

CHAPTER VII

THE COLLEGE OF HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINE AND SURGERY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

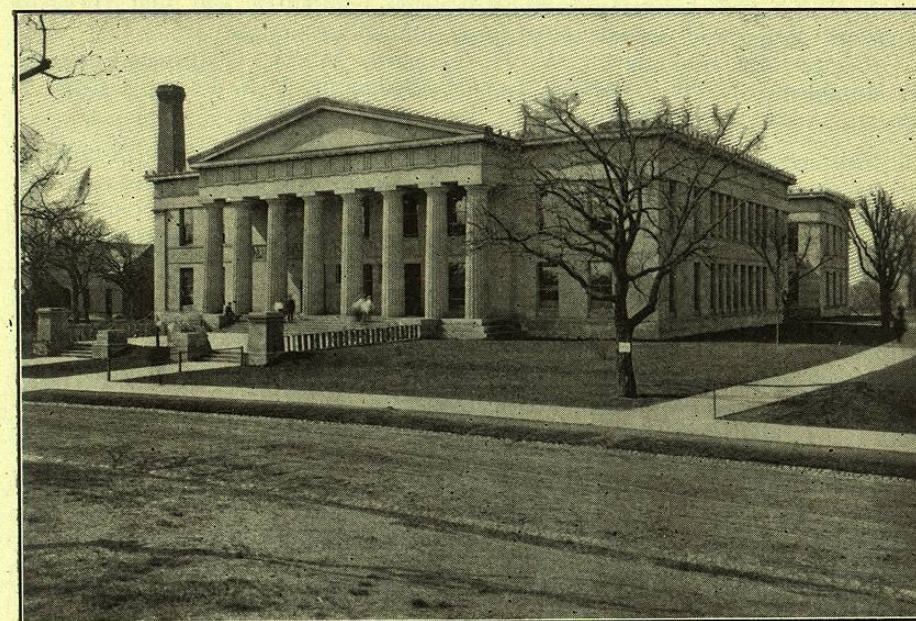
The Minnesota Homœopathic Medical College, located at Minneapolis, and which is now a department of the University of the State of Minnesota, was incorporated, organized and opened to students in 1886. As early as 1883 the great importance of establishing a homœopathic college in the northwest was fully understood by the members of the school founded by Hahnemann. The growth of homœopathy in Minnesota had been rapid and from one physician in 1852 of that school, in 1886 there were one hundred and thirty. The system was popular and many of the best people of the communities were its believers and exponents. But any one who wished to study homœopathic medicine was obliged to go to San Francisco or to Chicago, or still further from home. Minneapolis also was becoming a center of education, and it was deemed fitting that some means should be taken so that the young men and women of Minnesota, who wished to become doctors, might be educated within the limits of their own state. Accordingly, in 1883, eight members of this profession met, and, after some consultation, formulated articles of incorporation in accordance with the statutes of the state and made other preparations for establishing a homœopathic college. But, owing to certain events, it was thought that the proper time for such a project had not arrived and the matter was deferred. The following year, 1884, a plan for a mutual training school was formulated and adopted in connection with the dispensary attached to the Minneapolis Homœopathic Hospital. This also had in view the ultimate establishment of a homœopathic college. The organization was called the Minneapolis Clinical Society and its membership consisted of the physicians connected with the hospital dispensary. It was organized in 1884; its first president was Dr. Asa S. Hutchinson, and its first secretary, Dr. William E. Leonard. It was never incorporated. Its meetings were held weekly and the members lectured to each other. The meetings were held at the office of Dr. A. L. Bausman during the winter of 1886 and the subject of a college was again discussed.

It was now thought advisable to ascertain the sentiment of the profession as to the advisability of establishing a medical college in Minnesota; consequently a mass meeting of the physicians of Minneapolis was called at the Nicollet house on January 20, 1886. There were twenty physicians present and the question of a college was freely and informally discussed. A formal vote on the question of starting a homœopathic college immediately resulted; there were ten votes cast for doing so, five against it, and five of those present who declined to vote. It was this majority in favor that decided that measures should be taken at once which would result in the establishment of a homœopathic college. A committee of five was appointed to take the necessary steps. On January 27 this committee made two reports, one member making a minority report; these reports were both

tabled. A new committee of nine physicians was then appointed with instructions to take a month for deliberation and to present a unanimous report or none at all. On February 23, a mass meeting was again held at the Nicollet house, this being the third meeting of the homœopathic physicians of Minneapolis. At this meeting the committee of nine previously appointed presented the following written report, which was signed by each member. It is as follows:

"To the Members of the Homœopathic Profession of the City of Minneapolis:

Your committee appointed to inquire into the feasibility of establishing a school of medicine in our city, and to ascertain the best means of uniting and promoting the true interests of the profession, beg leave to report as follows:



Library Building.

We recognize that what has already been done through the Minneapolis Homœopathic Hospital Association in starting, and placing upon a firm basis, a first class hospital, is a nucleus around which it is anticipated that other interests to the medical profession shall gather, and we feel that now is the time to take such steps as shall bring a realization of this. We can not ignore the fact that this is a metropolitan city and an educational center; and all interests of whatever character are pushed with true western zeal. As homœopaths we should not stand by and watch the commendable energy of those about us without partaking of it to further the interests of our school of medicine.

Therefore we recommend as the first step, the establishment of a Homœopathic Medical Journal, for the purpose of bringing together and utilizing such medical literature as may emanate from the medical fraternity of our city and state. We think the time is near at hand when there should be a school of medicine to teach our particular tenets. Therefore, we also recommend that steps be taken to lay such foundation as in your wisdom may be thought best, by incorporating according to the laws of the state; and that the trustees of said corporation shall be from the older and conservative element of the profession, and such lay members as may be deemed eligible, and that said board of trustees shall, when the proper time arrives, appoint a faculty of medicine. Also, we recommend that this board of trustees shall be in charge of the journal to be published, and shall directly see to the publishing of it, or indirectly by an editorial or publishing committee, and this to be accomplished as soon as possible.

In making these recommendations your committee feel that they are important steps, and would solicit your immediate action.

Respectfully submitted: W. H. Leonard, M. D., Chairman; Drs. O. M. Humphrey, D. M. Goodwin, Jno. F. Beaumont, J. F. Fargo, George F. Roberts, Adele S. Hutchinson, A. L. Bausman, Committee."

This report was unanimously adopted and the committee discharged and another provisional committee was chosen to take proper measures for establishing a homœopathic medical journal. This committee consisted of five members and resulted from the following resolution: "Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare the articles of incorporation of a Homœopathic College of Medicine, select the incorporators, secure their signatures, proceed with all necessary work for the establishment of the journal, and do such other work as would naturally devolve upon the board of trustees, until such board shall be legally formed, when such board shall legally become the successors of the committee." The committee consisted of Dr. A. L. Bausman, chairman, Drs. O. M. Humphrey, Jno. F. Fargo, William E. Leonard, and P. M. Hall.

From this resulted the establishment of the "Minnesota Medical Monthly," the initial number being issued May, 1886. This provisional committee of five not only organized the journal but also prepared articles of incorporation for the college and procured the sixty-five signatures of the incorporators. A board of trustees was elected and a faculty appointed. The incorporators were as follows:

THE INCORPORATORS OF THE MINNESOTA HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE.

John F. Beaumont, M. D.; Petrus Nelson, M. D.; Rufus L. Thurston, M. D.; Wm. E. Leonard, M. D.; S. A. Locke, M. D.; W. D. Lawrence, M. D.; J. F. Fargo, M. D.; G. E. Ricker, M. D.; P. L. Hatch, M. D.; Adele S. Hutchinson, M. D.; J. A. Steele, M. D.; Alex Donald, M. D., Stillwater; H. C. Leonard, M. D., Fergus Falls; A. M. Hutchinson, M. D., Waseca; H. W. Brazie, M. D.; L. P. Foster, M. D.; B. H. Ogden, M. D., St. Paul; Wm. L. Craddock, M. D., St. Paul; S. W. Rutledge, M. D., Grand Forks, Dak.; R. W. Hatch; A. H. Linton; Hon. S. C. Gale; Hon. Sam. P. Snider; L. S. Buffington; Hon. Geo. A. Pillsbury; Thos. S. King; Hon. R. B. Langdon; R. R. Rand; Wesley Neill; Hon. E. H. Moulton; Hon. David C. Bell; W. H. Pettit, M. D., Cedar Falls, Iowa; L. Hall, M. D.;

Martha G. Ripley, M. D.; G. E. Dennis, M. D.; H. B. Ehle, M. D.; S. Francis Brown, M. D.; D. M. Goodwin, M. D.; Geo. F. Roberts, M. D.; W. H. Caine, M. D., Stillwater; S. Martin Spaulding, M. D.; A. L. Bausman; Lyman R. Palmer, M. D.; Pearl M. Hall, M. D.; W. W. Huntington; A. E. Higbee, M. D.; D. W. Horning, M. D., Lake City; D. A. Strickler, M. D., Duluth; C. F. Mitchell, M. D.; G. H. Hawes, M. D., Hastings; E. Hubbell, M. D., Clearwater; D. H. Roberts, M. D., Owatonna; Hon. W. D. Washburn; N. F. Griswold; A. F. Gale; L. P. Hubbard; Chas. T. Leonard; Hon. C. M. Loring; Thos. Gardiner; Hon. Henry G. Hicks; Charles P. Stevens; J. H. Thompson; Hon. B. F. Nelson; A. B. Nettleton.

Officers: President, Hon. W. D. Washburn; vice-president, P. L. Hatch, M. D.; secretary, H. W. Brazie, M. D.; treasurer, Hon. E. H. Moulton. Trustees: Dr. D. M. Goodwin, Hon. S. P. Snider, Dr. William E. Leonard, Hon. B. F. Nelson, Dr. A. A. Camp, Hon. R. B. Langdon, Dr. A. E. Higbee, Dr. S. M. Spaulding, Dr. A. L. Bausman, Dr. J. F. Beaumont, Dr. P. M. Hall. Dr. P. L. Hatch was elected dean, and Dr. A. E. Higbee, registrar.

The board of trustees appointed the following faculty of medicine for the new institution:

Philo L. Hatch, M. D., professor of obstetrics and dean of the faculty.
David M. Goodwin, M. D., professor of principles and practice of surgery.

Henry W. Brazie, M. D., professor of physiology.

Albert E. Higbee, M. D., professor of gynecology and registrar of the faculty.

John F. Beaumont, M. D., professor of ophthalmology and otology.

George E. Ricker, A. B., M. D., professor of theory and practice of medicine.

William E. Leonard, A. B., M. D., professor of materia medica and institutes.

Robert D. Matchan, M. D., professor of clinical surgery.

Salathiel M. Spaulding, M. D., professor of mental and nervous diseases.

Pearl M. Hall, M. D., professor of clinical medicine and physical diagnosis.

Martha G. Ripley, M. D., professor of pædology.

Samuel A. Locke, B. S., M. D., professor of chemistry and toxicology.

S. Francis Brown, M. D., professor of chemistry and toxicology.

Hon. Henry G. Hicks, professor of medical jurisprudence.

Cyrus F. Mitchell, M. D., demonstrator of anatomy.

Asa S. Wilcox, M. D., adjunct to the chair of surgery.

With great enthusiasm the practical steps toward making the college an established reality went on. A building was secured at No. 1929 Fourth avenue, south, next to the corner of Franklin avenue (Twentieth street) and but three squares from the Minneapolis Homœopathic Hospital. The first announcement was a handsome pamphlet of fifteen pages. The college was opened, the first lecture being delivered on October 4, 1886. At this initial session there were twenty matriculants and the course was continued for six months. The first commencement occurred on the evening of Monday, April 4, 1887, at the Central Baptist church. Dr. Higbee, the registrar,