PRESS RELEASE

Digitisation continued
More medical journals by Samuel Hahnemann are digitally accessible

Stuttgart, June 2022. We are pleased that the results of our pilot project the "Digital Critical Edition" of the medical journal DF 5 by Samuel Hahnemann (1755-1843), which was completed in 2020, could be transferred to other medical journals in form of a database edition. The journal DF 2, which Arnold Michalowski had presented as a print edition, is now also available digitally. In addition, Ute Fischbach Sabel continued her intensive work, so it is thanks to her that the transcriptions of D 20 and D 21 can also be presented digitally edited. You can find the online databases with many other tools and explanations here: https://datenbanken.igm-bosch.de/fmi/webd/Krankenjournal_D20 (D 20), https://datenbanken.igm-bosch.de/fmi/webd/Krankenjournal_D21 (D 21) and https://datenbanken.igm-bosch.de/fmi/webd/Krankenjournal_DF2 (DF 2). This means that further volumes of this historically valuable and unique source are conveniently available to a larger group of users.

The estate of Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of homeopathy, is the core fond of the Homeopathy Archive of the Institute for the History of Medicine of the Robert Bosch Stiftung (IGM). Robert Bosch (1861-1942) had acquired the manuscripts, letters and medical journals together with other documents and objects from the homeopathic physician Richard Haehl (1873-1932). Later, the collection was part of the Robert Bosch Hospital under the name Medizingeschichtliche Forschungsstelle. Its head, the senior physician Dr. Heinz Henne (1923-1988) began to transcribe and edit the preserved medical journals as early as the 1960s. He wanted to use the sources to work out the basics of homeopathy and thus objectify the discussion about the controversial healing method.

The IGM, founded in 1980, continued its efforts to edit the existing 54 medical journals. With regard to the length of the journals, some of which are up to 500 pages, and the difficulties in deciphering Hahnemann’s handwriting, it was not easy to get researchers enthusiastic about the time-consuming and tedious transcriptions. Nevertheless, over the years the first four journals edited by Heinz Henne (D 2, D 3 and D 4) and Helene Varady (D 5) could be submitted according to new transcription guidelines by Arnold Michalowski. Other volumes and commentaries by Johanna Bußmann (D 6), Ulrich Schuricht (D 16), Thorsten Spielmann (D 19), Markus Mortsch (D 22), Ute Fischbach Sabel (D 34) and Monika Papsch (D 38) followed. The transcriptions and translations of two French journals DF 2 and DF 5 provided by Arnold Michalowski should also be
highlighted. The latter became the basis of a pilot project, during which its transcription was transferred to the markup format of the Text Encoding Initiative. You can find the result here: https://www.hahnemann-edition.de/index.html.

The Institute for the History of Medicine of the Robert Bosch Stiftung (IGM), based in Stuttgart, is a unique research institution with a special focus on the history of homeopathy and pluralism in medicine. Since 2020, the institute, founded in 1980, has acted as the overall archive of all Robert Bosch Stiftung institutions and is therefore tasked with maintaining Robert Bosch's legacy in all its facets and institutions. The IGM includes a research library with more than 75,000 volumes as well as a "homeopathy archive" which, among other things, keeps the estate of Samuel Hahnemann and the records of international and national organisations of homeopaths.

www.igm-bosch.de

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