

In results of this nature this question naturally presents itself—where is the action located? Is it in the muscle itself or is it in the central nervous system.

We believe we have answered this question in the following experiment. A frog was pithed in the usual way and next the thigh muscles of one leg were ligated, care being taken to leave the great sciatic nerve free.

The alkaloid was now injected as before into the dorsal lymph sac and the results carefully noted. After a short period of quiescence, sudden fibrillations were noted in both legs. This fact, supported by the fact that in all our experiments the respiration failed long before the heart beat, confirms in a way the earlier investigators, and tends to show that the action of these two alkaloids is primarily upon the central nervous system. The action on the heart and blood pressure we likewise explain through the inhibitory influence carried by the vagi. The dilatation of the eye we attribute to the nervous relaxation of the circular fibers.

CONCLUSIONS.

1. From the evidence at hand it is evident that the action of these alkaloids is upon the central nervous system, and that the action upon the heart is secondary via the vagi.

2. Furthermore as will be seen by examining experiments No. 1 and No. 2, the strength of the alkaloid gelsemine is only about one fourth as great as that of gelseminine, also that the action in the case of gelseminine is much more lasting and profound. Again, these two alkaloids seem to have but little action in common.

3. The therapeutic value of these alkaloids has doubtless been overlooked; and now that they are to be obtained in the pure state their definite action will be utilized.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to my assistant, Mr. L. R. Hoffman, for his valuable aid.

BE AN ORIGINATOR.

Every tub should stand on its own bottom is a homely old proverb, but it is just as true now as when first spoken. Why should an intelligent druggist seek to imitate some successful preparation instead of trying to make one better? If the success of the article is due to good advertising and has merit, then the men who put their brains and money into it deserve their success and reward. If it is a fraud and is successful only because of the credulity and ignorance of the people, the druggist should shun it and not try to grab a few dollars by trailing behind the band wagon with a feeble imitation. It never pays. It is a mighty small man who is satisfied with the crumbs from the table; a real man wants to sit at the table himself, and this means that every druggist should be an originator, not an imitator. The follower always gets the leavings, the leader gets the prizes and the honors.—*American Druggist*.