

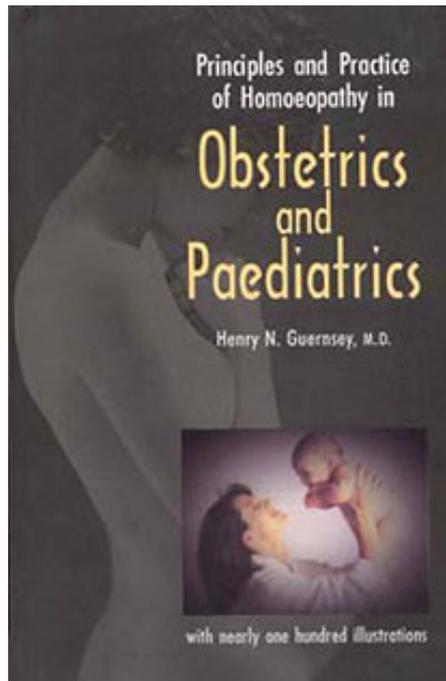
Henry Newell Guernsey

Principles and Practice of Homoeopathy in Obstetrics and Paediatrics

Reading excerpt

[Principles and Practice of Homoeopathy in Obstetrics and Paediatrics](#)
of [Henry Newell Guernsey](#)

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PREFACE.

IN preparing this work for the press, I need not remark upon the great interruption a large practice; and the great labor of lecturing one hour or more every day in the week for six months out of the twelve upon some medical subject, and many other duties at the College besides, have occasioned. Very many physicians can testify to the all-engrossing of almost every moment of time in conducting a large practice. Add to this the labor as above indicated, and most physicians can understand that it is an easy matter for many imperfections to creep into a work of this size, prepared under such pressing circumstances. No one can be more conscious of these imperfections than myself. This being the pioneer of all works of this kind ever published, it will be an easy matter to offer criticisms, and to improve on the issue of future editions.

The same reasons have compelled the long delay in the publication of the work, due entirely to the impossibility of more rapidly supplying the copy. Nor indeed could the work have made its appearance so promptly, but for the assistance rendered by my friend and colleague, J. H. P. FROST, M. D., in preparing the physiological parts; description of diseases, &c., and in carrying the whole through the press.

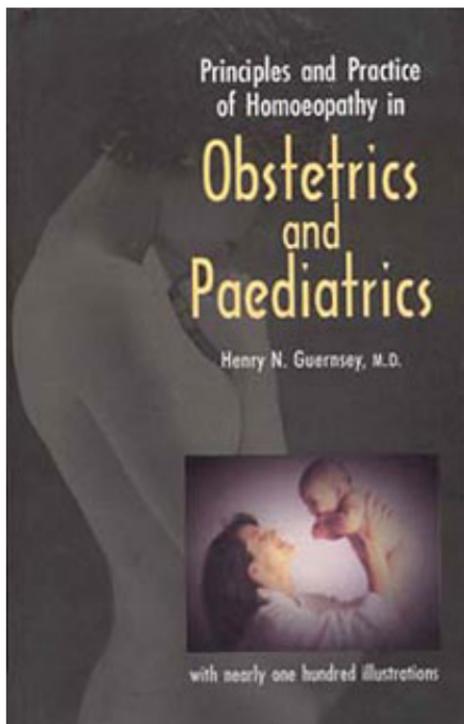
Both the author and publisher desire to acknowledge the liberality of Messrs. Lindsay & Blakiston, in furnishing a considerable part of the illustrations employed in this work.

The plan⁴ of treatment may seem to some rather novel, and, perhaps, on its first view, as objectionable, inasmuch as it may seem like prescribing for single symptoms; whereas Such is not

the fact. It is only meant to state some strong characteristic symptom, which will often be found the governing symptom, and on referring to the Symptomen Codex, all the others will surely be there if this one is. There must be a head to every thing; so in symptomatology,—if the most interior or peculiar, or key-note is discernible, it will be found that all the other symptoms of the case will be also found under that remedy that gives existence to this peculiar one, if that remedy is well proven. It will be necessary, in order to prescribe efficiently, to discover in every case that which characterizes one remedy above another, in every combination of symptoms that exists. There is certainly that, in every case of illness, which pre-eminently characterizes that case or causes it to differ from every other. So in the remedy to be selected, there is or must be a combination of symptoms, a peculiar combination, characteristic or, more strikingly, key-note. Strike that and all the others are easily touched, attuned or sounded. There is only one key-note to any piece of music, however complicated, and that note governs all the others in the various parts, no matter how many variations, trills, accompaniments, &c.

Such a work as the present was needed, indeed urgently called for, and I have spared no pains to render it useful to students and to the junior members of the profession, for whom it was especially designed, and to whom it is respectfully dedicated by

THE AUTHOR.



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