

Ceterum censeo macrodosiam esse delendam.

Dr. Wesselhœft:—Mr. President, do not let us refer this paper to a committee of three, but let us refer it to a committee of the whole of this Association, and as a body express our thanks for the most masterly expression on posology that we have in our Homœopathic literature. I therefore ask you to put the question, that this whole Association thanks Dr. Fincke for this valuable paper.

Carried unanimously.

President Fincke expressed his thanks to the Association for their appreciation and courteous recognition of his address.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the Members of the International Hahnemannian Association:

There seems to be very little for your Secretary to report. How the routine business of the position has been performed you already know. Please allow me to remind the members that a delayed manuscript or unrevised speech can prevent the printing of the transactions until it is placed in the Secretary's hands. I also urge the members to respond promptly to the chairmen of the Bureaus, giving the titles of the papers to be contributed, so that the programme may be issued on time.

Copies of the 1895 transactions were sent to those members whose dues were paid before December 1st, 1895, and the balance were sent to our Treasurer who very properly has all back volumes, the property of the Association, in his possession.

In the transactions of 1893, the names of four physicians, Drs. P. C. Majumdar, C. Dyer, W. F. Thatcher and J. E.

Thatcher, appear, recommended by the Board of Censors, and probably elected (the records do not state) to membership. These names have not been placed in our roll of members, nor has the Treasurer been notified of their election. Will the Association decide what course of action, if any, should be pursued with reference to these physicians?

The resignations of two members have been received and will be presented at the proper time.

Very respectfully submitted.

ERASTUS E. CASE,

Secretary.

The report of the Secretary was accepted.

Dr. F. Powel:—I would like to emphasize the remark that the Secretary has just made, referring to prompt responses on the part of the members, when they receive the copy of remarks that have been made in the meeting of the Association for revision. As he says, it very considerably delays publication of the transactions, and I think, when these reports are received, it is important that they should be responded to within twenty-four hours. It will mitigate the labors of the Secretary very materially and put the transactions in the hands of the members much more quickly.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

W. P. WESSELHÆFT, M. D.

I was in hopes of presenting an interesting report of the welfare of Hahnemannian Homœopathy throughout the world, and addressed a number of appeals to representatives of our school. In return I have received only a very few answers, and they are disappointing in number and material.

It would have afforded me especial pleasure to give you the history of Homœopathy in India. This was promised me

from the pen of one of the best representatives of the art in that country. All arrangements by correspondence and previous interviews had been made with our member, Dr. Banerjee, of Calcutta (whom we elected as our foreign correspondent two years ago) but serious illness prevented him from fulfilling his promise. I received the following letter from him a very few weeks ago.

CALCUTTA, INDIA, 3, 18, 1896.

MY DEAR DR. WESSELHÆFT.

Indeed I am sincerely glad to receive your letter. I thank the I. H. A. for electing me corresponding member.

I am sorry to inform you that since your departure from India I have been suffering from bronchitis, night sweat, fever, cough, hoarseness and loss of weight (nearly eighty-two pounds). Since the last eighteen months I am confined to bed. I am, however, now convalescent and last evening I walked over the terrace of my house.

I think I shall be able to send you in time a complete history of Homœopathy in India. It is an agreeable task to me and I shall try my best to make the paper interesting and replete with facts.

My case was given up as hopeless by my colleagues, but my changed condition is due mostly to electric treatment. I have not taken a drop of medicine since the last six months, but every day get electric treatment from an ordinary bichromate of potash battery for a few minutes only. My fever and night sweats are all gone; cough still hanging on but not much. The only thing that remains unchanged is hoarseness. I have so far recovered that after eighteen months am able to hold my pen and write this letter to you, hoping you are in health and spirit.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

B. N. BANERJEE, M. D.

I hope the Association will feel inclined, officially, to express its sympathy with Dr. Banerjee in his long sickness, and wish him continued improvement in health.

The history of Homœopathy in India impressed me as most interesting and instructive as I heard it from the lips of these remarkable Hindus. It was my intention at the time to take notes, and write them out later, but Dr. Banerjee had the entire history at his finger ends, so I thought it wiser to leave the matter with him. Let us hope that we shall hear from him at our next meeting, and listen to the pioneer work of strong men with strong convictions on the other side of our planet.

Dr. Majumdar, another Indian colleague, and the able editor of the Indian Homœopathic Review, and the translator of much of our Homœopathic literature into the Bengale language, has sent us a paper for the clinical bureau. In a recent letter from him, dated April 29th, he says:

"Why am I not favored with copies of the Transactions of the I. H. A., which I value more than those of the A. I. H., which latter ones have been sent me regularly since 1893?" In a previous letter, dated February 26th, he writes: "I am sorry I have not received copies of the Transactions. I have the honor of being a member since 1893. You are its Corresponding Secretary, I therefore request you to have these copies of my favorite association forwarded to me."

By reference to the list of members, I find Dr. Majumdar's name omitted. You will all remember that he was present at our meeting at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, in 1893, and under a suspension of rules, he and Dr. Villers, of Dresden, were elected members. Why was Dr. Majumdar's name omitted, and Dr. Villers' name added to the list of members? I remember that some members protested against either of these gentlemen's election, on the ground that our by-laws made it obligatory to let the election go over to the following year. If Dr. Villers was elected at that meeting, Dr.

Majumdar certainly was also. Both of these elections may have been illegal, and in that case neither should have appeared in the list of members. Dr. Majumdar should, in my opinion, have the transactions sent to him from 1893, and I hope the society will allow me to do so, and apologize for the oversight. Both of these gentlemen are entitled to more than ordinary consideration from us, as they have both in their widely different fields done extraordinary work for our cause.

I have only one more communication to refer to. This is a letter from Dr. Eleanor Le Blonde, of Hilo, in the Hawaiian Islands. She promised me a paper on her work among the Hawaiians, but owing to a serious malarial attack, and illness in her family, was unable to get her report off in time for this meeting. Dr. Le Blonde is not yet a member of our Association, but I hope to obtain her consent to have her name proposed at our next meeting. She is able to give us much valuable information, as she has a government position in which she meets many so-called incurable diseases, coming to her from the hands of other physicians.

In closing allow me to call your attention to three very important publications which have appeared during this year, viz: The translation of the "Chronic Diseases" by Professor Tafel; The Repertory of Hering's Guiding Symptoms by Calvin B. Knerr, M. D.; and the translation by Dr. Dudgeon, of Hahnemann's Defense of the Organon of Rational Medicine against the attacks of Professor Hecker. I would especially commend the laborious work of Dr. Knerr, giving us a repertory to the ten volumes of the Guiding Symptoms, which no Hahnemannian can afford not to possess. It is a marvel of industry, and as far as I have been able to search, a marvel of accuracy in matter as well as arrangement.

The report of the Corresponding Secretary was accepted.

Voted that the Corresponding Secretary write letters of apology to Drs. P. C. Majumdar, C. Dyer, W. F. Thatcher and

J. E. Thatcher for the omission of their names from the roll of members, caused by the interregnum between the Secretaries, and that he send them the transactions.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

DR. FRANKLIN POWEL, *Treasurer*, in account with
INTERNATIONAL HAHNEMANNIAN ASSOCIATION.

Dr.

June 22, 1895.	To balance,	\$353.29	
June 23, 1896.	To Receipts during		
	year as per cash		
	book.	534.24	
			\$887.53

Cr.

June 23, 1896.	By sundry payments as		
	per cash book in-		
	cluding cost of		
	publishing transac-		
	tions 250 copies,		
	\$415.45,	\$607.50	
June 23, 1896.	By balance,	280.03	
			\$887.53

Attest: FRANKLIN POWEL, *Treasurer*.

The Treasurer's Financial Report was referred to an auditing committee, appointed by the President, consisting of Drs. Clark, W. L. Morgan and Case.

Dr. Powell—I have a supplemental report to make in the form of a statement relative to a claim of Dr. H. W. Pierson of the *Medical Advance*. As is known to the Executive Committee and others, I withheld the \$150.00 which the Association voted last year to pay Dr. Pierson for publishing the Transactions of 1893. It occurred to your

Treasurer that that action was hasty, inasmuch as he who knew all about the transaction was absent and was not consulted. I refute the statement that this money was withheld on a technicality and I will back it up by documentary evidence. I hold in my hand a letter signed H. W. Pierson dated June 28, 1893, stating that "the printer requires \$200 with the copy and the balance within 30 days after the book has been delivered. In view of the fact that this is practically the work of the society and that we are saving the same over \$200 (*a false statement*) it is no more than right that the society should make this advance deposit. I will have the copy all ready for the printer by July 10, and would request that a draft be drawn on the Treasurer for that amount and payable to the Medical Advance Co. Trusting you will give this your immediate attention, I am, etc." As such a demand had not been made heretofore, I demurred, when this letter dated July 5, 1896 was forthcoming.

THE MEDICAL ADVANCE CO.,
H. W. PIERSON, M. D., *Manager*,
78 State street, Chicago.

July 5, 1893.

My Dear Doctor Powel—Replying to your favor of the 3d, the Executive Committee have never asked me to bid upon the publication of the "Transactions," and they never would have received one had it been requested, for the simple reason that this is not a money making business, and I did not go into it for that purpose, but through my strong desire to secure and present to the profession such a demonstration of the truth as would compel them to investigate the same. Remember, less than one-tenth of my readers are members of the I. H. A., and that the new members are largely coming through their reading of the journals. The *Homœopathic Physician* (long may she live) does not reach

one-half as many readers as the *Advance*, and has not the opportunities for disseminating the knowledge that we enjoy.

The "Transactions" will form but a small factor of our contents, and will be soon out of the way, if placed in my hands. I omitted to state that but a small portion of the "Transactions" would be printed in the *Medical Advance* in the form in which they will appear in the book, so the members of the Association would not feel that they were re-reading matter too many times. Twenty or thirty pages of the same would be the most in any one issue. The *Homœopathic Physician* had the Transactions last year and it is nothing but simple justice that they should be given us this year. About the cost, that will not be more than \$400 (which is at least \$230 less than what it will cost me.) I have a contract signed by my printer and myself in which he binds himself to get the same out in ninety days after the copy is all in his hands, or forfeit his pay. I think he will have them out in sixty days, if all works right. In regard to the advance payment, it is required of us because of the *time limit*. They are compelled to get the work out and must put other things aside to comply with the same, hence the extra expense of their part must be met by enough to meet the same. Then all my bills are due in thirty days, and they will give me thirty days after the last book is bound before I pay the balance, so it is but just to them and myself that the Association should meet the advance charge. The Association, however, only have to deal with us, and I think we are responsible. I have the approval of Drs. Butler and Crutcher, and expect them to write you to that effect, if they haven't already done so.

Fraternally Yours,

(Signed) PIERSON.

During the latter part of that month (July) I called on Dr. Pierson at his office in Chicago, in company with a

physician of Chester, and in the interview he assured me that the *copy was all in his hands and that he was only waiting for the advance money, \$200, to enable him to proceed.* (This can be verified by the gentleman who accompanied me). I yielded my objection on the strength of that statement by Dr. Pierson and on returning home July 29, 1893, sent him a check for \$200 which he received July 31, 1893 (see receipt.) Allowing ninety days as agreed the transactions should have been delivered Nov. 1, 1893—they were not delivered until the middle of February, 1894, more than three months later than agreed upon, and in view of "the time limit" and advance payment, would it be unjust to demand a forfeit? Early in January I received two copies of the Transactions, 1893, with a demand for \$200 more. I refused to pay and after some further correspondence and telegrams, one of the latter of which I quote, "February 6, 1894, Chicago, Ills., Franklin Powel, M. D. Thorp will not deliver Transactions until balance is paid."

(Signed) H. W. PIERSON.

Pierson delivered the books to Dr. Crutcher our former secretary. I will read you this telegram also: "Chicago, Ills., Feb. 8, 1894, Franklin Powel, Chester, Pa. Goods delivered to you, payment refused, will deliver when adjusted."

(Signed) H. W. PIERSON.

D. D. Thorp of Lansing, Mich., did the work of printing and binding the Transactions of 1893. He has written me and I hold his letter in my hand, that he never signed a contract to print or deliver to Pierson the Transactions of 1893—that there was no demand for advance money, that he never paid him any money on account of the Transactions and that he still owes that and much more; that the cost of printing and binding the Transactions was \$137.82. Now had Pierson paid Thorp, he would have left a profit of \$62.18 out of the \$200 already paid him by the Association. He wants \$150 more and yet he writes that "this is not a

money making business." Again the Transactions are poorly printed on poor paper and are certainly not worth one cent more than has been paid for them. Pierson is not consistent. He tells me and writes me that the Transactions are all ready for the printer and are only waiting for the advance money—later he writes that Drs. H. C. Allen, Edward Adams and G. H. Clark delayed the publication. I have letters from each of these gentlemen stating that they did not delay the publication twenty-four hours; two of them are here to answer for themselves. Dr. Adams article *was* in Pierson's hands and was credited to Dr. T. D. Stow as reference to Transactions will prove, also his (Adams) letter. I sincerely hope the Association will rescind the vote to pay Pierson that \$150 for he certainly has received all he deserves. He did not fulfill his contract and he juggled with the Association's money, besides he agreed to publish but few of the papers in the *Advance* prior to their publication, whereas he published them all—in fact the whole proceedings and then groaned and complained about it, said that it has cost him many subscribers to publish them, and that the *Advance* would never again bid for their publication.

Voted that the motion passed last year appropriating \$150 to Dr. H. W. Pierson be reconsidered.

Moved that in consideration of the statements made by the treasurer the original motion be amended so as to read be *not* paid. The motion as amended was passed.

NECROLOGIST'S REPORT.

STUART CLOSE, M. D., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

To the Members of the International Hahnemannian Association:—

Since the session of 1895 two members have been removed from our ranks by death:

T. Wilhelm Poulson, M. D., San Francisco, Cal. and Mahlon Preston, M. D., Norristown, Pa.

I regret to say that I am unable to furnish any sketch of Dr. Poulson. I wrote to one of our colleagues in San Francisco, enclosing a list of questions relating to Dr. Poulson, and requesting him to endeavor to get them answered by some surviving member of Dr. Poulson's family, and also to give me what information he personally possessed. He wrote in reply that he had not known Dr. Poulson personally; that the doctor had never attended their meetings, or fraternized in any way with the Hahnemannians of San Francisco, and that he seemed to be disposed to seclude himself.

Our colleague promised to try to find someone who could furnish the desired information, and to forward it to me. Up to this time, however, I have received no further communication.

Dr. Poulson's name appears as one of the original organizers of this Association, but so far as I can learn from an examination of a complete set of our Transactions, he is not recorded as having either taken part in any discussion, or furnished a paper for any meeting.

We record a kind and fraternal thought in memory of one, who, though perhaps retiring, and but little known among us personally, had his sphere of labor and usefulness, and doubtless filled it well.

MAHLON PRESTON M. D.

Widely known, and honored by all who knew him, was Dr. Mahlon Preston of Norristown, Pa. He was a frequent contributor to the Homœopathic Medical journals for many years, and his papers were always of a high degree of excellence. Our Transactions contain a number of interesting and helpful papers from him. For the particulars as to his life I am indebted to the pages of the *Homœopathic Physician*,

whose editor, Dr. Walter M. James, was his intimate personal friend and family physician.

Dr. Mahlon Preston died Wednesday, October 2, 1895, at his home in Norristown, Pa., in the fifty-seventh year of his age. By his death the International Hahnemannian Association loses a valued member, and Homœopathy an able, consistent and faithful exponent. In the face of great prejudice and opposition he was fearless and unswerving in his advocacy and practice of the true system of medicine.

Always a student, he was energetic, conscientious and unflagging in his endeavors to promote the cause of pure Homœopathy, not only by practically healing the sick in the course of a large practice, but in training up students, and in counselling and encouraging his colleagues, all of whom honored him and felt the inspiration of his precept and example.

The following particulars of his life are taken from the *Norristown Daily Herald* of October 3d, 1895 :—

"Dr. Preston was born in East Caln, now Valley Township, Chester Co., Pa., Jan. 22d, 1839. He was a descendant of the well known family of Friends of that name, his father being Isaac Coates Preston.

"He studied medicine with Dr. J. Bayard Wood of West Chester, and graduated at the Homœopathic College, now Hahnemann, Philadelphia, in March 1861.

"He located for a short time, successively, at Meadville, Spring Center, and Rome, N. Y. Then he came to Chester, Delaware Co., Pa., as the assistant of his uncle, Dr. Coates Preston. Finally, in 1862, he came to Norristown. In 1867 he married Mary, daughter of Judge David Krause. Their children are three, Frederick, Catherine and Emily Preston.

"Dr. Preston made his way as a physician in the face of deep seated prejudice against what was then the new school of medicine, building up gradually a lucrative practice which extended miles beyond Norristown. Several prominent

and successful physicians studied the system under his instruction, most of whom enjoy lucrative incomes from their practice in adjoining counties."

In 1881 he founded the Homœopathic Medical Council, an association of physicians who meet to discuss the cases they are treating, and to secure advice as to the further treatment of them. He was a delegate to the World's Homœopathic Congress in London in 1881.

The Homœopathic Physician published in November, 1895, the following interesting and appreciative tribute to Dr. Preston :—

"In the death of Dr. Preston, Homœopathy has lost one of its staunchest friends and closest followers. True to Homœopathy under all its conditions, his sole idea in life was to follow out its strictest principles, and demonstrate its incontestable truth by its careful, patient, and faithful application to the alleviation and cure of the sick. Throughout his life he was a student. With strong scientific instincts, his attention at the beginning of his career was especially directed to the study of botany, which later he made subservient to his one great object, the curing of the sick. Perseverance until the final accomplishment of his object was his distinguishing characteristic. This is well shown in an incident related of him by his brother when at the age of fourteen years. He had resolved to build a working model of a steam engine, though he had scarcely any tools and no materials. He collected together all manner of odds and ends of brass and iron that he happened to meet with, and then out of these unpromising scraps he proceeded to build his engine. Failure after failure attended his attempts. The most desperate efforts of his boyish strength failed to conquer the stubborn metal, yet he never abandoned his project. Month after month he toiled on with varying progress, but with great expenditure of nervous energy and muscular strength, and often with the

exhibition of tears. His parents' advice to give up his design went unheeded and he persisted, until at last success crowned his persevering labor, and when the steam was turned on the wheel revolved and his work was done.

The perseverance here exemplified inspired him later in life to the accomplishment of his great purpose to master the homœopathic therapeutics. An examination of his library shows the presence there of every book issued in any way bearing upon homœopathic *materia medica*. A closer inspection of the books themselves discovers them loaded with notes, cross references and various distinguishing pencil marks, all in his own handwriting, and all designed to make more easy and certain the selection of the simillimum."

"He had a very large practice, and was widely known for his cures of difficult cases. His devotion to his practice was absolute. He would neither drink nor smoke because he feared such habits would incapacitate him for his work. He constantly took regular exercise in his own gymnasium, and long walks, the better to keep up his strength.

His health was never good, and he had to exercise constant care and effort to keep himself in condition to do his work. His last illness extended over a period of nearly a year, during which his sufferings were borne with fortitude, patience and gentleness."

The report of the Necrologist was accepted.

First Day—Afternoon Session.

REPORTS OF DELEGATES.

Dr. Pease—I would like to speak as a delegate from Dunham Medical college, if that is in order. The college and faculty have but lately finished a year of hard work well done. In the senior class there were six members. We graduated four of them and had to turn down two for not fulfilling the requirements or passing the necessary examinations.