

## MISCELLANEOUS.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMŒOPATHY.—The Eighteenth Session of the Institute opened at Cincinnati, on Wednesday, June 7th. The meeting was called to order by Dr. E. C. Witherill, of Cincinnati. The election of officers was then held with the following result :

*President*, S. S. Guy, M.D., Brooklyn, N. Y.; *Vice-President*, I. T. Talbot, M.D., Boston, Mass.; *General Secretary*, G. D. Beebe, M.D., Chicago, Ill.; *Provision Secretary*, W. T. Helmuth, M.D., St. Louis, Mo.; *Treasurer*, D. S. Smith, M.D., Chicago, Ill.; *Board of Censors*, G. W. Swazey, M.D.; E. C. Witherill, M.D.; J. P. Dake, M.D.; C. Ehrmann, M.D.; W. W. Rodman, M.D.

The Treasurer's report was handed in, and was audited by Drs. C. A. Dake, G. W. Biglow, E. B. Thomas, W. T. Helmuth, B. Ehrmann.

It was found that there was, at the last meeting on hand, \$513.21; expenditures, \$499.05; balance, \$14.16.

On motion of Dr. J. P. Dake the report was received and committee discharged.

Under the head of unfinished business, the reports of committees appointed to report at the last meeting were called.

On motion of Dr. Smith, it was resolved to lay the reports on the table until the afternoon session.

A communication was then read by Dr. Beebe from Dr. W. James, enclosing report of the Homœopathic Infirmary and the Northern Home for Friendless Children, in Philadelphia.

Dr. Helmuth, a delegate from the Western Institute of Homœopathy, reported that this body was in full and successful operation, and that especial attention had been directed to the trials of indigenous medicines, and also to anatomy and surgery. He urged upon the whole body an increased energy, and found fault with those committees who had not reported. He stated that the next meeting would be held in Cleveland, on the fourth Wednesday in May, and extended to the members a cordial invitation to be present at their next meeting, when papers of the greatest interest are to be read; and he most sincerely hoped there would be an interchange of thought, and that every member who could, would be present on that occasion.

Dr. I. T. Talbot stated that for the purpose of enlarging the influence and usefulness of the American Institute of Homœopathy, it is proposed to establish three bureaus :

1st. On Homœopathic Materia Medica, Pharmacy and Provings, which shall publish in a separate volume such provings of medicines as may from time to time be made.

2d. On Clinical Medicines and Zymoses, giving statistics and observations regarding epidemic or endemic diseases.

3d. On Homœopathic Organization, Registration, and Statistics, which shall keep a register of homœopathic physicians, or those who claim to be such, in the United States, distinguishing those who are members of the American Institute or of State or local societies; prepare a list of all State and local societies,

hospitals, dispensaries, journals, and any statistics regarding Homœopathy, its status and progress.

These bureaus should report progress to the members, through the General Secretary, every six months.

With this arrangement the Institute need not meet oftener than triennially at some central point, and should then be a representative body with delegates from all homœopathic associations and institutions.

Dr. Smith, of Chicago, did not wish to detract from the interests of the old society, and he wished it still to be the parent institution of the country.

Dr. Swazey then reported that the Board of Censors were ready to make a partial report.

The following gentlemen were then elected : Drs. J. Blackeley, J. G. Hunt, C. Woodhouse, F. H. Krebbs, F. E. Boericke, R. R. Lynde, W. Webster, A. Shepherd, D. H. Beckwith, W. Owens, C. Cropper, H. N. Hall, J. R. Hayes, C. C. Bronson, J. Q. A. Coffeen, Kneipcke, J. Harpell, A. H. Ehrmann, G. S. Blackburn, J. M. Fuller, W. B. Garside, J. Bunstable, S. S. Caldwell, D. W. Sturm, T. P. Wilson, D. W. Hartshorn.

Dr. O. D. Hamilton, a delegate from the New York State Society, was announced, and took his seat in the Institute.

A committee on reorganization was then appointed, and consisted of Drs. I. T. Talbot, Boston; J. P. Dake, Pittsburg; E. C. Witherill, Cincinnati; W. T. Helmuth, St. Louis; D. S. Smith, Chicago.

It was then resolved that the Treasurer be instructed to collect no dues for the years when the Institute was not in session.

Dr. Pulte moved that delegates from German societies be received.

Dr. Gersdorf, President of the German Homœopathic Society, was present and made some remarks.

*Afternoon Session.*—The following were appointed a committee to correct the list of members :

Drs. I. T. Talbot, Mass.; W. W. Rodman, Conn.; J. Beakley, N. Y.; J. P. Dake, Pa.; C. Cropper, Ohio; D. S. Smith, Illinois; F. Woodruff, Michigan; W. T. Helmuth, Mo.

On motion of J. P. Dake, the above committee was requested also to discover what members were deceased, and to make an obituary notice of the same.

Dr. S. P. Wilson announced the presence of the delegates of Illinois, E. M. Hale, G. D. Beebe, E. Kneipcke, M.D.

Dr. Neidhard's report on whooping cough, was then read. He had nothing new to report. Mephitis from 1st to 6th, prescribed in the commencement of the disease, the faithful employment of the medicine for three to fourteen days. When complications are present the remedies will not cure. Sulphur is a common remedy.

Dr. Ludlam on *Tabes mesenterica* reported favorably and was continued as the committee.

Dr. Swazey reported favorably on Dr. O. D. Hamilton, York, Livingston, Co. N. Y.; Dr. C. Sumner, Rochester, N. Y.; Dr. P. Wilson, Philadelphia, Pa.; Dr. E. M. Hale, Chicago.

Secretary then read a report from Dr. W. E. Payne on *Saponaria officinalis*. Dr. Wilson has not the slightest confidence in the proving of medicines made with the high potencies.

Dr. Helmuth said that he merely wished to state what was his experience in the uses of *Saponaria*. It appeared to him to act very beneficially in many cases, particularly with other medicines, and more especially with the Iodide of Potassium. With reference to the proving of medicine with large doses, he believed that there were certain medicines, particularly those that were taken by the people in large doses, that required to be proved with doses sufficient to produce symptoms, while it is well known that certain medicinal powers are developed from certain substances (Mercury for instance) by trituration. The Allopaths know this. If they wish to produce the entire effect of a drug, they administer small doses given frequently.

Dr. Dake always proved medicines in high and low potencies, because, as Dr. Helmuth had remarked, there are certain medicines which are entirely inert in crude matter, whose curative virtues are developed by potentizing drugs.

Dr. Hale said Hahnemann recommended that some medicines may be proved in tea in massive doses to obtain a true pathogenesis.

Dr. Talbot said he could see no objection. He was very well aware that some of the high attenuations do possess a certain influence over the healthy body. He therefore fully agreed with Dr. Payne.

The paper was referred to the Publishing Committee.

Report of the Connecticut State Homœopathic Medical Society was read, and handed to the Committee on Publication.

Report of the Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society was read by Dr. Talbot.

A long discussion then ensued on homœopathic pharmacy.

Dr. Beebe denounced a pharmacy in Chicago as unreliable, and was seconded by Dr. D. S. Smith.

Dr. Ludlam rose to protect the Chicago pharmacy. The matters became somewhat personal, and the gentlemen were called to order.

Dr. Swazey made some remarks on the imperfection of the preparations of many homœopathic pharmacies.

Dr. Guy also stated that oftentimes the physician was grossly deceived, and he was glad to see the stand matters had taken, and wanted the pharmacies to be purified.

Dr. Hale spoke of the presence of fusel oil in many specimens of alcohol.

Dr. Talbot spoke on the same subject.

Dr. Beckwith stated that very often the imperfection of a pharmacy is occasioned because the physician will not pay the price for the medicine.

Dr. Woodruff stated that he had often had cause to doubt the pharmacy mentioned; that instead of a trituration of mercury he received simple granulated sugar of milk.

Dr. E. M. Hale offered a resolution to appoint a committee of ten to investigate the methods of conducting the business of pharmacy in the United States.

Dr. Pulte proposed to amend by appointing a committee to report at the next meeting a comprehensive plan for correcting the evils in homœopathic pharmacy.

A lively discussion ensued, in which it was stated that the methods of preparing homœopathic medicines in different pharmacies was of the most unreliable character, and that means must be taken by this body to promote a better condition of things in this respect.

After considerable discussion the resolution was laid upon the table.

Dr. Dake then offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That while the especial object of our society pertains to the health of mankind, we cannot quietly meet again for the transaction of our usual business, without expressing our satisfaction and thankfulness to Almighty God for the suppression of the late rebellion and the restoration of peace, with the prospects of a yet nobler and greater prosperity than before enjoyed.

Dr. Dake then read a paper from Dr. Verdi, of Washington, and on motion of Dr. Helmuth, the paper was referred.

A lecture was delivered on Wednesday evening by Dr. Rodman of New Haven, Conn., on "Our Position, and the duties resulting therefrom." The lecture was an exceedingly able and eloquent production, had been prepared with much care, and was listened to with profound attention by an appreciative audience.

SECOND DAY—*Morning Session.* Dr. Guy in the chair.

H. Robinson M. D., was announced as a delegate from the Homœopathic Society of the State of New York, and took a seat in the Institute.

Report of Dr. S. R. Beckwith, Committee on Microscope, was called, and Dr. C. H. Beckwith, read a paper by the above on a subject selected by himself, viz: on treatment of compound dislocation of long bones. This paper suggested that every member of the Institute should endeavor to collect surgical cases and report them to the Institute.

Dr. Helmuth read a most valuable and practicable paper on surgery, and exhibited several varieties of fibroid polypi of the uterus, which he had removed on different occasions; also showed photographs of a case of congenital hypertrophy of the tongue of thirteen years' standing, on which he had operated, having removed all the protruding portion of the organ, which was about five inches in length. He also exhibited a photograph of a boy whose jaw-bone he had removed entire. These specimens were of great interest to the members, and the reading was listened to with marked attention.

Dr. E. M. Hale, of Chicago, read an interesting paper entitled, "A Medico-Botanical Study." He called special attention to the medical botany of the United States, which has been much neglected in favor of foreign remedies, notwithstanding that among the former we have the analogues of nearly every foreign plant. The special object of the paper, was the comparison of certain American plants botanically allied to those foreign plants which we use most in our practice.

He instanced that we have growing in the United States three or four species of *Aconite*; five species of *Arnica*; one of *Bryonia*; five of *Drosera*;

one of Euphrasia (identical with the E. Officinalis;) three of Juniperus (Sabina); five of Lycopodium; one of Pulsatilla (with which some clinical experience has been gained;) and three of Veratrum.

It was advised that provings and clinical experience should be instituted with these plants, in order that we may ascertain how far they may be used as substitutes for their foreign analogue. The speaker urged that each species of the same genus of plants should be prepared and used separately, and not mixed as they sometimes are.

Dr. E. C. Witherill offered the following:

*Resolved*, That we, the members of the American Institute of Homœopathy, here present, respectfully tender to Adolph Bauer, M. D., in his present affliction, our cordial sympathy and our earnest wishes for his speedy recovery and restoration to usefulness.

*Afternoon Session.*—Dr. Beakley in the chair. The committee on reorganization, through their chairman, Dr. I. T. Talbot, then reported, recommending amendments to the constitution and by-laws, which amendments were acted upon *seriatim*.

Dr. Cowley presented a report of the Alleghany County Homœopathic Medical Society, which was referred,

Dr. Hamilton offered a resolution in favor of procuring reliable Vaccine virus. Committee on reorganization reported favorably of the following:

*Resolved*, That the American Institute of Homœopathy request all bodies of homœopathic physicians to send delegates to its meetings. Adopted.

The question as to the location of the next meeting being under discussion, it was resolved that when the Institute adjourn, it be to meet in Pittsburg the last Wednesday in June, 1866.

J. Beakley offered the following:

*Resolved*, That this society publish 5,000 copies of the address of Dr. Rodman for circulation.

Secretary read a memorial from C. Dunham, M. D., embodying a protest against what purports to be the sixth edition of Hahnemann's Organon.

On motion of Dr. Talbot, Brig. Gen. Ed. A. Wild, M. D., of Massachusetts was continued a member without payment of further dues, in recognition of services in the army by which he lost the use of both his arms.

The President then announced the bureaus.

*Materia Medica and Pharmacy*—C. Hering, M. D., Pennsylvania; W. E. Payne, M. D., Maine; W. Williamson, M. D., Pennsylvania; E. M. Hale, M. D., Illinois; H. L. Chase, M. D., Massachusetts.

*Clinical Medicine and Zymoses*—H. D. Paine, M. D., New York; J. P. Dake, M. D., Ohio; R. Ludlam, M. D., Illinois; E. C. Witherill, M. D., Ohio; B. Fincke, M. D., New York.

*Surgery*—W. T. Helmuth, M. D., Missouri; J. Beakley, M. D., New York; G. D. Beebe, M. D., Illinois; S. R. Beckwith, M. D., Ohio; Pusey Wilson, M. D., Pennsylvania.

*Organization and Statistics*—I. T. Talbot, M. D., Massachusetts; H. M. Paine, M. D., New York; H. M. Smith, M. D., New York; Geo. E. Shipman, M. D., Illinois; J. S. Douglass, M. D., Wisconsin.

The following were appointed a committee of arrangements for the next session of the Institute, to be held in Pittsburg; M. Cote, M. D.; J. C. Bugher, M. D.; J. F. Cooper, M. D.; D. Cowley, M. D.; H. H. Hoffman, M. D.; all of Pittsburg.

W. T. Helmuth, M. D., of St. Louis, was appointed orator for the next meeting. P. Wilson, M. D., of Philadelphia, alternate orator.

Dr. Swazey then moved that a vote of thanks be tendered to the committee of arrangements and the physicians of Cincinnati for their hospitality, and for the elegant entertainment given to the members of this Institute during the present session.

The thanks of the Institute were also tendered to the Secretary and the members of the daily press, after which the Institute adjourned.

WAYNE CO. HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.—The second annual meeting of this Society was held at the office of Dr. S. D. Sherman, in the village of Lyons, on Tuesday, June 13th, M. F. Sweeting, M. D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

Present: Drs. S. D. Sherman, A. G. Austin, O. C. Parsons, M. F. Sweeting and E. R. Heath.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

A communication on "Pathogenetic and Characteristic Symptoms," was read from Dr. Carroll Dunham, of New York. Also. A Clinical Report of a case of *Lepra vulgaris* with *Eczema chronicum*, cured by *Oleander*, from Dr. A. R. Morgan, of Syracuse.

Dr. Heath read an article on "Burning, itching, with darting, stinging pain" as a characteristic symptom of *Apis*.

A somewhat lengthy, but profitable discussion followed, with respect to the repetition of doses.

Dr. Sherman related a case of paralysis produced by taking a two-grain dose of the second trituration of *Apis*. Dr. Parsons reported cases proving the efficacy of *Apis* in curing boils.

Points of interest were freely discussed, and a general exchange of opinions was had. Dr. Sweeting related a case of lupus of the nose, cured by *Arsenicum*. Many cases of interest were incidentally related, by way of illustration of points taken in the discussion.

The annual election of officers was held with the following result:

*President*, Dr. D. Chase; *Vice-President*, Dr. M. F. Sweeting; *Secretary* and *Treasurer*, Dr. E. R. Heath.

Dr. S. D. Sherman was chosen *Censor*, to fill the vacancy made by the absence of Dr. Throop. Delegate to the Onondaga County Society, Dr. M. F. Sweeting; delegate to the Cayuga County Society, Dr. O. C. Parsons; delegate to the Monroe County Society, Dr. A. G. Austin.

Dr. A. G. Austin was appointed by the Chair to deliver an address at our next meeting.

The Society then adjourned, to meet at the office of Drs. Heath and Allen, on the first Tuesday of December, 1865, at 10, a. m. E. R. HEATH, *Sec'y*.

A LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE OFFICE CONVERTED TO HOMŒOPATHY BY *the Evidence of Statistics.*—The month of December, 1864, marks an epoch in the history of Homœopathy, the memory of which will be ardently cherished by every Homœopathician of the present generation; whilst to this period will frequent reference hereafter be made, as that from which is to be dated a remarkably rapid growth of the system in public estimation.

On the 16th of December, 1864, there met together at the Freemasons' Hall, in London, under the presidency of Lord Henry Gordon, a number of individuals—in no respect identified with Homœopathy, but simply concerned in the promotion of their own pecuniary interests—to consider the bearing of this system of medical treatment on the health and life of the community. The parties referred to are the Directors and Shareholders of a company entitled, "The General Provident Assurance Company." The object of such institution is, we need hardly remark, commercial gain; and one of the principal means employed, is an investigation, conducted with scientific severity, into the duration of human life, with all the concomitant circumstances which tend to affect the health of individuals and classes.

Hitherto, the actuaries of these valuable institutions have disregarded—and therefore omitted from their calculations—the very important consideration of *medical treatment*. The keenness of competition, however, which characterizes every department of trade, in the present day, and stimulates to their utmost extent the intellectual faculties of our men of business, has at length made itself felt, even amongst these very conservative establishments; and, as a consequence, we find, in the case of the General Provident Assurance Company, the Actuary directed to make an investigation into the hitherto unexplored region of *comparative medical treatment*—with what result it is scarcely necessary to inform the readers of this journal.

To *some*, at least, of the Directors of the Provident, this result no doubt presented itself in the light of a discovery; to *none* could it be otherwise than gratifying to learn, that their labor had been rewarded by the acquisition of data, capable of being turned to very profitable account, in the following well-ascertained facts:—That persons treated by the homœopathic system enjoy more robust health, are less frequently attacked by disease, and, when attacked, recover more rapidly than those treated by any other system; that with respect to the more fatal classes of disease, the mortality under Homœopathy is *small*, in comparison with that under Allopathy; that there are diseases *not curable at all*, under the latter system, which are *perfectly curable* under the former; finally, that the medicines prescribed by Homœopathicians do not injure the constitution, whereas those employed by Allopaths do not unfrequently entail the most serious, and in many instances fatal, consequences.

These data obtained, the Directors had but one duty to perform, alike to themselves and to their constituents, which was to summon a meeting of their shareholders, and to lay before them the facts they had collected, and the decision at which they had arrived, viz., "to open a special section for persons treated by the homœopathic system, at a LOWER RATE OF PREMIUM THAN THAT CHARGED ON OTHER LIVES." And without a dissentient voice this proposition

of their Directors was adopted by the shareholders of the General Provident Assurance Company.

Here, then, we have a testimony borne to the great practical value of Homœopathy which nothing can gainsay—against which ridicule and abuse, the only weapons by which we have hitherto been attacked, can avail nothing. It is not with "individual opinion" that our opponents have *now* to deal—not even with the opinions of such men as the late Archbishop of Dublin; the late Dr. Gregory, Professor of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh; or the late Dr. Samuel Brown, a man worthy to rank with the illustrious Faraday—all of whom lived and died in the faith of the truth of Homœopathy—not to mention a host of other names of men, living and dead, in every department of literature, science and art. It is not with *individual opinion*, we repeat, that our opponents have *now* to deal. They are *now* confronted with the result of an investigation directed to be made by a body of commercial men, for commercial purposes,—conducted with that marvellous precision which has exalted the investigations of the assurance offices of this country to the rank of scientific verities,—and endorsed by men whose intellectual faculties, when summoned to decide, must have been in liveliest exercise, seeing that they had to determine on a question in which they were without precedent for a guide, and in which their pecuniary interests were deeply concerned.

Well—the question *has been* decided, so far at least as *one* assurance office, with its Actuary, Directors and Shareholders is concerned; and the fact cannot be concealed. It will not be long, therefore, we may confidently predict, before other offices will follow this example. But, however numerous may hereafter become the adopters of this innovation, let it ever be remembered that to the General Provident Assurance Company belongs the distinguished honor of being the pioneer in this movement. And never let the circumstance be forgotten, which gives life and vigor to the great moral of this narrative,—that the decision arrived at was the result of an investigation suggested by an observation of the ever-increasing conquests of Homœopathy, especially amongst the highest and best educated classes of society, but cropping out everywhere throughout the world, in spite of the adamantine rocks of ancient prejudice and the alluvial deposits of social and professional influence,—and *thereby* forcing itself upon the attention of intellectual men of business, whose avocation it is to avail themselves of every legitimate opening for the augmentation of their revenues, and the elevation, in public estimation, of that branch of industry with which they may happen to be connected.

(*London Monthly Homœopathic Review.*)

PURIFICATION.—Our readers will remember that at the time of the attempt to assassinate Mr. Seward, he was suffering from injuries received from being thrown from his carriage. His medical attendant was Dr. T. S. Verdi, a Homœopathician, under whose care his recovery was progressing rapidly, and who, when the excitement at Washington was great and every item was read with eagerness, wrote an account of his patient's illness, which was read

before several homœopathic societies and published in some of our Journals. In this account Dr. Barnes the Surgeon-General, was mentioned as one of those called in consultation, probably on account of his position. Hence the following telegram to the associated press of New York, published in the daily papers of June 28th.

*Vindication of the United States Surgeon-General.*—Boston, Tuesday, June 27. "At the late session of the American Medical Association, it was charged that Surgeon-General Barnes had been guilty of unprofessional conduct, by consulting with an irregular practitioner in the case of the Swards. It is officially announced by Dr. H. R. Stover of this city, one of the Secretaries of the Association, that the charge was dismissed in consequence of its emphatic and unequivocal denial by Dr. Barnes. The publication of this fact is important, as it had been omitted in the newspaper reports."

The following is from the *New York Evening Post* June 28th, 1865 :

*Medical Bigotry.*—"At the late session of the American Medical Association at Boston, it was charged that Dr. Barnes, Surgeon-General of the United States army, had been guilty of unprofessional conduct, by consulting with an 'irregular' practitioner while in attendance upon Secretary Seward and his son. The allegation was promptly denied, but as the reporters present omitted to make a note of denial, it has been considered necessary to telegraph it to the newspapers.

"We infer from the language of the denial that, in the opinion of the association, it would have been more 'professional' to let the Secretary and his son die from want of proper surgical advice than for Dr. Barnes to give his skill to a patient at whose bedside he would have to meet a practitioner, no matter how skilful, who did not happen to be 'regular.' Similar bigotry has been displayed all through this war. A persistent effort was made in a majority of the loyal states to exclude Homœopaths and Eclectics, without regard to merit and scholarship, from the service. Occasionally a Governor was found, like Morton of Indiana, who would not permit this middle age intolerance to control his surgical appointments.

"The people happily have outgrown this infantile condition, and will not suffer a few men to prescribe what shall be considered 'regular' in medicine, or orthodox in religion. The despatch to which we have alluded might have answered for an encyclical letter a century or two ago, but will hardly receive much respect at this period of the world's civilization."

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No. 2.

## PROFESSIONAL TRIALS AND DANGERS.\*

BY A. R. MORGAN, M. D., SYRACUSE, N. Y.

A cursory examination of medical writings from the earliest records, reveals the same inveterate spirit of bigotry, egotism and intolerance, which characterizes and disgraces the schools of the present day.

Medicine seems to form an exception to the other learned professions; we find prevailing in them, a sort of genuine, fraternal bond, which insures not only all the common courtesies and civilities of life, but extends to generous and sympathetic expressions of respect and esteem beyond the grave; while with us, on the contrary, it is an exception to the rule to find a physician exalting his colleague, especially if he be a neighbor and competitor, and almost equally rare, to find us heartily eulogizing the memory of a professional brother, even after he has been removed from our midst by the inevitable fate which awaits us all.

Why is this so? Does the study of our profession necessarily dwarf the humanity within us and develop the Ishmaelite and the bigot? Does the professional experience

\* Read before the Onondaga, Oswego and Cayuga County Homœopathic Medical Societies.