

John Ellis

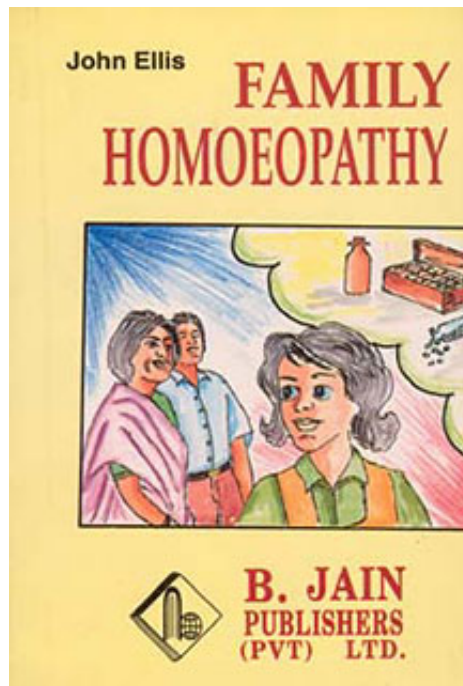
Family Homoeopathy

Reading excerpt

[Family Homoeopathy](#)

of [John Ellis](#)

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PREFACE

On presenting a treatise on domestic medicine to the homoeopathic portion of the community, while there are so many works already in existence, it is proper that the author should state some of the motives which have induced him to write it.

First : He has done it in compliance with the often expressed wish of many of his patrons, for a work of the character of the one he here presents, and at the request of some of the leading pharmacutists of our country. His aim has been to present in a compact form, as good a description of the symptoms of the various diseases, as possible in a small compass, and to give the prominent indications for the use of a limited number of our most important remedies, with specific and somewhat positive directions as to the stage of the disease in which they should be generally be continued; thus simplifying the practice, and leaving as little as possible to the discretion of the prescriber. He is satisfied that the success of physician even does not always depend upon the number of remedies with which he is acquainted, but upon his understanding how to make the best possible use of such medicines as he could administer, and this is more manifestly true in the case of lay practitioners. If a large number of remedies, and numerous indications for their use are given, the domestic prescriber is often confused,

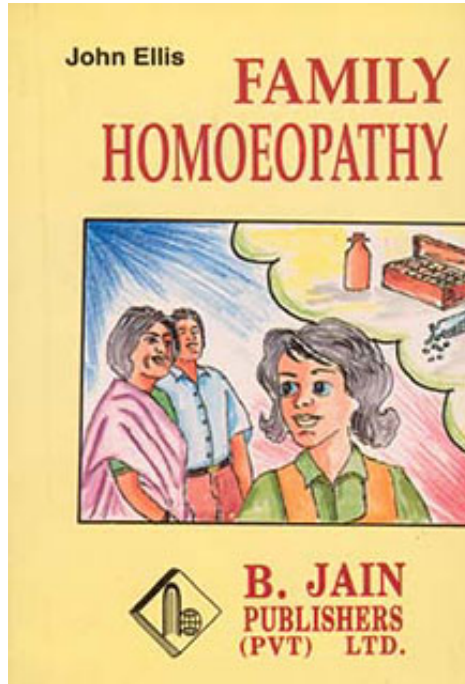
and finds it impossible to decide between the merits of the different remedies; and if no directions are given as to the period of time a remedy should be continued, a frequent change often prevents any good effects being derived from the treatment. The author has purposely avoided the alphabetical arrangement in listing the remedies indicated for the various diseases. The first one on the list has been placed there, either because it is generally required at the commencement of the disease, or is more frequently required than those which follow. The reader will please bear in mind that this is a domestic work, and has not been written to instruct physicians in regard to the proper treatment of diseases, but to guide those comparatively unacquainted with medical lore; therefore the aim has been to make it as simple and useful as possible. If the author had written this work for the profession he certainly would have recommended earnestly the high dilutions; and a frequent repetition of doses and the alternation of remedies to be avoided as far as possible.

Second : One of the leading motives which has induced the author to write this volume has been to have an opportunity to call the attention of the homoeopathic portion of the community to another work, which he has written, denominated, "The Avoidable Causes of Diseases, Insanity, and Deformity," published by Messrs, Mason Brothers, 5 and 7 Mercer street, New York; a work which, in the opinion of the author, is of far more importance, and of much greater value to every man, woman, and child, than any work on domestic medicine could possibly be available. That is a work to be read while well, so as to be able to shun the causes of disease; and if sick it should be read to understand the conditions, required to

restore the sick to health. The most skilful application of remedies often fails to relieve, for the want of the very information contained in that volume; and, although the work was written for general circulation, yet the author has no hesitation in expressing the opinion that even physicians can obtain much practical information from its pages, which will enable them to treat successfully, especially chronic diseases, what they could find in any other single volume which has ever been written. Knowing, then, the value which the author sets upon that work, the reader of this book will pardon the frequent reference to the "Avoidable Causes of Disease," in the following pages.

New York

J.E.



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