

TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

THE popularity of this work in France has been testified by the necessity for an eighth edition, which issued from the press in the month of March of the present year.

The previous English editions of the Formulary were also well received in this country, and I considered that fact sufficient inducement to undertake the present one. But besides this, in beholding the parliamentary pace of our British Pharmacopœias in the official recognition and adoption of the numerous and active remedies which the chemists of France are continually sending forth, and her physicians assiduously making application of in disease, I see every reason why such a publication as the present should be necessary to, and approved of by, the laudably curious and inquiring medical man. And it is not improbable that much of the apathy displayed by the majority of British practitioners in the discovery and applications of many of those remedies, is owing to the absence of such adoption of them on the part of the corporations to which they habitually look as the judges of what is and what is not adapted for medicinal employment.

Be this as it may, it is certain that whereas most of the substances forming the subject of this work have been in common use on the continent for several, and some for many, years, very few of them have been so

employed in this country, and many are only known in name to the mass of practitioners. It is only by placing before them in a compendious form the properties and modes of administration of the substances in question, that the desirable end of their ultimate and general introduction into British practice can be attained. This, I conceive, the present Formulary admirably adapted to do.

Like the greater number of French writers, M. Magendie is sometimes given to slide into *longueurs*. In such instances I have made rather a paraphrase than a close translation of his words. Again, as the continual transformation of the French measures and doses would have led to confusion, if not to error, I have preferred to retain them in the original terms, referring the reader to the subjoined comparative table of the French and English weights and measures. In all other respects I have closely adhered to the text.

To many of the articles I have appended in brackets such notes as my own reading and observation, or those of my more talented medical friends, have given me opportunity of compiling.

As Creosote is a remedy that promises to take a conspicuous station among therapeutical agents, I have, under the head of "Additional Articles," given an account of its preparation, properties, and applications. In the same category I have placed the Ioduret of iron.

May 1835.

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