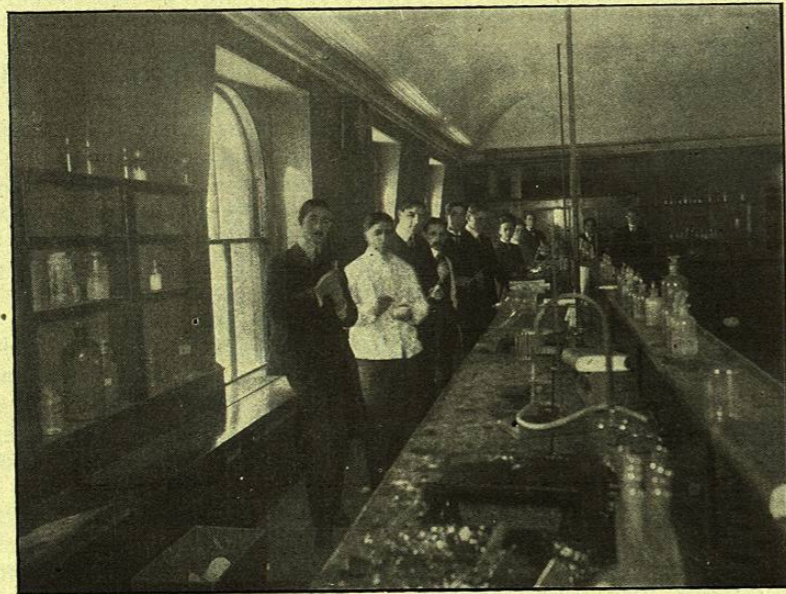


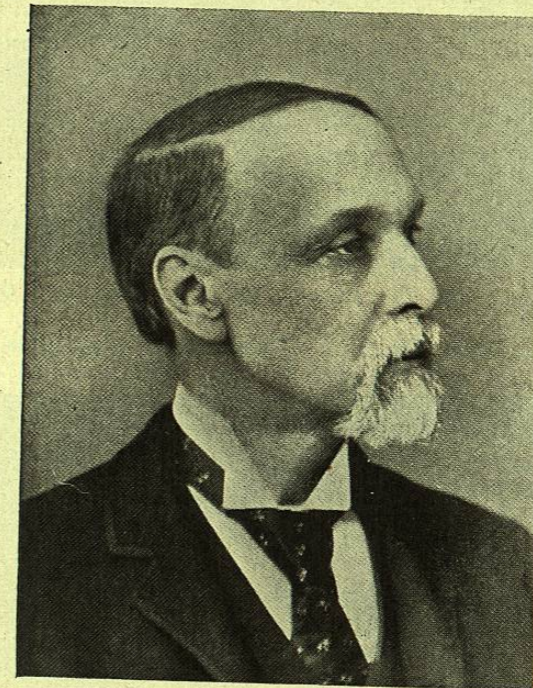
Microscopical Laboratory.



Chemical Laboratory.

seven (after some discussion, raised to ten), was appointed to take active measures to secure a hospital. During the same year, 1870, but six months later, this committee of ten, consisting of Drs. David Thayer, W. P. Wesselhoeft, Conrad Wesselhoeft, G. M. Pease, Charles Cullis, I. T. Talbot, D. G. Woodvine, H. C. Angell, E. B. deGersdorff, J. H. Woodbury, presented to the society a report in which the following resolution is found:

"Resolved, That this committee cordially approves the establishment of a homœopathic hospital in Burroughs place, believing that in this modest beginning we have the germ of an institution which under the fostering care of the homœopaths of the city and the state, will grow into a New



Dr. Conrad Wesselhoeft.

England homœopathic hospital and a *New England Homœopathic College.*"

In 1871, well into the fourth decade of homœopathy in New England, evidences were apparent on all hands that the new school had grown steadily and solidly and that its activities were of such a nature that it was destined to become a potent influence in the life of the community. Naturally, this phenomenal success had been achieved in the face of opposition, and the opposition to homœopathy had reached a climax in the refusal of the surgeon general of Massachusetts to sanction the appointment of Dr. H. P. Shattuck of Boston as medical director of the first brigade of Massachusetts volunteer militia, because he was a homœopathist; and in the action of the

Massachusetts Medical Society in adopting measures for the disfranchisement and expulsion of such of its members as believed in homœopathy.

In April, 1871, Dr. Thayer reported to the state society that "a bill was introduced into the Massachusetts house of representatives this winter, aimed at the homœopaths, which fined a man ten dollars who dispensed his own medicines. It had got into the senate and would soon have become a law; but when the attention of senators was called to its real meaning it was at once dropped."

It is well known, however, that such intolerance was not confined to Massachusetts. Pension Surgeons Spooner and Bull of New York and Hoppin of Rhode Island had just been removed from office by Commissioner Van Aernam, who gave as reason for his action simply that these surgeons "did not belong to the school of medicine recognized by this bureau." Many other instances of intolerance might be cited, but it is enough that in Massachusetts as elsewhere persecution of homœopaths by old school organizations so aroused public opinion, sympathy and support that homœopathic institutions rapidly grew in favor and new projects received assistance that otherwise might not have been given them.

The year 1872 proved a period of great and successful activity among the homœopaths of New England. A "grand fair" was held in Boston to raise funds for the Massachusetts Homœopathic Hospital, and some idea of the widespread public interest that was taken in this event may be obtained from the fact that the sum of \$76,000 was raised during the week of the fair.

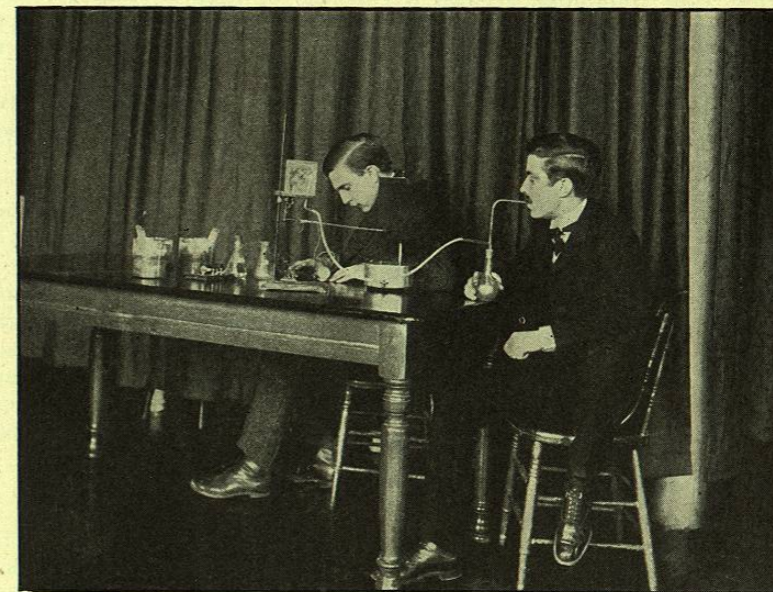
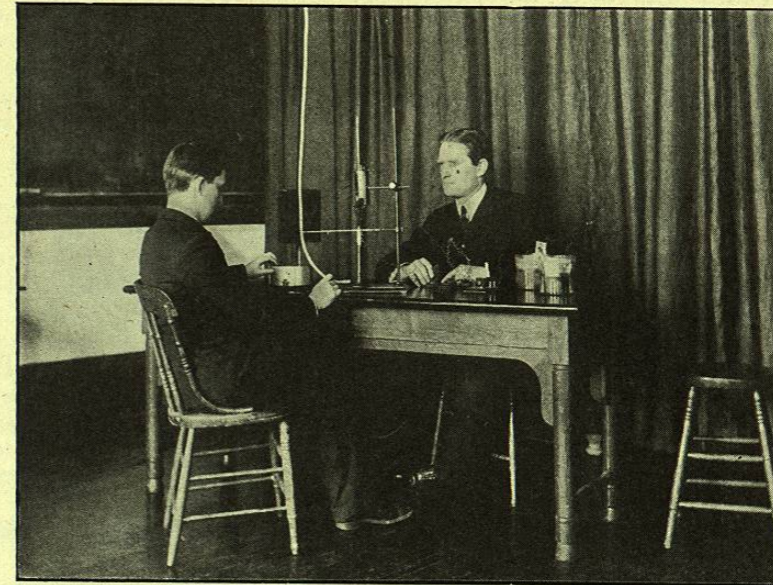
On October 9, 1872, Dr. I. T. Talbot, for a committee, made a report to the Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society which closed with the following:

"*Resolved*, That the interests of the community and the progress of medical science demand that a medical college be established in New England, on a broad, comprehensive, and permanent basis, in which physicians may be educated in the principles and practice of homœopathy, as well as in all the collateral branches of medical science; and for this purpose, we pledge the influence and assistance of this society, so far as may be consistent with its legitimate object; and we solicit for it the active co-operation and aid of every member of the medical profession.

"*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed, with full powers to take such action as they may deem expedient for the permanent establishment and active operation of such a medical college."

An earnest discussion showing a deep appreciation of the circumstances by the society followed the presentation of the report, and on the adoption of the report the following were appointed a committee to carry out the object of the resolution: Drs. David Thayer, I. T. Talbot, Conrad Wesselhoeft, D. G. Woodvine, N. R. Morse, J. H. Woodbury and T. S. Scales. This committee, at the next meeting of the society, April 9, 1873, made a somewhat elaborate report from which the following is quoted:

"At the last semi-annual meeting of this society the subject of the establishment of a homœopathic medical college in New England was introduced and fully discussed; and it was unanimously decided that the time had arrived for the establishment of such a college, and this committee was appointed, 'with full power to take such action as they may deem expedient for the permanent establishment and active operation of such a medical college.'



Experiments in Physiological Laboratory.

"Clothed with these full powers, and sustained by the general sentiment of the society, the committee met to consider the best method of establishing this college.

"The state of Massachusetts had granted a liberal charter for a college with the title of the 'New England Homœopathic Medical College,' and there was little doubt in the minds of any of the committee but that such a college could be successfully established. At the same time, judging from the history of every medical college of our school, and in fact of the great majority of educational institutions which stand alone, or not associated with any other institutions, their success is too often dependent upon the influence and personal effort of a few individuals, and does not secure that permanence and combined power which should characterize a medical institution.

"Happily, at this juncture, it came to the knowledge of your committee that a new university, upon the broadest scale, known as the Boston University, was about to be established in this city (Boston). The plan of this university includes four superior professional departments or schools, viz.: law, theology, medicine and universal science; and no less than eleven distinct colleges, including all the arts and sciences, and an under-graduate or classical department.

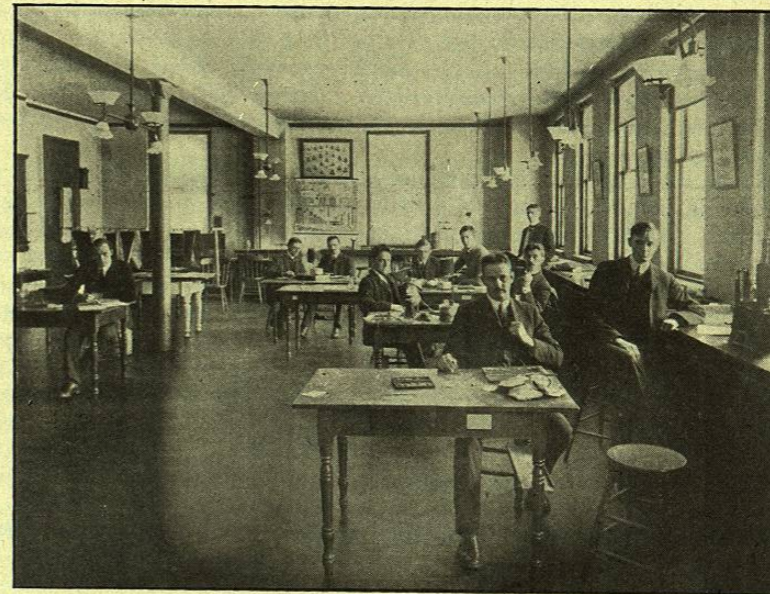
"The schools of theology and law, and the college of music, have already been established, and are in successful operation.

"The advantages of establishing a medical school in connection with this university were too obvious and too great to be overlooked, and a committee was appointed by the trustees of the university to devise such plans as should render it permanently successful beyond any reasonable doubt. To do this, your committee deemed it essential to raise \$10,000 for the outfit; \$5,000 a year for five years, and in the meantime to secure a permanent fund of \$200,000, which your committee felt confident could be raised among the physicians and friends of homœopathy in New England. The prospect of a medical department under such favorable auspices determined the question with the board of trustees of the university, and it was decided by them unanimously to establish such a medical school or department under the charge of homœopaths.

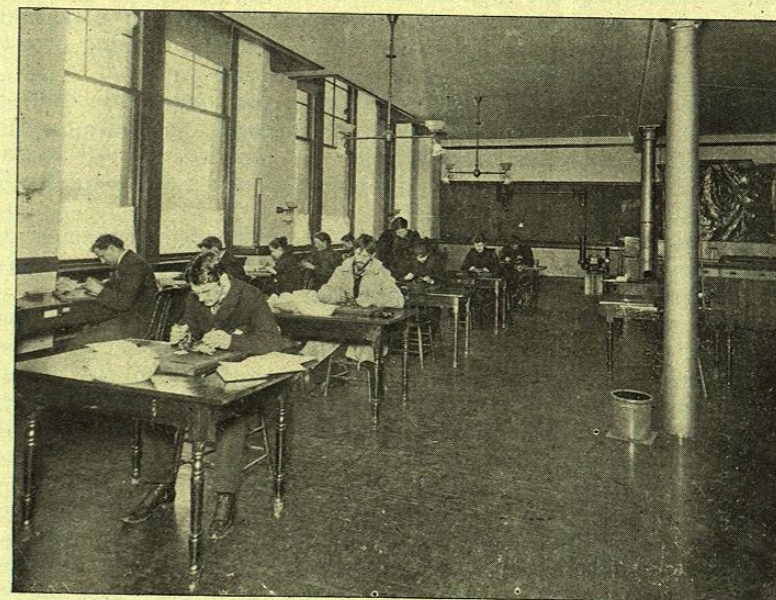
"Thus, for the first time in the history of homœopathy, have we secured a medical school in connection with a university or other educational institution.

"This university is connected with a large and liberal denomination—the Methodists—second only in numbers in the United States, which will give to it and its medical department a powerful support. It has already received many donations, and an endowment of several millions from one of the warmest friends of homœopathy, Hon. Isaac Rich, which will come in full possession of the university at the expiration of ten years; a part of which will, if necessary, be applied to the uses of the medical school.

"A meeting of the homœopathic physicians of New England was called by your committee, and after discussion it was unanimously voted to accept the proposition, and establish the school under the auspices of the Boston University. Already we have seen some of the advantages of this combination. The board of trustees, men of ability and eminence in the community, feel an interest in the success of this department, and have entered into negotiations with the New England Female Medical College, and have made



Physiological Laboratory.



Biological Laboratory.

arrangements by which the whole property, amounting to nearly \$160,000, shall be transferred to this medical department upon the payment of its debt, amounting to \$42,000.

"The importance of this seems worthy of every effort, and already some \$30,000 of this amount has been secured. There still remains some \$12,000 to be obtained, and \$10,000 at once to put the college in an efficient and active working condition.

"When we consider the immense advantages which will accrue to our cause, that it is an opportunity which probably can never occur again, it seems of the greatest importance that an effort should now be made not only to secure what has been offered to us but to place it in a position of usefulness of which we may all feel proud."

To give one the "side-lights" on this subject, and to show that interest in the establishment of a medical school in Boston was not confined to the medical profession, the following is quoted from a letter by one of New England's famous writers, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, to the "New England Medical Gazette." It was published in the issue of January, 1873.

"*Editors of the Gazette*—The continued want in this city of a homœopathic medical school—hardly second to, and walking hand in hand with that of a hospital—begins to wear, it seems to me, a serious aspect. * * * Boston must open a homœopathic medical school, in which the most accurate and scientific standards of study shall express themselves in the most practical and most liberal curriculum—and Boston must do this before long. Upon the immediate establishment of such a school may depend, in the somewhat chaotic transition state of medical instruction now prevailing in America, more of the character of New England homœopathy for the coming decade than we may be fully aware of; or, at least, attentive to. Next year is as suitable for the commencement of such an undertaking as next century. It can require but two conditions to the opening of a course of lectures in this town another autumn—means and wits.

"In the former we are not wont to suppose the homœopathic laity of this vicinity to be deficient—perhaps, indeed, it is more generally a laity of wealth and culture than is really well for the broader interests of the system (a medical no less than a religious creed is never secure of its footing till 'the common people hear it gladly').

"As to the latter, my acquaintance with the local profession is limited, and I prefer to found my hopes or fears upon an assumption or an inference. From an opinion I pray thee have me excused!

"In one pre-eminent particular it will be found that a medical college of the new school, dating its inception from times like these, will possess a signal advantage over any other institution of its kind in the country. I refer to the ease with which it can start right upon the subject of educating women. * * * That women might, could, would and should share in the study and practice of medicine, the world found out some time since. It is too late for the most incredulous or reluctant to question this. Contesting interests now clash about the fact. Rival systems have begun to prove themselves ingenious in their methods of meeting it. That school which most thoroughly and heartily educates its women, hangs out the banner of its ultimate triumphs as surely as 'God created them male and female,' with the instincts upon which social purities and securities rest alike.

"It remains for the New England new school to found an institution

on this new plank in the platform of medical progress. The more obvious advantages of this opportunity, by which the instructive, receptive, and pecuniary force of the college will be quite or nearly doubled—as well as the public interest upon which it relies for patronage—are the least of its claims to respect. The courage to build a new enterprise upon the cornerstone of a yet struggling truth; the freedom from petty professional and masculine jealousies which alone can uphold it; the reputation for a spirit of advanced liberality and accessibility to those beckoning moral forces by which the higher science must ultimately be illuminated—these will form an endowment as solid as the college walls, and as available as a draft at sight."

So rapidly do things move when momentum has once been acquired that in two months after the publication of Miss Phelps' letter, the "New England Medical Gazette" was able to announce authoritatively:

"On Saturday, February 15, 1873, the Supreme court removed the injunction from the Massachusetts Medical Society, and said virtually, 'We can no longer protect you homœopaths from intentional wrong on the part of that time-honored institution.' *It is a somewhat remarkable coincidence that on the same day another body of men—men who are not looking into the dead past, but into the living future—offered a cordial welcome to the homœopathists.*

"The Boston University is chartered by the state of Massachusetts with the greatest powers that it has ever given to any educational institution. Its plan is the broadest and most extensive of any in America. Aside from the classical or undergraduate department, it already contemplates not less than eleven distinct colleges, giving thorough instruction in the principal sciences and arts. Besides these colleges there will be four schools or departments of higher grade.

"These departments have no conflicting theories or ethics to conciliate or offend. But in establishing a school of medicine a more delicate question arose. What system shall be taught? Into whose hands shall it be committed? *That the founder was a decided homœopath* might not alone have determined the answer. It is possible that this question would not have been met for years to come but for the obnoxious proceedings of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and the spirit which it elicited. The energy and decision with which the bigotry and intolerance of its leaders were resisted by the homœopaths, and the success which attended their efforts, the undivided sympathy of the press and the whole public, the popular uprising in the great homœopathic hospital fair—all this tended to show the trustees of the university that homœopathy was a living power and, at least, not to be despised. After a long and careful examination and thorough discussion of the whole subject, it was unanimously voted by them to establish a medical department and place it under the charge of the homœopaths."

At a meeting of the homœopathic physicians of Massachusetts held Wednesday, February 19, 1873, the matter of co-operation with Boston University in the establishment of a medical school was fully considered, and the proposition was unanimously approved. It was voted at this meeting to form an organization to raise funds with which to start such a school. On March 13, 1873, an organization styled "The Homœopathic Association of Boston University" to aid in founding and supporting a homœopathic medical school for the education of men and women in the medical department of Boston University was formed. Membership fee was three dollars and