you call to mind that this meeting is an historical event, for it is the first time in medical history that a homœopathist has had the opportunity, courteously extended, of explaining the principles of his own to members of the opposite school.

It may not lie within my ability to do full justice to the questions you have asked, although they are plain and fair, and carry with them the assurance of an honest desire for information concerning a subject of doubt to you.

Your list contains no less than fourteen questions. However much abbreviated, the answers will tax your time and patience : mine are at your disposal.

1. Please give a brief statement of the essential doctrines of homœopathy, showing wherein it differs from the regular school.

In order to arrive at an understanding of the doctrines of homœopathy, in order to prepare our minds for a calm reception of statements of principles and methods with which we are either entirely unfamiliar, or regarding which we had