

*Homœopathic med. Soc.  
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TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

HOMŒOPATHIC

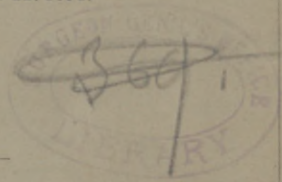
MEDICAL SOCIETY

OF THE

STATE OF MICHIGAN.

AT

Marshall, May 16, and Ann Arbor, Nov. 21 & 22, 1871.



DETROIT:

*351*

OSTLER & HOEKSTRA, PRINTERS.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND ANNUAL MEET-  
ING AT MARSHALL MAY 16, 1871.

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The Second Annual Meeting of the "Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of Michigan" convened at Marshall, in the Academy of Music, on the Third Tuesday of May, 1871.

The meeting was not called to order until 4 o'clock P. M., as an annual session of the Michigan Homœopathic Institute was appointed to be held at the same time and place.

The Institute having organized, it was found that twenty-eight members were present, who, on motion, voted unanimously to dissolve the organization, and instructed its Secretary to deliver all the books and records of the Institute to the Secretary of the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of Michigan.

At 4 o'clock P. M., the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of Michigan, was called to order by the President, Dr. J. N. Eldridge of Flint.

The Secretary having to respond to a telegram just received, Dr. B. F. Bailey, of Lansing, was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Board of Censors submitted their report and recommended the following named gentlemen as candidates for membership, and that they be elected members of the Society, as follows: J. J. Meachem, Battle Creek; Frank B. Smith, Owosso; J. D. Kergan, Corunna; F. Woodruff, Ann Arbor; D. A. Davis, Parma; Geo. A. Robertson, Chelsea; Miles Rorabacher, Litchfield; Seth N. Coons, Marshall; E. B. Graham, Three Rivers; Edwin C. Wilbur, Albion; A. A. Bancroft, Lansing; Miss S. A. Peterman, Marshall.

On motion of Dr. S. B. Thayer, they were duly elected to membership upon signing the Constitution and in conforming to its requirements.

In the absence of the Secretary, the Treasurer was unable to make his annual report, and was therefore excused.

The President then delivered the annual address, which, upon motion of Dr. Sawyer, of Monroe, was referred to the Publication Committee, and ordered to be printed with the Transactions of the Society, with the thanks of the Society for the able and interesting matter it contained.

### ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT.

GENTLEMEN: In accordance with custom and with the By-Laws of our Society, you will expect me, as your presiding officer, to address a few words to you upon such subjects as shall seem befitting on the present occasion. I do not flatter myself that I can offer you anything new in the way of scientific discovery, or unfold to you any new process for the further development of our sublime law of cure. If this were susceptible of further demonstration, many of you before me, I trust, would be far more competent to the task than myself. Leaving then the field of medical science and its collaterals for future development and discussion, there are yet other and vital interests connected with the cause of Homœopathy in Michigan, in which every Homœopathic physician of our State has, or ought to have an interest, and not only ourselves, but a large number of medical students whom we have undertaken to educate and qualify for practitioners of Homœopathy. Nor are these all, a very large number also of intelligent, wealthy and influential tax payers, who are our patrons, have a large interest in the subject to which I shall presently allude, and their interests demand our immediate attention, consideration and united action.

Since the first introduction of Homœopathy into Michigan, it has been signally progressive. The people have flocked to its standard bearers, giving them their patronage and support—thus defending and popularizing our scientific and humane system of practice.

In the year 1847, I was present at Ann Arbor when a band of eight determined Homœopathic physicians, pioneers of Homœopathy in Michigan, got together and formed the first Homœopathic Medical Society in the State. If my memory serves me right, there were at that time only eight physicians of our School in the entire State. In their preamble preceding the Constitution which they adopted, were the following declarations: "Whereas, the undersigned Homœopathic Physicians of the State of Michigan, firmly believe, first, in the universality of the therapeutic law, *similia similibus curantur*; secondly, in the superior efficiency and safety of pure Homœopathic practice in contradistinction to every other system or combination of systems, etc."

Gentlemen, I believe you will agree with me that this platform of principles was sound, as the results thus far evidently show. From this small beginning, based upon principles of scientific truth, has grown an army of three hundred Homœopathic practitioners in this State, and all receiving a liberal patronage. Incredible or surprising as it may appear, the laity have increased in a much larger corresponding ratio than that of the practitioners. At the time of the formation of the little Society referred to, Homœopathy had only found its way into the following named places in the State: Detroit, Pontiac, Birmingham, Ann Arbor, Adrian, Dexter, and Lyons. Now there is scarcely a city, town or hamlet in the State but is represented by at least from one to twenty practitioners of our School. If we take a careful survey over this vast harvest-field of Homœopathy, we shall find for our encouragement that among our patrons may be found ministers, lawyers, bankers, officers of state and nation, members of the legislature, speculators in stocks, large land owners, manufacturers, commercial men, teachers, agriculturists, and mechanics. Taken as a body, they are the most influential, intelligent, enterprising taxpayers in the State—a powerful influence we must all concede in favor of our system of practice. How stands then the account with us to day as the representatives of Homœopathy in the State? Our duties thus far have been arduous, but we have had our recompense in the spread and popularity of Homœopathy and in many other ways, besides our pecuniary rewards. Yet our duties and obligations have not all been discharged. The people are becoming more intelligent, more enlightened, better educated. Beside the well educated that are constantly seeking homes in our State, our State University is sending out every year hundreds of educated and intelligent men and women, who settle in different localities of our State to pursue the various vocations of their choice, and they, with the rest, demand a more highly educated class of professional men, especially in the medical profession, as these have to deal with life and health, and we are glad to hear that our State and National Societies, together with the Faculties of our Medical Colleges, are preparing to respond to this requirement, and that some have already taken the initiative steps to secure a higher grade of scholarship in candidates for matriculation as well as for graduation. This will involve a more lengthened and complete curriculum, so that their alumni will come forth thoroughly educated and equally well prepared with the graduates of the very best medical institutions in this and in the old country. Ought we not then, in view of these facts, and in view of what the laity of Michigan have and are still doing for us, do all that we can to inaugurate a better and higher standard of scholarship and of medical educators for that class of young men we are qualifying to take our places. The people who are the patrons of Homœopathy demand this of us,



and will hold us responsible for its accomplishment. As a general rule, medical students are poor, or possess but limited means, and cannot afford to travel long distances and be subjected to the heavy cash outlays consequent upon the attendance of our medical colleges at distant points. Is it not then our duty, and in accordance with justice and true economy, that we cast about us and see if the remedy for this unnecessary expenditure of time and money is not within our reach and at our own doors.

There is an old, well endowed, well appointed institution of learning, where for many years science and art, law and medicine, have been taught so efficiently and so well as to spread abroad the fame and honor of our State, and lead strangers at a distance to point to Michigan as one of the great nurseries of science. Our University stands high, and deservedly so, in general estimation. Untrammelled by the divisions and classifications of society, unbiassed and unimpeded by political or religious parties or sects, it appears as a monument of the legitimate outworkings of our great republican principles. There the rich and the poor may and do meet together upon the platform of their common humanity with equal rights, enjoying the self same privileges—no aristocracy being known but that of talent, no superiority but that of scholarship and persevering application. Yet upon its fair escutcheon stands a blot, a black and ugly stain, a two thousand year old monopoly in the shape of a system of medical therapeutics denominated Allopathy, or the self styled regular school of medicine. Had this encumbrance assumed the shape of a religious doctrine or a theological dogma, it would not have been tolerated for an hour, yet it could not thus have been more unjust, more offensive to the conscience and predilections of a vast number of the taxpayers of the State. Had Mormonism, atheism, or any theological or pantheistic ism been endowed by our University funds, it would not be more unjust than to endow Allopathy to the exclusion of every other school of medicine; nor, in the view of a large number, could any endowment be more pernicious in its tendencies or more opposed to the very genius and spirit of our institutions. Why then, gentlemen, is this state of things allowed to exist? Why are we compelled to send our medical students to Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Missouri for an education which is their birthright in the State of Michigan? Is it that the people of the State generally uphold and desire to perpetuate monopoly and injustice; that they are so wedded to Allopathy that they will not permit any interference with what she claims as her vested rights? By no means. On any and every occasion, when the people have had an opportunity to express their views, they have shown their desire, and have uttered their demands, that we shall have equal rights in the medical department of the State University. They have signed petition after petition, and thousands of *bona fide*



names, and in this way have proved their hearty good will for the prosperity of our cause. The members of the House of Representatives are the direct representatives of the people, and it reflects the wishes and sentiments of the people, it has on repeated occasions declared for our equal rights in the University; and during the recent session of the legislature it has again so declared by a vote of 62 for to 24 against. It is not, then, that the members of our legislature defy public opinion, and with high handed despotism, force upon the State an exclusive system of medical education, which the masses dislike, and in which they have no sympathy or confidence; on the contrary, they have on every occasion, when the subject has been presented, manifested a disposition and a determination to carry out the wishes and the measures demanded by a large Homeopathic constituency. What, then, is the difficulty? What is the real obstacle to the attainment of our rights? Why is it that at every session of our legislature we have to leave our business and spend more or less time at Lansing laboring for the attainment of our just rights, and yet are never able to secure them? It is a matter of record, that so long ago as 1855 we asked for a statute law, enjoining upon the Board of Regents of the University the appointment of at least one Professor of Homeopathy in its medical department, and the legislature promptly enacted a law to that effect. This law has never been carried out or enforced, for the reason, as some assert, that it lacks mandatory power—while others believe that the opposing power behind the throne is the American Medical Association, whose influence is made to bear upon the medical faculty of our University, and who, in turn, never lose an opportunity of wielding all the influence they can bring to bear upon the Regents, in opposition to the law of 1855, which our legislature enacted in good faith, believing it to be of binding force and virtue. Gentlemen, how came we to secure the passage of this law, even so long as sixteen years ago, and at a period of time when Homeopathy was but in its infancy in this State? It was from a willingness and a determination of the people, as expressed through their representatives in the legislature, to secure for our system of practice equal rights with old school, and the absence of active opposition on the part of the members of our profession in the State. No member of our school of practice offered any opposition to the passage of this law, that I am aware of, or had the boldness to ask for another and a different measure while this one was pending.

Then, I ask again, what is the difficulty, what the real obstacle to the attainment of our rights? The time has fully arrived when this difficult and vexatious problem should be solved, and this question settled in the mind of every member of our profession in this State? My reply to the above enquiry may be unpalatable and unwholesome to some; nevertheless, it is, in my humble judg-

ment, but the simple, unvarnished truth. The cause of our failure to attain the rights which justice and our tens of thousands of Homeopathic patrons demand *is the divisions in our own councils*—the refusal of a minority to submit to the plans and arrangements of the majority. Had we been of one heart and of one mind in the matter, or if that be an impossibility, had we resolved to forego all personal aspirations, and restrain all personal ambitions for the purpose of carrying our point, we might, before this, have vanquished our foes, and made our position sure in the chief seat of learning in the State. But, alas, what one class of physicians in one school has succeeded in building up, another has as industriously pulled down, and when by concerted action we have made two or three steps in advance, others have drawn us three or four steps to the rear, thus leaving us in doubt if our position and prospects are as favorable as they were three or four years ago. The Medical Faculty at Ann Arbor laugh in their sleeves, and feel their monopoly to be perfectly sure so long as there are divisions and strife in our ranks, and at the same time our friends in and out of the legislature find their hands tied as to the aid to our cause which they would gladly secure. Gentlemen, never can we make one single step permanently in advance, never can our prospects of gaining our rightful position be improved, until we can have harmony in our midst, until we can agree upon some *one* plan of action, and having agreed upon it, act fully up to it. This may—yes, it most assuredly will—require a spirit of self-abnegation on the part of some, perhaps a very considerable minority. It is not possible that, with minds and temperaments so diverse, we can see, eye to eye; that we can all have the same preferences. Neither our judgments, our modes of reasoning, nor our stand points of observation are alike; and it would be strange indeed if our schemes for carrying out a great purpose should be identical. Since then harmony of opinion, similarity of judgment, and perfect agreement is altogether out of the question, let us do the next best thing—“agree to differ.” Let us ventilate thoroughly every scheme, every argument, every plan and policy that any reasonable man may wish to bring before our attention, weigh them all impartially, and having thus obtained the opinion of the majority, let us, then, one and all, sink personal differences, selfish considerations, and burying purely selfish ambitions, as *one* man, consecrate time, talent, money, and all we have and are, to the accomplishment of our great purpose. Then, and not till then, will our foes begin to waver, the Regents of our University wake up to the conviction that they *must* carry out the people's will, or give place to better men; the members of the legislature favorable to our cause be encouraged to form new and forcible laws that will secure our long withheld rights. But if we are to plan and to resolve in our society meetings, arrange for labor in the lobbies of



our legislative halls, and then two, three, or half a dozen private schemes are to be thrust upon the attention of its duly appointed committees, each claiming and demanding exclusive recognition and legislative sanction, we may as well at once, and forever, give up the the hope of being anything more than what we are now—the laughing stock of the Allopathic community. When I think of the possibilities for our school of medicine, untrammelled by legal disability, put on an equal footing as to classical, scientific and professional education with any other school of medicine, and with a large band of intelligent, educated, scientific, and enthusiastic homeopathic practitioners, with the prestige of our State University upon them; when I think of the amount of good it would accomplish, the professional laurels it would win, I cannot but feel grieved that all these fair prospects should be blasted by war in our own household. Brethren, let the bitter experiences and disappointments of the past teach us wisdom, and cause us, from this hour, to present to the enemy an unbroken front. As your President, it would perhaps be out of place for me to suggest any scheme of action, or indicate any preferences of my own. But with your kind indulgence I should like to say this much; our University is already provided with apparatus and ample means for instruction in chemistry, botany, physiology, anatomy, surgery, and all those branches of education common to all schools of medicine. It would require a great many thousand dollars to put any new college or institution upon an equally favorable footing, to say nothing of the prestige of the old institution. All we really need at present, in my opinion, is an annual course of lectures at Ann Arbor on the homœopathic materia medica, and one on theory and practice. This is the most reasonable, most fair, most economical, and in every way the most desirable arrangement that could be made—the cheapest for the State, and the best for ourselves and for all concerned.

Gentlemen, I leave the subject with you for your serious attention and careful consideration, believing that you are in every way competent for its final disposal.

Doctor Wm. J. Calvert, of Jackson, was then granted a certificate of withdrawal from membership upon his request, stating at the same time, that it was not in consequence of any dissatisfaction with the transactions of the society, or with any of its members, but wholly on personal grounds.

The President then appointed the following standing committees:

*Publication Committee*—A. Bagley and H. B. Bagley, Marshall.



*Auditing Committee*—J. D. Kergan, of Corrunna, and B. F. Bailey, Lansing.

*Nominating Committee*—T. F. Pomeroy, Detroit, and F. Woodruff, Ann Arbor.

*University Committee*—S. B. Thayer, Battle Creek; A. I. Sawyer, Monroe. When, on motion, the President, Dr. I. N. Eldridge, of Flint, was added to the committee.

*Executive Committee*—S. B. Thayer and J. H. Wattles, of Battle Creek, and F. Woodruff, of Ann Arbor.

On motion of Dr. S. B. Thayer, the By-Laws were ordered to be so amended as to require the holding of semi-annual meetings of the society on the third Tuesday of November in each year, at such place as shall be from time to time designated; and upon a motion of Dr. A. I. Sawyer, at Lansing; also, a special meeting during the sessions of the legislature of the State.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to have printed 200 copies of the Constitution and By-Laws of the society.

On motion, the President appointed Drs. Pomeroy and Gorton, of Detroit, and A. I. Sawyer, of Monroe, to procure a form of a diploma and of a certificate of membership, and a seal for the use of the society.

The Nominating Committee then reported the following named gentlemen to constitute the medical committees for the ensuing year, which was adopted:

*On the Law of Cure and Principles*—A. Bagley and F. Woodruff.

*Symptomatology and Pathology*—J. A. Wattles and S. N. COONS.

*Materia Medica*—J. A. Robertson and A. A. Bancroft.

*Dose and High Dilutions*—M. Rorabacher and E. F. Olds.

*Medical Ethics*—H. B. Bagley and E. C. Wilbur.

*Medical Colleges*—T. F. Pomeroy and B. F. Bailey.

*Obstetrics*—F. B. Smith and E. B. Graham.

*Diseases of Women and Children*—S. A. Peterman and J. E. Smith.

*Leuchoræa*—I. N. Eldridge and J. D. Kergan.

*Intermittents*—J. J. Meacham and Miles Rorabacher.

*Syphilis*—A. B. Spinney.

*Army Surgery*—S. B. Thayer and C. S. Eldridge.

*Surgery*—A. I. Sawyer and D. A. Davis.

The society then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result :

President, . . . . . T. F. Pomeroy, of Detroit.  
 1st Vice President, . . . S. B. Thayer, Battle Creek.  
 2d Vice President, . . . E. B. Graham, Three Rivers.  
 Corresponding Secretary, . F. Woodruff, Ann Arbor.  
 Recording Sec'y and Treas. I. N. Eldridge, of Flint.

On motion, the first semi-annual meeting was ordered to be held at Ann Arbor on the third Tuesday of November next, and the annual meeting at Battle Creek on the third Tuesday of May, 1872, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

The following preamble and resolutions were then presented and read by Dr. S. B. Thayer, and unanimously adopted, and ordered printed with the transactions of the society :

WHEREAS, The University of Michigan was established for the purpose of affording facilities for the education of all the citizens of the State, being in its very nature an educational institution of, and for the people ; and,

WHEREAS, The people of the State, through the Legislature, accepted a grant of 72 sections of land, to aid in founding said University, conditional, on a provision made in such grant by the U. S., to wit. : that the University should forever remain under the control of the Legislature ; and,

WHEREAS, The people of the State have asked, and obtained an Act of the Legislature, requiring the Regents to appoint " at least one professor " in the medical department, who shall teach a system of practice and of materia medica more in accordance with modern science ; and,

WHEREAS, The Regents of the University, who have a general supervision over the affairs of the Institution, as the paid agents of the State, by virtue of whose laws they hold power, have, when applied to, steadily refused to execute the will of the people as expressed in the Act of 1855, but have conspired, and are now conspiring with the medical faculty of the University and certain persons in our own ranks, to prevent the execution, not only of the law already on our Statute books, but to defeat, in the future, all measures looking to the introduction of Homœopathy into the medical department of the University, where it of right belongs and should be taught ; and,

WHEREAS, The lower branch of our legislature, whose acts are an index to the popular will, at its late session, reiterated the popular desire, by passing the measure of relief asked for, notwith-

standing the efforts of the above named heterogenous combination, by the handsome majority of 62 to 26; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this medical body, that the University of Michigan ought to remain as it is, a unit, prepared in conformity with its original design, to give instruction in all that pertains to science and art, demanded by the people.

*Resolved*, That we will unite our efforts to secure the introduction of Homœopathy into the medical department of the University, which is our right by virtue of law and citizenship, and will relax no effort just and honorable in itself, until our object is accomplished, and the teaching of Homœopathy in the medical department of the University becomes an accomplished fact.

*Resolved*, That the course pursued by Regent Walker, and those who have conspired with him to defeat justice by means the most dishonorable and known only to the pot-house politician, has proved himself entirely unworthy to have in his keeping the destinies of a great public institution.

On motion of Dr. Pomeroy, the By-Laws were so amended as to require a two days session of this Society at each and every meeting hereafter, in order to properly and deliberately transact its regular and special business.

On motion the University Committee was authorized to institute legal proceedings against the Board of Regents of the University of Michigan, if it should be deemed advisable to do so, to enforce the carrying out of the provisions of the law of 1855, relative to the introduction of Homœopathy into the medical department of the University, and to assess the members of this Society for that purpose, and was instructed to report progress at each meeting of the Society.

The Publication Committee was instructed to procure blank receipts for moneys paid by the members to the Secretary or Treasurer, for the use of the Society.

Drs. T. F. Pomeroy and F. Woodruff were elected delegates to the next annual meeting of the American Institute of Homœopathy to be held at Philadelphia.

The old Board of Censors were, by the President, ordered to hold over for another year; whereupon, on motion of Dr. Bagley, the Society adjourned to meet at Ann Arbor on the 21st day of November, 1871.

B. F. BAILEY,

*Secretary pro tem.*



PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING;  
HELD AT ANN ARBOR NOV. 21, 22, 1871.

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The First Semi-Annual Meeting of the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of Michigan convened at Ann Arbor, in the parlors of the Gregory House, Nov. 21, 1871.

The meeting was called to order as previously announced, at 2 o'clock by the President, Dr. T. F. Pomeroy, and a motion was made, which prevailed, that the Society adjourn until 7:30 o'clock P. M.

At 7:30 P. M., the meeting convened and was called to order by the President.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The President read a brief address, calling the attention of the Society to such subjects as would be most likely to occupy its attention during the session, and in connection therewith offered some practical suggestions.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT.

GENTLEMEN OF THE STATE SOCIETY—Although not expected to deliver a formal address at a semi-annual meeting, I may, as your presiding officer, be permitted to offer a few remarks as introductory to, and suggestive of some of those subjects most likely to occupy your attention during this session of our State Society.

In the formation of this Society, we have but recognized the well established fact that such associations are necessary for the advancement of medical science, and that concerted and systematic effort will accomplish what individual enterprise or desultory action can never do. Recent developments, as indeed nearly all of the antecedent history of Homœopathy in this State, have also demonstrated this fact, and our cause is now suffering the legitimate consequences of a want of united and harmonious effort in its behalf.

We are thus admonished to see to it that all faithful representatives of our school throughout the State have the opportunity

not only, but, if needful, that they be urged to associate themselves with us. In this way only may we expect a solution of those great problems with which, from our relations to this State, and to its educational institutions, we find ourselves confronted, as well as in a general way, to participate with our brethren in other States and other Countries, in the work of developing and of perfecting our most worthy and prosperous system of therapeutics.

The great question that at the present time is attracting the attention of the adherents of our School, especially within the limits of the profession, is that of medical education, and how those methods peculiar to our system of practice may be placed on an equal footing and upon a just basis in relation to others more highly favored than they.

Hitherto a just and righteous solution of this question has been prevented by the determined and persistent opposition of a portion of the Board of Regents of our State University, whereby the entire board has been forced to disobey the popular will as expressed now and again through the representative branch of our State Legislature, in not placing our teachers within its walls and under its fostering care.

It is not necessary at this time to go into the history of this opposition, nor of the avowed and concealed reasons that have led to it, and which continue to direct it. With these we are already sufficiently familiar, as we are also only too well acquainted with the designs and motives of those who have presumed to prevent the fulfillment of the plain requirements of the law, and to defer the consideration and the adjustment of our claims under it; preferring rather to promote disagreement and opposition within our ranks, by diverting the attention, and by flattering the vanity of a few of the more ambitious amongst us with schemes and projects that are impracticable and impossible of fulfillment, whose only effect is to distract and to divide. A glorious mission, indeed, for men occupying a high and honorable position as the guardians of a great public trust, the universality of which they have as yet failed to comprehend.

My purpose at this time is rather to consider those agencies within our own ranks which tend to the detriment of our cause and the defeat of our plans. Such opportunities for advancement as are within the reach of the Homœopathic fraternity of this State, are not accorded to any other, advantages that should, and indeed might have been secured long since but for our own divisions and suicidal disagreements, the nature of which is well understood and only too plainly manifested. While some of us favor the exact and prompt fulfillment of the law; others are ready, on a basis of equality, to compromise for an outside seat in the University; while still others are willing to sacrifice all that we claim, and all that is justly our due, to their own selfish and ambitious purposes, if not to

the nefarious plans and projects of those whose tools they are. Such is the lamentable and such the helpless position we have assumed, and thus, and thus only do we present ourselves before the profession and before the public, inviting the derision if not the contempt of both. It is my belief that one only cause it at the bottom of our troubles, and it is as controlling as it is fundamental, and as legitimate as cause and effect in its results. It lies in the fact that a large proportion of those who display the Homœopathic colors, who assume the Homœopathic name, have never yet apprehended, much less comprehended those principles upon which our system rests. I shall not now stop to prove this assertion, nor to fortify my position. A tree is known by its fruits, and thus also may we judge ourselves. Any one who is competent to do so, who will discriminately scan the modes and the methods of practice that are pursued under the Homœopathic name, and who will compare them with those of other and opposing schools, can not fail to discern how nearly they correspond with them, and how far they are removed from those which are the outgrowth of Homœopathic principles, and from the requirements of our law of cure.

A defective medical education, from a Homœopathic standpoint, is the only cause that will satisfactorily explain the fact of our differences and our divisions. I claim that an intelligent conviction of the value, and a correspondingly just appreciation of the importance of those principles that underlie our system, and the practical adoption of its therapeutic law, would elevate us far above all cliques and partisan projects. The claims of a truly scientific system of therapeutics, and its importance and value to mankind, would rise paramount to those of personal advancement and private ambition. Whoever heard of those persons working at cross purposes, who are united in sentiment or in doctrine, and were we as a whole inspired by our principles and controlled by our therapeutic law, we would also be animated by one purpose only, as by the assurance of success and of ultimate triumph.

Self education is then our first duty; and, it is not commendable in us that we should seek to hide from ourselves, as we can not hope to conceal from a discerning public, this palpable fact, so that the sooner we set about this work, the earlier we raise the standard of reform, and rally our forces under it, the sooner will unity of action and harmony of sentiment be our reward, and ultimate success our reasonable expectation. 'Just as the twig is bent, the tree's inclined,' and education alone will enable us to fill the measure of our usefulness, and to exemplify the great practical value of those principles we have espoused in the adoption of our law of cure, "*similia similibus curantur.*"

The Homœopathic Medical Society of this State, from the outset, as also did the Michigan Homœopathic Institute during the last four years of its existence, has advocated and insisted upon



the exact and rigid fulfillment of the law of 1855, giving us equal privileges and opportunities in our State University with those of a more favored school. The history of the past few months, which is prolific in the matter of medical colleges, as also in that of an unusual exhibition of the aspirations and antics of a few discontented and over-ambitious members of our profession, has not in the least diminished its obligations to that end. I would therefore recommend that the University committee of this Society be instructed to take a review of our situation. With the new light that has been shed upon the subject of medical education, through various circulars and newspaper communications, it will surely be able to make a report worthy of our consideration, and one that must attract the attention of the profession and of the public, whereby both may be informed as to the true position of Homœopathy in this State, in the matter of medical education. If, however, the vast interests involved in this question are indeed to be entrusted to irresponsible parties, if the medical instruction of our youth is to be managed and conducted by those who are confessedly incompetent, if we are to be disgraced by such medical schools as have been foreshadowed through various circulars and announcements of medical faculties, it is high time that we should recognize the situation, that we may, with the utmost vigor, enter upon the work of repudiation and of separation from all such perversions of the great objects contemplated in the propagation and development of our system of medical science. It is to be hoped, therefore, that our University committee will enter boldly upon the defence of those interests entrusted to its keeping, and that it will make such exposures to the public and to the profession as the facts in the case will fully warrant, and the welfare of our cause imperatively demands; and inasmuch as it has been claimed that the majority of the profession favors those measures that are opposed to the repeatedly out-spoken policy of this society, and of the Michigan Homœopathic Institute, and as before stated, I would recommend, also, that this committee be instructed to report as to what the phrase "the profession" relates in its application to the professed adherents of Homœopathic principles and education; and also as to who are, and who are not entitled to a voice in the settlement of this question. It is high time that it be settled whether the mere assumption of the name of Homœopathy, without the remotest regard for the observance of its principles and of its requirements in practice, nor the slightest recognition of its code of ethics, is a sufficient passport to a position among those who are recognized as intelligent and consistent practitioners of the Homœopathic system, and if also, it is a sufficient warrant for the right to assist in the management and control of its affairs. A State Medical Society is surely competent, both to discuss and to settle this question, and until this is done, there can be no final or

satisfactory adjustment of our differences.

In this connection I would respectfully suggest that the University committee be also requested to defer for the present all legal proceedings, excepting those of a preliminary character, in the matter of enforcing our rights in the University, until such times as we can present ourselves before the courts in a better shape and condition, as the exponents of a principle, and the representatives of a distinctive system of medical practice, than we are able to do at the present time, and until our success is well assured.

I would also recommend, if the nature of the adjournment of our last annual meeting was such as to make this session a continuance of it, that our Constitution and By-Laws be placed in the hands of a competent committee for revision and remodeling, before the already authorized work of printing them is entered upon. As our present Constitution is constructed it contemplates and regards our society as a representative body, which it is not, and which it is not likely to become for many years; its provisions are therefore cumbersome and impracticable, and should be so altered and simplified as to meet our current requirements.

In order that our delegates and others who may desire to attend the next annual session of the American Institute of Homœopathy, which will open at Washington on the 20th day of May next, the same day of our annual meeting, shall be able to do so, it will be necessary that the time of the next annual meeting of this society shall be either anticipated or deferred for a few days. I would therefore suggest that the 21st day of June, 1872, be substituted for the one named in the Constitution.

With this suggestion, none others occurring to me at the present time, I will commit to your keeping, and to your attention, those subjects which I have thus imperfectly laid before you, and to your management all further business that may be presented for our consideration and action; in conclusion, most sincerely thanking you for the honor you have conferred upon me in selecting me for your presiding officer for the current year.

After the reading of the address, and on motion of Dr. B. F. Bailey, it was referred to the Publication Committee.

The Auditing Committee then submitted its report on the financial account of Ex-Treasurer Smith; which, on motion, was accepted and adopted.

On motion of Dr. Thayer, Dr. Malcom was permitted to read a paper on "Selection of the Remedy" (Dr. Malcom not being a member of the Society) and after being read it was referred to the Publication Committee.

The Society then adjourned to meet on the morning of the 22d, at 9 o'clock.

The Society was called to order by the President at 9 o'clock of the second day of the session.

Dr. B. F. Bailey informed the Society that there were a number of gentlemen present who desired to become members of the Society. The President announced that there was not a quorum of the Board of Censors present to act upon their applications.

Dr. Bailey then moved that the President appoint a sufficient number to form a quorum. The Chair decided there was no provision in the By-Laws for such an emergency.

Under the order of reports from medical committees, Dr. Bailey, being called upon for his report on the subject of medical colleges, presented and read the following report, which was accepted and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Publication.

*To the Officers and Members of the Michigan Homœopathic Medical Society:*

As one of your Committee on the question of Homœopathic Medical Colleges, I respectfully submit the following result of careful and earnest deliberations:

For several years past the educated and respectable physicians of the State have been unanimous in the conviction that the honor and future prosperity of the profession absolutely required that our pupils and others ambitious of entering upon the high and responsible duties of practitioners of medicine should receive a first class medical education; that the members of the profession of our school and their patrons had an equal right to obtain such an education with the patrons of the old school practice as citizens, and especially as tax-payers. For a long series of years we have endeavored to obtain a portion of our rights in the State University, but thus far our efforts have proved unavailing; our pupils have been denied the privileges of a proper medical education, and our State has been disgraced by the annual influx into a noble calling of unprincipled quacks. The hope for any change for the better whilst waiting for the the co-operation of the Regents, seemed totally vain unless something more practical could be inaugurated. It is an old maxim that God helps those who help themselves. Acting upon which, the members of the Central Michigan Homœopathic Medical Institute organized a College, which commenced its session on the 1st inst., and is now in successful operation—thirty-eight earnest, intelligent, working students being in attendance. The recognition of this institution as a branch of the University, or the teaching of the science of homœopathy in the



University being deemed of paramount importance, it was decided to locate the same at Lansing, where its influence might be brought to bear directly upon the Legislature when in session, until such recognition should be had, especially as the citizens of Lansing offered generous contributions to aid in the work.

The remarkable success of the opening session of this school, demonstrates its necessity; and in my opinion it should receive the fostering care and undivided support of every homœopathic physician and friend of the cause in the State, until such time as the co-operation of the Legislature shall be secured, by which homœopathy shall be taught in the University, or this College made a branch thereof, with equal powers and privileges of the present medical department; its permanent location and other minor questions then to be settled by the voice of the profession at large.

Dr. J. E. Smith, of Jackson, was called for his report on "Diseases of Women and Children." He not having his report ready, was by his request excused from reporting on that subject, and, was requested to report instead on venereal diseases at the annual meeting in May next.

Dr. I. N. Eldridge, of Flint, being called, read a paper on Leucorrhœa; its pathology, causes and treatment; which, on motion, was accepted and referred to the Publication Committee.

*To the Homœopathic Medical Society of Michigan:*

Leucorrhœa, the disease assigned as the subject of the remarks I am about to make, is one of the most common, and yet one of the most perplexing and difficult of cure. Many reasons might be adduced to show why this disease is so prevalent at the present day, and why it is so persistently unyielding to medical appliances. One hint, however, I will throw out just here, why we are not more successful in the treatment and cure of this malady, and that is, the lack of our materia medica to furnish us with the true homœopathic remedial agents, coupled with the numerous causes that contribute to its propagation and development, and which are constantly at work, and, we might say, stereotyping this wide-spread disease, which may justly be styled as the constant companion and plague of woman. Before we shall be able to cope with this disease as successfully as we do with the great majority of others even more critical and dangerous, and seemingly requiring more skill, new remedies must be discovered, brought out and proved, which will give us more of the characteristics or similarities of this complex and intractable morbid condition. Until that time arrives, we must be content to make use of the next best means at our command. Leucorrhœa is, strictly speaking a catarrh of the mucous

membrane of the vagina and cervix uteri, or, of the utero vaginal structure, and is characterized by a muco-purulent, white, yellow, or greenish colored, creamy, milky, and in many cases, bloody or watery discharge from the vagina. It is claimed by medical authors that at the catamenial period, the mucous membranes of the uterus are found to be in such a hyperemic state, that its over-filled blood-vessels burst, occasioning the menstrual flow. This normal hyperemic state, they say, might be called the physiological catarrh of the uterus. It becomes morbid, or pathological, when it occurs at any other time, when no ripe ovula are cast off. It is therefore clear, they say, that the predisposition to uterine catarrh lies between the time when menstruation begins until it ceases.—*Raué*. But what physician of experience has not met with occasional cases of this catarrh in young subjects even before the catamenia had made its appearance, or something so similar that the difference could not be noticed. I have met cases of this kind where the discharge was yellow, sufficiently so to stain the linen, which at first was clear, white and transparent, then milky, or creamy, showing the progressive stages of the complaint. Cases of this disease occur after the climactic period, and my experience teaches me that at this late period in life they are more serious in their nature than when occurring at earlier periods of life.

*Pathology*.—*Raué* says, "the pathological features of this disease are like any other catarrh, hyperemic. Swelling and dryness at first; afterwards, increased secretion of mucous. When becoming chronic, the mucous membrane thickens and becomes hypertrophied, and is sometimes studded with polypous excrescences; its color turns brownish or slate colored; the secretion becomes more or less purulent. If the disease is allowed to go on unchecked, catarrhal erosions will appear on the posterior lip of the mouth of the womb; and follicular ulcers make their appearance, leaving to the granulating ulcer, which bleeds so easily and freely, to finish up the work of destruction."

*Exciting causes*.—Different authors and writers assign different causes for the excitation and development of this malady. While some declare the exciting causes to be all such disorders as cause a stagnation in the proper circulation of the blood, as heart and lung diseases, chronic constipation, etc., others assign a lymphatic temperament, a scrofulous tendency, general debility and relaxation of the muscular and membranous structures, whether from natural organization or from previous disease.

*Direct causes*.—While some writers claim that direct irritations are sexual excesses, masturbation, pessaries, etc., general weakness of the system and general morbid conditions, such as typhus, cholera, small pox, and other infectious diseases, chlorosis, scrofulosis, etc.; others claim that amongst the more immediate causes may be mentioned an inactive and luxurious mode of living, immoderate



sexual indulgence, abortions, congestions and inflammations of the uterus and vagina, menstrual derangements, want of cleanliness, a humid atmosphere, abnormal growths in the uterus, the uterine debility and relaxation consequent on parturition, too early exercise after confinement, neglect of mothers to exercise the office of nursing, and Marshall Hall adds, "undue lactation." If I were to name some of the most prominent causes according to my own observation, I should mention an inactive and luxurious mode of living, immoderate sexual congress, unsatisfied sexual desire, abortions, congestions and inflammations of the uterus and vagina, menstrual derangements in particular, uterine debility and relaxation consequent upon parturition, reading the exciting works of fiction of which the literature of our day is largely made up, exciting the mind and passions to an undue degree, and all other agents that abnormally stimulate the nervous system or the animal nature. I am satisfied from close observation that the injudicious and frequent practice of injecting cold water into the vagina after sexual indulgence for the purpose of preventing conception, has much to do with laying the foundation for this disease; so also the thousand and one devices that have taxed the inventive genius of a horde of unprincipled quacks to fill their pockets with dishonest gains, but to the physical injury of their credulous victims, who, when it is too late, regret that they had thus interrupted the processes of natural laws. With Raue and others, I am of the opinion that "a general weakness of the system, and general morbid conditions are favorable to the propagation and development of this disease." Is not leucorrhœa more prevalent in this and all other malarious districts than in anti-malarious districts—in Michigan than in New England? Does not the subtle poison of this and other malarial districts, so affect a certain class of females whose vital powers are not sufficiently strong to resist its influence as to qualify and fit them as subjects of general weakness of the system and general morbid conditions? This debilitated condition, the result of malarial poisoning, renders its victims very liable to be morbidly impressed by any of the immediate or exciting causes before enumerated, and thus to develop this leucorrhœal catarrh. Confinement in doors, in hot and ill ventilated apartments; the habit of wearing heavy skirts without the support of shoulder straps, has also a tendency to produce local weakness and congestion, and hastens the outbreak of the disease. The true pathology of a morbid condition is much easier to determine than are the predisposing, exciting and immediate causes of disease. That being determined, it becomes as it were a fixed fact, and physicians of all schools of practice may agree, and new discoverers in the pathological field of science are rare. But we have no such sure guide in relation to the predisposing, exciting or immediate causes of disease. To day we may name a long list for certain maladies, and to-morrow some



new seeker after scientific truth may make new discoveries in this field.

*Remedies.*—Still more difficult is it on the whole, after settling the questions of pathology and of procuring causes, to select from among the long list of drugs of our materia medica, the one that by its similarity is called for in order to insure the cure of our patient. It is not enough that she leaves off all practices that have a tendency to develop and prolong the disease, nor that she religiously carries out the instructions of her physician in regard to bathing, diet, exercise, etc., the pathogenesis of the selected drug must cover the entire morbid condition for which it is selected, otherwise all our efforts in the way of medication will prove futile and abortive. To this end the materia medica will have to be closely studied. The honest and successful practitioner is never done studying the materia medica; but routinists and drones get through early. A young practitioner of not more than five years practice, said to me not long since, "I have got through studying the materia medica—I know all there is of it." He must have a more retentive memory than Hahnemann, for he was in the practice of consulting his own materia medica even at the bedside of his patients.

*Treatment.*—We now come to the most important part of this subject—its treatment and its cure. First of all, the physician must see that all such habits or influences as have a tendency to perpetuate this malady are given up at once. He must meet this difficulty at once and square in the face, and explaining to his patient the evils arising from their continuance, and not allow the delicate nature of the case to deter him from the discharge of his conscientious and professional duty; for unless the immediate and exciting causes are removed, all medical treatment is useless. If confinement in doors, indolence, and the habit of reading exciting works of fiction, have had aught to do in bringing on the complaint, a reform must be demanded and enforced, and daily exercise in the open air, with water bathing, and gentle rubbing of the body with a towel, substituted. Good, wholesome and nutritious food should be allowed, but condiments should be prohibited, as well as green tea and coffee. The use of the female syringe, with pure warm water, or castile soap water should be used two or three times daily, if for no other purpose than cleanliness. These reformatory measures having been demanded and instituted, the following named remedies having reference to the nature of the discharges and to the menstrual conditions, may be consulted and a selection made from them so as to cover not only the nature and conditions of the discharges and of menstruation, but also all other symptoms in each case, in their totality, including age and temperament, aggravations and ameliorations. A medical writer in one of our journals, a few months since remarks, upon the subject of leucorrhœa, that "the trouble consists in giving the mere discharges too much prominence in studying the remedy. It presents itself first, and unless

we use special care it obscures all the other conditions, which after all will prove to be the real key to the remedy." To a routinist this word of caution will very aptly apply, but not I trust to a studious and zealous practitioner. My opinion is that he who does not regard the nature as well as the fact of the discharge, and the menstrual anomalies and abnormal irregularities in making his prescriptions, will often if not very generally fail of a cure.

*Ammonium Carbonicum.*—Leucorrhœa, burning, acrid and watery; menses too early, too scanty, or too profuse.

*Ammonium Mur.*—Leucorrhœa like white of egg; menses too early, too profuse; constipation, stools hard, crumbling.

*Borax.*—Leucorrhœa like white of egg; menses too early and too profuse; diarrhœa in the morning after breakfast; soft, light yellow, or slimy stools; stitches through the right shoulder blade.

*Bovista.*—After the menses, leucorrhœa of thick, slimy, tenacious acrid, or corrosive mucous; before the menses, diarrhœa; during menses, headache; menses too early and profuse, also too late, and too scanty, flowing only at night.

*Cal. Carb.*—Leucorrhœa like milk, burning, and by spells, before menses; sexual desire, with relaxed parts.

*Creosote.*—Leucorrhœa of bad odor, debilitating, mild or corrosive; menses too early and too profuse; deafness during and before menses.

*Graphites.*—Leucorrhœa like water, with weakness in the back; menses too late and too scanty, too pale, often with colic.

*Kali-Bich.*—Leucorrhœa yellow, ropy, can be drawn out in strings; menses too early, with vertigo and nausea.

*Mezerium.*—Leucorrhœa like white of egg, malignant, corroding; constipation, fœces in very hard balls; prolapsus ani; menses too early and protracted.

*Murex Purp.*—Leucorrhœa bloody during stool, or watery, greenish, thick, bloody; menses too early, too profuse; hæmorrhages; pain from uterus to chest, soreness of uterus, as if cut by an instrument.

*Nat. Carb.*—Leucorrhœal discharge thick, heavy; induration of the os-uteri; menses too early.

*Nat. Mur.*—Leucorrhœa acrid, green; sterility; colic during the menses; menses too early and too profuse, too late, too scanty, or suppressed; headache before, during, or after the menses.

*Nit. Acid.*—Leucorrhœa like brown water, acrid, offensive; during the menses, colic and bearing down pain.

*Palladium.*—Leucorrhœa transparent like jelly, worse before and after the menses; heaviness as from a weight in the pelvis.

*Puls.*—Leucorrhœa acrid, burning, or like cream, and painless; menses too late and scanty, with cramps in the abdomen; bloody, thick, black, or thin and watery, flows by fits and starts.

*Sepia*.—Leucorrhœa yellow, green, purulent, fetid; menses too early, too profuse, too scanty, too late or suppressed; during menses toothache, headache, nose bleed; falling of uterus or vagina; indurated neck of uterus; stiches in the vagina.

*Stannum*.—Leucorrhœa transparent, yellow mucous, with debility; menses too early and too profuse.

*Sulph*.—Leucorrhœa, of yellow mucous, corroding, preceded by colic; menses too late, too scanty, or suppressed, bloody, acid, corroding pale; headache before menses; during the menses nose bleed; congestive spasms in the abdomen.

*Sulph. Acid*.—Leucorrhœa like milk, acid, burning; menses too early, and too profuse.

It is a fact that needs no proof from me, that in nearly all cases of Leucorrhœa, the menses are too profuse, and appear too early. This is very probably owing to functional or structural changes in the womb; or, as some suppose, to the "congestion or stagnation of blood in the uterine veins; or too fluxions to the womb, brought on, perhaps, by some of the remote or exciting causes before alluded to. In order to treat, understandingly and successfully, a bad, or chronic case of Leucorrhœa, the menstrual anomalies, and the character of the discharge must be carefully considered, if we are to expect success to crown our efforts.

I claim, as the results of my own practice and observation, that I have met with far better success in the treatment and cure of Leucorrhœa, with the 30th attenuations than with those lower.

Dr. A. I. Sawyer, of Monroe being unavoidably absent, sent in the following report on Surgery, which was presented by Dr. Thayer, accepted and referred to the Committee on Publication.

*To the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of Michigan:*

Your Committee to whom was referred the subject of Surgery for report thereon, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to submit the following, viz:

From among the thousand and one abnormal conditions of the human system, for the relief of which the skill of the surgeon may be called into requisition, I have selected as a subject for consideration, at this time, that of Hydrocele.

And although one of the most simple of the whole catalogue of surgical operations, still it requires a certain amount of skill, and some care, as well as a reasonable amount of anatomical knowledge (on the part of the operator), in order to insure safety to the patient, and a fair chance of *curing* the malady,

The inconveniences under which a patient thus afflicted suffers, far exceed the difficulties, however, attending the operation, and it should not be neglected, on account of simplicity, for there are



but few abnormalities of a chronic character, which, when removed, afford greater relief to the sufferer, or elicit warmer expressions of gratitude than the one under consideration, simple as the operation may be. Besides, this disease if left to the resources of nature alone, will seldom if ever disappear of itself after having become chronic, but will continue indefinitely, and by its weight and volume harrass the patient throughout his natural life.

Hydrocele in man may be defined as a collection of a watery or serous fluid within the cavity of the tunica vaginalis testis, notwithstanding we may have what are called cystic hydrocele of the spermatic cord in man, and infused or infiltrated hydrocele of the round ligaments, pubes, and labia majora in woman; yet these aberrations are so infrequent, and generally of so little inconvenience to the patient, that it is hardly worth while to give them more than a passing notice in an article of this character.\*

Various substances, both liquid and solid, may be and often are infused or deposited within the tunica vaginalis testis, or developed upon the testicle or its appendages, or upon both, or even upon the surface of the tunic itself, and claiming the attention of the surgeon; consequently it becomes necessary to be able to make a differential diagnosis between them, in order to act understandingly in a given case, as each variety of the disease may require an entirely different course of treatment, both instrumental and topical. For instance, a case of hemocele consisting of an infused substance of such consistence that it can not be drawn off through the canula of an ordinary trochar, requires treatment in all respects similar to that for cold or for other abscesses, where there is attenuation of the skin; or for chronic purulent cysts in general. Yet its volume, progress, and general appearance may so nearly resemble one of hydrocele, that only close observation will enable one to detect and point out the difference.

Again, there may be a collection of pus within the scrotum, resulting from orchitis or inflammation of the tunica vaginalis, and in order to cure which, it requires free incisions, so as to evacuate the contained semi-fluid deposit. Or we may have a case of acute orchitis, with infiltration of serum within the parenchyma of the testicle itself, also an infusion of the same within the cavity of the tunica vaginalis, and like the former requiring incisions through the scrotal envelope merely, or perhaps into the substance of the virile organ itself, to be followed by fomentations and other anti-phlogistic appliances. These conditions may also pertain in connection with the epididymis, but this appendage rarely if ever requires incisions under such circumstances.

If epididymitis or other diseased conditions of the epididymis exist in connection with simple hydrocele, the treatment is in all respects similar to that for uncomplicated hydrocele, except that more caution perhaps may be required in order not unnecessarily to

wound these parts, and thereby run the risk of producing further complications in the case. Sarcocoele forms no exception to the above, whether as to danger or mode of treatment, for the danger formerly claimed to attend the cure of hydrocele thus complicated, by the ordinary way, does not in reality exist, since numerous instances of hydrocele complicated with sarcocoele cured by injections of tincture of Iodine and other irritating fluids, without any serious consequences, can be adduced or without anything arising during treatment tending to mark a contrast between it and that of simple uncomplicated hydrocele.

The worst complication, however, or that which requires the closest attention, in consequences of the very serious results that might follow if a mistake were made, is that of scrotal hernia complicated with hydrocele. Under these circumstances should a false diagnosis be made, we would not only hazard wounding the protruded intestine with the point of the trochar but perhaps still more by throwing upon or into this membranous canal an irritating substance, that would be likely to cure a case of uncomplicated hydrocele, or one less seriously complicated, which might in this instance create a destructive and perhaps fatal inflammation of the parts thus invaded.

The first and all important question then is, how shall we diagnose between these different conditions with a sufficient degree of certainty to warrant a resort to surgical interference.

We have acute and also chronic hydrocele. The former usually accompanies some acute inflammation or other of the testicle, epididymis, or their enveloping tissues from some exciting cause or other, usually from a bruise, syphilitic complications, or from some other predisposing cause affecting the sexual organism, but as it is usually of short duration, generally disappearing with the disease that ushered it in, we are but seldom called upon to use any other local treatment than that required to combat the original disease, such as fomentations, incisions, and acupuncture; and since the history of the case being sufficient of itself, generally, to guide the practitioner, both as to diagnosis and surgical treatment, it is not necessary in this place to enter upon an elaborate explanation as to how in may be known, as there can be but little fear for mistakes in such cases. Whereas chronic hydrocele, though also generally following some local irritation or inflammation of the sexual organs, still unlike the former it is usually of slow progress, and insidious in its inception, often evading the observations of the patient for weeks and perhaps months, and even when discovered, on account of the absence of pain or soreness, it generally fails to attract much attention until by its volume and weight it interferes with locomotion or the natural functions of the sexual organism. And since, as before observed, it is not self resolvent, but persistent in spite of all, general or local, except what may be called



radical treatment, it is evident that nothing short of that should engage the attention of the surgeon to any great extent. To determine between a case of scrotal hernia and one of hydrocele, otherwise than by the pathognomonic sign (the transparency of the tumor) we should inquire into the history of the case, its inception, progress, and what may be called peculiarities or characteristics of the two diseases. For instance, in hernia, the tumor increases in volume from above downwards, while in hydrocele the reverse is the case. Again, hernia usually follows immediately upon some violent exertion or strain, such as lifting, jumping, running, or coughing, and, in women, violent labor pains may produce it; while hydrocele arises in consequence of some local irritation or inflammation of the sexual organs, such as orchitis, epididymitis, from urethral hæmorrhages, riding on horseback, bruises, blows, etc. The former is usually observed at once, generally while the protruded intestine occupies some portion of the inguinal canal and previous to its exit into the scrotal cavity; whereas the latter is first discovered by the patient in consequence of the enlarged scrotum. The reason of this earlier discovery of the hernial enlargement is, that the hernia is abrupt in its appearance, and accompanied with more or less pain from the dissolution of the continuity of the abdominal parietis, or from an unusual pressure upon sensitive organs, even should there not be any strangulation of the alimentary canal or epiplo~~me~~<sup>on</sup>; while hydrocele is insidious in its appearance, entirely free from pain as a general thing, and beginning at the bottom of the scrotum where the patient is least likely to have his attention drawn to it; consequently the tumor is usually of considerable dimensions when first observed by him. The shape of the tumor, however, does not present any particular indications of one or the other, although in the earliest stages of hydrocele the tumor, in a great majority of cases, presents nothing as to shape materially differing from that of hypertrophied testicles, but finally becomes elongated and pyriform as the tunica vaginalis becomes distended with the dropsical effusions; whereas in hernia it assumes no uniform shape whatever, but may take on almost any conceivable form. But since it rarely happens that intestinal hernia and hydrocele both exist at the same time in the same sack without more or less strangulation of the former, there is but little danger of falling into an error of any great moment as to diagnosis. The symptoms of strangulation would naturally call the attention of the surgeon to the incarcerated intestine, and as the effused fluid under such circumstances is the result of the strangulation, when that is removed the cure of the hydrocele would most likely follow without further treatment. If, however, the hydrocele should remain after the reduction of the hernia, it may be treated in all respects similar to that for congenital hydrocele.

But, after all, that which is the most reliable to the diagnostician and most usually depended upon at this day, is to bring the



enlarged scrotum between your vision and some strong light either natural or artificial. The transparency or opacity of the tumor will then generally indicate the true nature of the disease, or at least in connection with the other diagnostic signs already referred to, will afford such a degree of certainty that one need not hesitate to be governed thereby, both as to diagnosis and treatment. It is true that the contained fluids in a given case may be of such a color or consistence as not to transmit the light; yet as this would properly come under the head of hemotocele instead of hydrocele, it need not weaken the above indication as a diagnostic sign, for hydrocele, rightly speaking, consists of a collection of pure serum within the scrotal sack, and as that (serum), if pure, cannot of itself be impervious to the light, tumors of the scrotum, though containing fluid, that are not thus transparent should not be classified with hydrocele but in exceptional cases. These exceptional cases arise in consequence of opacity of the tunica vaginalis or of one or more of the other cystic membranes, from lardaceous or cartilaginous degenerescence, or from thickening of these walls from fibrinous or other deposits upon or within them. In such cases as these, the surgeon has to rely upon the general characteristics of the disease; the history, inception and progress of the case in question, for his guide. In like manner is he to be governed when called to hydrocele in women, since the form, volume and position of the tumor in them are such as necessarily to preclude the application of this otherwise highly valuable test. But, in this latter case, should he make a mistake, as to the contents of the tumor, he would not run the same risk of wounding important organs, as he would in the former case, for the simple reason that there would be no testicle or its appendages, the epididymis and spermatic cord and their vessels, to encounter, and, therefore, it is not as important that he should make as careful and correct a diagnosis in the latter as in the former class of cases.

The treatment for hydrocele may be palliative, or both palliative and curative. The palliative treatment, so called, consists merely in evacuating the tumor of its fluids, either by means of the trochar and canula, or simply by incising the parts with a scalpel or bistury, or by puncturing the scrotum with a lancet.

In all acute cases of hydrocele, as in collections of pus or sanies in that and other parts of the body, the above treatment is all that the surgeon will be called upon to do, as a speedy and permanent cure is almost certain to follow the removal of the dropsical effusion. But in chronic hydrocele it is quite otherwise, for that which would in all probability prove curative as well as palliative in the former, would in most, if not all cases of the latter, be followed, sooner or later, by a return of the same abnormal conditions as when the patient first sought the advice of the surgeon; and as a general thing, the oftener thus relieved the sooner a re-

lapse or filling up will take place to harrass and annoy the victim of this hitherto troublesome and obstinate disease.

As to a radical cure, numerous methods have from time to time been proposed, and have for a longer or shorter period received more or less attention from the profession, at least they have, each in its turn been put forth by its particular author, and advocated by its adherents and followers, as the ultimatum or acme of perfection in the healing art, as applied to this malady.

While most if not all of these different modes of treatment have some meritorious features which, under certain circumstances, may be of essential service to the craft, yet that which is generally relied upon at this time, and has been for many years past, is to evacuate the tumor with the trochar and canula, and afterward inject iodine in the tincture, or more or less diluted, into the emptied sack; and after allowing it to remain a few minutes, and without removing the canula, permit it to escape through that instrument. This will be followed by more or less inflammation and swelling, and perhaps attended with a certain amount of fever; but it need cause no alarm unless carried to too great an extent. In fact without some inflammation and swelling of the scrotal envelope, the disease will not be cured by the operation, and the dropsical effusions within the cavity of the tunica vaginalis will soon commence again, and continue until your patient is as bad as before he consulted you, unless sooner relieved. This inflammatory process does not always appear at the same time after operating, but may commence during the first twenty-four hours, or not for several days. In the majority of cases it will make itself manifest somewhere from the fourth to the sixth day. Still it may not appear under two weeks, and perhaps longer. In one case that I operated upon some three years since, it must have been three weeks before any great amount of inflammation took place. At any rate, the patient was about town as much as a week, then left for Iowa, from whence he wrote me that he had had no soreness yet, although the sack appeared to be filling up again, which caused him to complain somewhat, supposing, as he stated, "that he had had all his trouble and expense for nothing." But in a few days I received another letter from him informing me that he was sick, had a high fever, and that the tumor was as large if not larger as when I operated, and very sore and painful; and wanted to know what he should do. I replied that it was all right, and that I believed the tumor would disappear with the fever, or soon thereafter, and that he should do nothing more than apply a lotion of arnica and water to the inflamed scrotum, and take a few doses of aconite internally. The result was, that in about three weeks I received another letter informing me that he was well, and asking my pardon for what he had said in former letters. I am at a loss for an explanation to this long incubation; nevertheless it took place, and may again.



I usually employ the tincture of iodine as we find it in our drug stores, diluted from one-half to two-thirds with soft water, and let it remain in the scrotum about five minutes. I inject what the tunica vaginalis will conveniently hold without distressing the patient too much. I do not heat the injection, but use it at the ordinary temperature. When introducing the trochar and canula, I direct the point of the former upwards and inwards, against the outer, anterior and near the most dependant part of the tumor, unless the position of the testicle and its dependencies, previously ascertained, should contra indicate it, and continue forcing the instrument through the tunica into the cyst, and in the above direction until the point of it seems to be entirely free, or until the center of the fluids shall appear to have been reached, when the trochar is to be carefully withdrawn, without withdrawing the canula in the least, when the contained fluids escape through the canula into a vessel for that purpose in the hands of an assistant. After the cyst has been thoroughly emptied, the irritating preparation is thrown into the cavity of the tunica vaginalis, through the canula, and suffered to remain there, as before stated, for the space of five minutes or thereabouts, when it is to be withdrawn or permitted to escape through the canula in the same manner that the original fluids contained therein, passed off. After the operation I make no application until the scrotum becomes inflamed; then I apply a lotion of arnica and water externally, and give aconite 6th, a dose every three or four hours internally, until the fever begins to abate, or symptoms call for another remedy, which, however, does not ordinarily happen.

Great care should be observed lest the canula be so far withdrawn while evacuating the tumor, that the injected fluid finds its way between the tunics of the scrotum instead of into the cavity of the tunica vaginalis, in which case the most serious consequences are likely to follow.

Right here I will relate a case in point that came under my observation not long since:

On the 27th day of April, 1871, I received a telegram from Dr. S. S. Lungren, of Toledo, O., requesting my presence, and that I should be prepared to operate. Accordingly I took the 4 P. M. train for that city, arriving there about 5 P. M. of the same day, and meeting the doctor at the depot, we proceeded immediately to the house of the patient, where we were joined by Dr. Gaylord of that city.

The history of the case before us is briefly this, viz: about eight days previous to the day above mentioned, the doctor undertook to operate upon an ordinary case of hydrocele, except that the testicle upon one side (left) was considerably enlarged.

While doing so, and after the trochar had been removed, the patient, who was in a sitting posture, fainted, and while in the act



of falling over, in order to seize him and prevent his falling too heavily upon the floor, the doctor let go his hold upon the canula. The consequence was that the instrument became partially withdrawn, and the fluids must have found their way to a greater or less extent between the tunics of the scrotum. Let that be as it may, when I first saw the case it presented the following conditions, viz: The whole of the skin of the scrotum, perineum, anterior part of the penis and portions of that on the upper and inner regions of the thigh, as well as that along the track of the inguinal canal, as far as to opposite the external abdominal ring on the right side, together with the dartos muscle and fascia and its adjoining subcutaneous cellular tissue in the above regions; the infundibuliform, intercolumnar and cremasteric muscle and fascia on the right, and much of the same tissues, except the cremasteric on the left side, was one complete mass of sphacelus or gangrene. The constitutional symptoms were also unpropitious in the extreme, being those usually observed in low typhoid conditions, and those attending low traumatic fevers. In a word, the case was a desperate one, and the chances of recovery decidedly against the patient.

I at once proceeded to remove the disorganized mass, by carefully dissecting from the more healthy tissues, thus leaving the right testicle suspended by the spermatic cord, within the tunica vaginalis, entirely denuded of every other envelope, also completely separated from the opposite side, which, however, had fared somewhat less severely, having the cremasteric muscle and fascia still intact, and besides, the other envelopes were not removed so high up on the left as upon the right side. The whole, when removed and placed upon a common dinner plate, filled it completely. That which gave the greatest amount of trouble, however, both in removing and during the after treatment, was the perineum. In that region the gangrene had made such fearful havoc among the cellular tissues, that when removed, a great excavation appeared between the bulbous portion of the urethra and the rectum, and it was with great difficulty that those canals were rescued from the disintegrating process. The parts were then thoroughly cleansed with castile soap suds, washed with carbo'ic acid, as a disinfectant, and carefully dressed with sweet oil. The patient received arsenicum 3d, the dose to be repeated every three hours, and left in the hands of Dr. S. S. Lungren, with the understanding that the wound should be dressed as above, three times daily, or oftener if the condition of the parts should seem to require it.

I visited the patient again on the 29th, and found him very low, almost moribund, but the condition of the local troubles somewhat improved. Hydrastis canadensis was now substituted for carbolic acid, and moschus for arsenicum, together with alcoholic stimulants, freely administered.

On the 5th of May following, I visited the patient a third and last time, and found him much better. Treatment continued to be

modified, according to the discretion of the attending physician, from time to time, as the symptoms might seem to indicate.

The doctor was indefatigable in his efforts to relieve the patient, both as physician and nurse; else I hardly think it would have been possible to have saved him. Not knowing the exact condition of the man now, I will not attempt to define it; suffice it to say, however, that I am informed that nature has done a great deal for him by way of effacing and covering up the inroads made by the terrible sloughing that followed the operation for the cure of this hydrocele, and that it is safe to assume that the cure is radical, and that the hydrocele will never more return. Were it possible, however, for the man to have a return of the disease, I hardly think he would ever be willing to subject himself to a duplication of what he then passed through, even for the sake of a radical cure, nor do I believe the doctor would be willing to operate upon him again, or upon any one else without sufficient assistants to enable him to pay proper attention to the instruments.

I am now treating a case of hydrocele complicated with sarcocele, on which I operated on the 9th of this month.

The case was of a young man, aged about 25; florid complexion, somewhat fleshy, and, aside from the above difficulty, usually enjoying good health. The disease had been troubling him about two years, and is supposed to have originated from a bruise in consequence of mounting a horse bare backed, some time previous to his first discovering this enlargement. I operated upon him, as above stated, on the 9th of this month, taking from him very nearly two quarts of serum, of a pale lemon color; and immediately injected into the emptied sack, four ounces of a mixture consisting of equal parts of tincture of iodine and tepid water. I suffered this to remain five minutes by my watch, then allowed it to escape through the canula, which had not yet been removed, into a small tin pan held by my assistant Dr. W. D. Clark. I would have thrown up a larger quantity of the injection, but that process seemed to cause him such violent pain, that I thought it best not to push this part of the operation any further, but instead kneaded the scrotum thoroughly, so as to bring the injected substance in contact with all parts of the emptied cyst. I made no application to the scrotum whatever, neither did I give him any medicine, but simply assisted him into bed, and left the house.

On the 11th I called; found the scrotum considerably swollen and quite sensitive to the touch, and that he had some general fever. I left aconite 6th, with directions to give him a dose every three hours, unless the fever should subside. I did not make any application to the scrotum, for the reason that I did not think there were any indications of an excess of inflammation.

November 13th, I found the patient almost entirely free from pain; so much so that I discontinued the aconite. The scrotum was still considerably swollen and sore, but not so much so as



yesterday, nor was it as sensitive to the touch, according to his statements. I left no medicine and ordered no applications.

November 15th, inflammation and swelling of scrotum subsiding, and with a suspensory bandage he experienced but little inconvenience from it. No medicine or local applications ordered.

November 18th, swelling and sensitiveness of scrotum subsiding still more rapidly. Patient discharged. His was one of the largest I ever saw, and yet one of the most rapid in recovering after the operation. He scarcely suffered any pain after the first twenty-four hours, except from motion or contact. Neither had he fever except about three days during convalescence.

Congenital hydrocele differs very essentially from that of ordinary hydrocele of the tunica vaginalis, both as to character and the class of individuals it affects. In character, from the fact that the serum is contained within a prolongation of the peritoneum down into the cavity of the scrotum, and not within the tunica vaginalis, which though originally also a prolongation or continuation of the peritoneum, has become separated therefrom, as to constitute in reality a separate and independent membrane or sack. And while the dropsical deposit may occupy the same relative position to the testicle as in hydrocele in some cases, it may also in others be found alone in the scrotum and the testicle, hidden somewhere in the inguinal canal, or within the abdominal cavity.

Again, since there is an unbroken connection between the hydrocele and the cavity of the peritoneum, the tumor may be removed, for the time being, by pressure, so as to force the fluid into the abdomen, or perhaps by having the patient lie down so as to have the hips higher than the upper part of the body. In consequence of this fact too, the tumor never becomes as tense or as large in congenital as in ordinary hydrocele, where the fluid is confined within a closed sack. This form of the disease, moreover, generally occurs in very young children; never, I think, in adults, and, of course, never in females. And while it may arise from some irritation of the scrotum, either in antenatal or infantile life, yet the fluid is often secreted or deposited within the peritoneal cavity, from whence it falls down into this prolongation of that membrane according to the laws of gravitation merely. It may also arise during the same periods and from similar exciting causes acting upon the testicle and its dependencies.

The treatment for this form of hydrocele is generally very simple, as the disease will usually disappear of itself after remaining a short time. If, however, the case seems obstinate and becomes chronic, and you conclude to operate for the purpose of effecting a radical cure, you will proceed in the same general manner as for an ordinary case of hydrocele, with this exception, viz: that you close the abdominal ring before injecting the irritating fluid into the cyst, else you may have the misfortune to introduce



this substance into the peritoneal cavity, when you would be altogether likely to have a violent and perhaps fatal case of peritonitis on your hands, instead of merely one of mild adhesive inflammation of the hydrocele sack. To effectually close this abdominal ring, it is only necessary for an assistant to place his thumb over it, and to press firmly upon the pubic bone in that region. Of course in a child of tender years it would not be proper to use applications as strong as in one older, or the inflammation might proceed too far, and result in the death of the parts, as in the case of my Toledo friend already mentioned, or even more perhaps, and kill the patient.

Although I have not entered upon an elaborate exposition of this disease and its treatment, yet I have, perhaps, gone as far in that direction as would be either profitable or prudent in merely a report to such an association as that to which it is addressed.

The University Committee, consisting of Drs. Thayer, Sawyer, and Eldridge, then submitted its report upon the subject of the claims of Homœopathy to a just and fair representation in the medical department of our State University. After the reading of which by Dr. Thayer, Chairman of the committee, it was accepted and referred to the Publication Committee, with instructions to have the same printed with the transactions of the Society.

*To the Homœopathic Medical Society of Michigan :*

The University Committee appointed by the State Medical Society at its annual meeting in May last, beg leave to state, that since assuming the duties imposed upon them, they have endeavored to carry out the instructions given by the Society, in a faithful manner. The Committee, at an early day, consulted eminent legal gentlemen, to wit: our former attorney, Hon. D. D. Hughes, in reference to the feasibility of a suit in one of the Circuit Courts of the State, to compel the Regents of the University to execute the Act of 1855. In consequence of Mr. Hughes being engaged as counsel-in-chief in the celebrated Vanderpool case, he was not at liberty to give attention to the case until that and some important suits in the U. S. Court were disposed of. The Committee, in company with Hon. P. H. Emerson, assistant counsel, visited Mr. Hughes, at Grand Rapids, in September last, and after a careful investigation of authorities by these gentlemen, we were informed that it was competent under the constitution and laws of the State, to proceed in a Circuit Court, in such cases. We were at the same time informed, however, that there were collateral questions involved in such procedure, which would make it advisable for us to feel our way with caution, until the solution of these questions made it safe to proceed.

The settlement of these collateral questions, making the commencement of a suit reasonably safe, has necessarily consumed much time, and while our friends have expressed some impatience at the "law's delay," the Committee have worked faithfully and untiringly to bring the legal phase of the University question into such shape as to be clearly comprehended by the friends of our cause.

While this department of the University question has thus been in progress under the direction of the State Medical Society, certain members of this Society, who, at our annual meeting in May last, were loud in their condemnation of any and all attempts to disturb the unity of the University, and especially the medical department thereof, have associated themselves with persons outside the profession, and organized a college of their own. This new-fledged offspring of a disorderly parentage, we understand, has been baptized and christened "Lansing Homœopathic College, and Branch of the Medical Department of Michigan University."

The Committee have regarded this movement as unworthy of serious consideration, and have therefore taken no public notice of it. In our opinion, it requires no prophetic vision to see that this futile scheme will in a brief period of time dissolve into thin air, leaving only an inheritance of disgrace for those who have cast their fortunes with it. These outside persons and their coadjutors inside the profession, have an undoubted right to organize a college at Lansing, or Saugatuck, and christen it Homœopathic, or call it by whatever name they choose, provided they represent it to be what it really is, an individual enterprise. But when they publish to the world an unblushing falsehood, that it is, or can by any possibility become, a branch of the medical department of the University of Michigan, they manifestly aim at the perpetration of fraud upon those who are ignorant of its true status, and it therefore becomes the duty of the Committee to expose and denounce it.

In relation to members of this Society who have stultified themselves by their Janus-faced action in this matter, we have but a word to say, and that is, we leave them to the tribunal of their own consciences, if they have any, and to the future action of the Society, whose dignity they have trifled with and insulted.

The Committee beg leave to call your *serious* attention to still another scheme, almost as formidable in its aspect and proportions as the one just alluded to. This latter is no plebian affair. It has burst upon our astonished vision in all its rounded and perfect proportions, full fledged, like "Minerva from the head of Jove." Its halls, unlike those of Tara's, are destined in the near future, to become the arena where intellectual and scientific giants shall contend for the mastery. Like Jonah's gourd, this massive and imposing structure, the pride of Detroit, and envy of the whole world beside, has arisen and been perfected in a single night. Governors



and honorable Regents are its foster parents, while millionaires subscribe munificently to its endowment fund. We have it upon authority we dare not dispute, that a foreign gentleman, of grave aspect and imposing stature, "stuck o'er with titles and hung round with strings," has, with the aid of a competent assistant, by "ways that are dark, and tricks that are vain," delivered from the very bowels of the University, this, which I have the honor to present for your inspection, *Branch number two*, of the Michigan University.\*

What other branches, if any, have sprouted out, or been otherwise made objective, the Committee are not prepared to say.

In passing from this to the more grave discussion before us, permit us to remark, that *these branches*, unlike those seen in "prophetic vision," appear to us, who have well adjusted spectacles, bare of leaves which are for the "healing of the nations."

Mr. President, and brethren of the profession, we confess to have found it exceedingly difficult to treat these men, whose ambition has so far outrun their wisdom as to disgust all thinking men, with that consideration which some of our friends may perhaps think the gravity of the subject as well as the gravity of the occasion demands. If there is anything within the range of burlesque or mental inanity which more than another brings ridicule and contempt on the profession of the State, it is these recent attempts to organize a whole flock of colleges; filling the State with circulars and announcements, each claiming to be the especial protegee of the Board of Regents, who, according to these circulars and announcements, are each to be made a branch of the medical department of the University, and richly endowed by State appropriations.

What are the facts in the case? Permit us to state them briefly, and we hope so clearly as to convince those who are unprejudiced that these futile schemes are impossible of realization, at least as far as any connection with the University of Michigan

\* That the foregoing language of the report of the University Committee, as also that of the Presidents' addresses, with reference to the Lansing and Detroit projects is neither unwarranted nor unjust, so far as the qualifications of the projectors of one of them is concerned, is apparent from the following extract from a circular issued by and contemporaneously with the announcement of the faculty of the first named,—the "Homoeopathic College of Michigan"—viz: "In relation to the Faculty, of which this committee constitutes a portion, we have this to say: we are free from occupying that position in your ranks, which entitles us to the chairs under our charge through superior culture, intelligence, and experience. Perhaps never was a body of men placed in responsible positions where their own ideas of individual fitness were less flattering." This language is both comprehensive and explicit, and was no doubt at the time sincerely and feelingly uttered. It will be observed that it is not couched in the ordinary self-disparaging phraseology of those who are about to receive honors, or to assume responsibilities, and that these are not merely idle words, but those of candor, and the expressions of a general sense of incompetency worthy of a better cause. And true to this conviction, it is well known and admitted that several of the members of the above named faculty have applied to those filling the same chairs with themselves in other medical colleges, for instruction, both as to how to study and how to teach their respective branches. However laudable and meritorious this most proper and necessary course under such circumstances may be, the fact that it was pursued upon the heels of the admissions contained in the circular, is a full justification for the strictures and comments of the addresses and of the report of the University Committee, as it furnishes also a full absolution from any charge of malice or of enmity on the part of their authors, either as to individuals or of organization, excepting of course, an implied rebuke of those individuals who are members of the State Society, and therefore committed to its well understood policy, with reference to this question of Homoeopathy in the University as opposed to any and to all outside projects.—*Pra. Com.*



is concerned. In the early organization of the State University, branches were provided for by law, some of which were organized and went into operation in different parts of the State. Statesmen and educators soon learned that this plan of conducting a great University was a failure. These branches after a brief and sickly existence were abolished, and in the opinion of those whose experience entitles them to be heard, will never again be adopted. The University is a unit, and *must* remain a unit, or thenceforward lose its inherent vitality. This irrefragable proposition lies at the very foundation of our university controversy, and in the opinion of your committee should be thoroughly understood by every physician as well as layman in the State. The University is in its very nature and attributes what the term implies, a great school of and for the people. It possesses within itself every facility for supplying the educational demands of the people, for whose benefit it was founded and endowed. Should the authorities of the University long refuse to permit the teachings of *anything* embraced within the range of the arts and sciences, when demanded by the people, they would speedily secure its destruction. We have the authority of one of the most distinguished professors of the University, for saying that the institution has already been greatly injured, especially the literally department, by the refusal of the Regents to obey the mandates of the people, as expressed through their representatives in 1855, and repeatedly since. The University is sustained by an interest fund, growing out of the sale of lands granted by the United States, and by a direct tax on the property of the people of the State. The terms of the grant made by the General Government, prescribed that the University should forever remain under the control of the Legislature of the State. The State accepted the grant, with the conditions attached, and has ever since legislated in compliance therewith. The pioneers of Homœopathy took this view of the University and its functions, and as early as 1847, commenced petitioning the Legislature and Board of Regents, to secure representation in the medical faculty of the University. We were few in numbers at that early day, and so strong and widespread was the prejudice against us, that little attention was at first paid to our petitions. We had an abiding sense, however, in the justice of our cause, and continued our petitions from year to year until at last we wrung an unwilling report from the Legislature upon the subject of our rights. To the Homœopaths of to-day the report of Hon. T. B. Church, Chairman of the Committee on Education in the House, would hardly be cause for rejoicing, inasmuch as the report was adverse to granting what the petitioners asked for. To us in 1849, even this report was a source of sincere congratulation. It marked the beginning of an era in the agitation of the subject, which was accepted by us as an indication of final success. In our prognosis of coming events, we were not mistaken. So rapid was the growth of liber sentiments throughout the

State, that a few years subsequently the Legislature acknowledged the justice of our cause, in the passage of the celebrated "Act" of 1855. This legislative recognition of our right to share in the medical faculty of the University remains unimpaired to this hour, and, to the disgrace of the Regents, stands a dead letter on the statute books of the State. The representatives of the people have from year to year refused to repeal the Act recognizing our rights, while the Board of Regents constantly refuses to execute the mandates of the law. Thus the contest goes on, in the courts and before the tribunal of the people, and must continue to be waged until the Regents yield to the just claims of the people. Public policy and the highest interests of the University recognize the acceptance and immediate execution of the act legalizing our rights, yet the Regents are groping in the very noonday of intelligent progress, with their faces turned rearward, peering into murky atmosphere of the past in search of light to guide them in the management of the Michigan University. It is true, "yet pity 'tis, 'tis true," that the effete class prejudices of the American Medical Association has had more to do in shaping the past destiny of the medical department of our University, than the dictates of a sound, enlightened policy, or the imperative mandates of the law. The assumption that the two systems of medicine can not be taught harmoniously in the same department, we emphatically deny. Mere assumption is not the evidence which forces conviction upon our minds; we therefore demand the trial. This reasonable demand should no longer be resisted, It is in compliance with a mandatory law of the State, and, as we believe, most sincerely with the sound dictates of the age.

The proposition to build up a branch of the medical department, advocated by some of the Regents, is open to vital objections. Any attempt to disturb the unity of the University, is a blow aimed at its very life. There is no necessity for it. The medical department is fully competent to supply every demand upon it, at the least possible expense. The museum, laboratory, library, and all that is valuable and desirable, are permanent fixtures in the home department, and can not be divided or removed. The State will *never* take upon itself the expense of endowing a branch to gratify the prejudices of one class, or the ambition of another. The introduction of Homœopathy into the medical department, would be a compliance with the statutes of the State. It would be in harmony with the spirit of the age. It would elevate our branch of the profession by conferring the prestige of the University upon it. It would round out the department; add vitality, harmony, and popularity thereto.

There is no other solution of the question, and the sooner the authorities of the University accept the situation, the sooner will the general confidence be restored in their wise, liberal, and just management of the affairs of the University.



Hitherto we have contended for the rights guaranteed to us by statute law. But our rights to representation in the medical faculty does not depend solely on statute law. They exist above and independent of all written law. They are not merely relative, but absolute rights, growing out of our citizenship and relationship with our patrons. We represent, in our practical relations and patronage, not only the higher intelligence, but the tax-paying interests of the wealthy portions of the population of Michigan. The Regents, whose duty it is to expend the money raised by taxing the people, have no moral right to appropriate such money for the purpose of fostering one class at the expense of another equally worthy, and equally interested. Whether our system of therapeutics is superior to that now taught in the University, is not a question now under discussion. It is enough that it is a system recognized and adopted by a very large, highly respectable, and rapidly increasing class of intelligent and wealthy citizens, whose rights have been disregarded by the Regents. While we will not admit that we are one whit behind any others in our love and veneration for all the institutions of learning in our State, we can not deny that we are human, and human nature will not always quietly submit to have its dearest rights infringed upon or ignored.

Brethren of the medical profession, this has been a long and wearisome struggle; it has already lasted the lifetime allotted to a generation. It remains with you to say when and how it shall end. It is the old story over again, the contest of the advance guards of a higher medical civilization with organized, entrenched, and crystallized prejudice. The pages of medical history teem with parallel conflicts, and he who seriously doubts who will triumph in this encounter between the people on the one hand, and the American Medical Association on the other, has studied the history of his profession to little purpose. The great battle in this contest has already been fought, and the victory substantially won. The vanquished are seeking the most favorable terms of capitulation. By a cunning stroke of diplomacy, they are trying to wheedle us into the acceptance of a beggarly substitute, to which they have no title, for the grand old citadel, which we have bravely and honorably conquered. Look to it, friends and brethren; let those whose prerogative it is to dictate terms to the vanquished, make them such that no future conflict can arise. "Unconditional surrender." "Then let us have peace."

The consideration of the recommendation of the University Committee, advising the re-affirmation of the vote of the last annual meeting unanimously adopting the preamble and resolutions offered by Dr. S. B. Thayer, on the subject of Homœopathy in the medical department of the University of Michigan (see page 11 of these proceedings) was, on motion of Dr. B. F. Bailey, deferred, and



laid upon the table temporarily, to be called up at any time for final action by any member present.

Dr. Bailey now renewed his motion for the appointment of two members to the Board of Censors to make up a quorum. The President decided the motion to be out of order on the ground of unconstitutionality. Dr. Bailey appealed from the decision of the Chair, and, on a vote being taken, the decision of the Chair was sustained, and thereby the motion of Dr. Bailey was lost. (The wording in the call for this meeting was that "those not members will be privileged to make *application* for membership," but as the Constitution and By-Laws do not admit of the election of members at any other than the regular *annual* meeting, applicants could not be elected to membership now, although they might make their *applications* and have them acted upon at the next annual meeting.—SEC'Y.)

Dr. Thayer offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That a committee of two be appointed by the President to revise the Constitution, By-Laws, and Code of Ethics.

The President announced as such committee, Drs. I. N. Eldridge and B. F. Bailey.

The report of the University Committee recommending the reaffirmation of the preamble and resolutions of Dr. Thayer, passed at the last annual meeting, and temporarily laid upon the table, were, on motion of Dr. Bailey, taken from the table, and, upon being put to vote, were adopted.

A motion was made and adopted, adding two more members to the Publication Committee, of whom the President shall be one. The Chair announced Dr. Eldridge as the other member of the committee.

Dr. J. D. Kergan offered the following motion, which was adopted: that Dr. J. E. Smith, physician to the State Prison at Jackson, be respectfully requested to report at our next annual meeting, relative to the success of homœopathic practice in the Michigan State Prison.

The hour for dinner having arrived, the Society, on motion, adjourned to meet again at 2 o'clock P. M.

The meeting again convened at 2 o'clock P. M., pursuant to adjournment. The President in the Chair.

A motion was offered by Dr. Eldridge, and adopted, that the President of the Society be added to the committee on revision of the Constitution, By-Laws, and Code of Ethics.

Dr. F. Woodruff, of Ann Arbor, now submitted his report on "the law of cure and principles," which was read and referred to the Publication Committee.

*To the Homœopathic Medical Society of Michigan :*

As one of your committee on the law of cure and principles, I beg leave to make the following report, viz :

It would be a work of supererogation should I do much more than to refer you to the works of the never to be forgotten founder of homœopathy, in dealing with the subject allotted to me : "The law of cure and principles." Much less I can not do without injustice to you and myself also. I am compelled the more to this from the fact that so many at this time are, from various motives, vainly attempting to come into our fold by some other way :

The Organon of Hahnemann, his *Materia Medica Pura*, and his *Chronic Diseases*, constitute the bible of the true homœopathic student and physician. To properly appreciate and understand the results attained by him and recorded in those works, requires a careful and repeated study of their contents. What he has thus produced as the result of hard study and of laborious observation, has become a code of laws, and a system of therapeutics through all coming time. A system, developing other laws and principles, which harmonize with all known science, and through the necessary proving of drugs, a far greater knowledge of physiological and of pathological states and conditions than had been hitherto developed in the entire history of medical science.

Hahnemann's first discovered truth, "like cures like," or the law of similia, exhibited the necessity for a greatly reduced dose in the administration of drugs to the sick. His method of reduction revealed in turn his third discovery, the dynamic power of drugs when thus potentized or developed. From these three discoveries, and from the observation and experience resulting from them, come his final and triumphant enunciation of "the single remedy and the minimum dose." With these all inscribed upon our banner, we have entered the field, defying opposition; and, as his true disciples, and as defenders of the homœopathic faith we throw down the gauntlet, challenging both criticism and rivalry.

The earnest and honest student of medicine demands, first of all, that he shall be able to meet and to successfully combat the ailments and the diseases incident to our common humanity, without the necessity for undermining the very foundations of life and health. We have already intimated that one of the proofs of the superior value of our system of therapeutics, lies in the fact that its principles and its law of cure harmonize and correspond with

all known science; thus revealing to the thinking mind the relations of health and disease to all the requirements and conditions of life.

By the painful process of proving our remedies on the healthy organism, we gain a knowledge of their disease creating power; and not only when thus administered, but also when they are accidentally taken, or when ignorantly prescribed by those who are called physicians. How often has the intelligent homœopathic physician been called to treat those who have been thus poisoned or drugged; hopelessly saturated with medicinal disease, a condition far more terrible and intractable than diseases resulting from natural causes. Drugged nature, in her convulsive and recuperative efforts, has nearly destroyed herself, and, at the best, remains but a wreck upon the shores of time. And this is not all; the sins of the fathers and the ignorance of the physicians, are visited upon the children, even unto the third and fourth generation. Who may measure the untold suffering; who can comprehend the cumulating miseries that have resulted through succeeding generations as the legitimate and the recognized consequences of centuries of licensed poisoning! In the light of these facts, and of the evidence of their truthfulness in the daily practice of every intelligent and observing physician, it would seem that one and all we should with avidity grasp the great truths embraced in the maxim of "the single remedy and the minimum dose," as taught by the master, and so commonly recognized and exemplified in the practice and experience of the advanced guard of our profession.

By the same method of observation, and through a similar experience, we can not but learn that the converse of this is also true; showing that the observance of natural laws in all the relations of life—and no where more manifestly than in those of a true system of therapeutics—developes a higher standard of health, as well as the higher manifestations of the faculties and susceptibilities of humanity; thus again exhibiting the harmonious action of all natural laws, and the necessity for their strict and comprehensive observance. It is only through this pathway that man can exhibit the highest attributes of his nature, and most truly glorify his Creator.

On motion, Drs. F. B. Smith and J. D. Kergan were permitted to withdraw from the Society.

The following resolutions were then offered and adopted

*Resolved*, That the Publication Committee be and are hereby instructed to publish, in pamphlet form, the transactions of our last annual meeting, together with the annual address of the President, with these of our present semi-annual meeting, including the address of the President, and distribute the same to the profession throughout the State without delay.



*Resolved*, That the Committee have discretionary power to add any matter to the transactions they may deem desirable.

In accordance with the last resolution, the following article is contributed by Dr. T. F. Pomeroy, as a voluntary report on

PATHOLOGY AND SYMPTOMATOLOGY.

There has been much of controversy in our ranks as to the relative merits and claims of pathology and symptomatology. By a sort of tacit consent, it has come to be an almost admitted fact that those who adhere to the low dilutions are the champions of the former, while those who are called high dilutionists, are supposed to hold a similar relation to the latter. A moment's reflection would, I think, show the fallacy of any such arrangement and demonstrate the necessity for a better comprehension of the meaning of these terms, pathology and symptomatology, and especially of their relations, from a homœopathic point of view. A definition of them is, of itself, an explanation of their intimate relations, as it is a refutation of an antagonism between them, showing that such a condition is impossible, and that, as a consequence, this conflict of words and contrariety of opinions is correspondingly absurd.

The cause for the differences of opinion and the controversies to which I have referred, has its origin in the old plan of treating the name of a disease, instead of treating a patient—a general pathological state, instead of a particular pathological condition—a plan which is utterly at variance with the correct application of homœopathic principles, and which is necessarily subversive of them, as it is fatal to that individualization which is requisite both for diagnosis, and for the application of law of cure in the treatment of disease.

A pathological condition is simply and obviously, the disturbance of a previously existing physiological one,—nothing more and nothing less. It makes itself known through external signs or symptoms; or, in other words, symptoms are the *phenomena* of pathological conditions; therefore symptoms of disease are impossible without a corresponding pathological condition, and a pathological condition is impossible without the presence, more or less, of symptoms. They are mutually existent, and reciprocally dependent, like cause and effect.

An attempt to treat a disease from only a pathological point of view would be as preposterous as to do so from only a symptomatological point of view, and far more so; both, must necessarily be taken into the account in order to form a correct diagnosis; short of this there can be no proper cognition of disease at all with a view to its treatment; hence, there can be no antagonism between them.

It seems almost as useless thus to attempt a demonstration of what is here affirmed, as it would be to prove an axiom, especially so in view of the fact that symptoms not only disclose pathologica

conditions, but they evince as well, the recuperative energies of nature, as they also indicate the direction and manner in which the aid of art is needed, ~~to that end~~. We find also a complete correspondence, in the relations which drugs and other agents sustain to physiological, as well as pathological conditions, in the disturbance of the one, and, when properly applied, the removal of the other; and thus is it that we have a perfect system of therapeutics which would otherwise be impossible, as no natural curative law could apply to any mode or method of treating disease, based upon the hypothesis of an antagonism between pathology and symptomatology.

In this light how frivolous, how unjust, is the charge that "symptom hunters," as they are sometimes called, have discarded pathology; of all others, they have regarded it most comprehensively, because they have studied it analytically and most discriminately; let these, then, most of all, be acquitted and forever absolved from a charge of attempting a divorce between pathology and symptomatology.

In this connection, we sometimes hear that good prescribers are oftentimes poor diagnosticians. This proposition is a legitimate corollary of the one we have been considering, and falls to the ground with it. As a rule in medical science and its practice, a physician must have been a thorough student, and must be an intelligent observer, in order to be a good, that is, a successful prescriber; and medical science comprehends all that relates to pathological conditions—which constitute disease—whether they are induced spontaneously, so to speak, or through the agency of drugs, or from whatsoever cause, and thus, of course, including the power of drugs to produce disease—establish pathological conditions—as well as to cure it in restoring to physiological ones. Short of this, and without the possession of a therapeutic law, there is no such thing as medical science in its broadest sense. Learned twaddle, and mere technical phraseology, however dexterously used, no more evince a knowledge of principles, or of their practical application, in medical science than in any other. These should, therefore, form but a small part of homœopathic literature, for homœopathy deals in facts, and in the individualization of disease rather than in "glittering generalities." It is far more easy to concede that a physician may be a good diagnostician and a poor prescriber, but this can only be in case of his total unfitness for the practical duties of his profession. The possession of certain intuitive faculties may largely conduce to unusual accuracy in diagnosis; so also the almost exclusive cultivation of this branch of medical science necessarily shuts out the cognition of disease in any other than its diagnostic aspect. Quite too frequently do we find this class of physicians relying almost wholly upon their intuitions and upon the deductions drawn from theoretical generalizations, when they come to the therapeutical or practical aspect of disease; such, if



homœopathic physicians, are found to be but poor prescribers, and poorer representatives of our system, almost invariably bringing it into discredit, although as allopathists they would thus, truthfully illustrate whatever of therapeutic law may be justly conceded to that mode of medical practice, or rather, its entire absence, as well as the fallacy of their own claims as scientific physicians.

As well might we expect excellence in the higher branches of mathematical science, where its intermediate branches, and even its elementary principles, had been neglected or overlooked, or the greatest skill and proficiency in the science of music, without a preliminary knowledge of its rudiments and a thorough study and practice of its principles, as to expect excellence in the therapeutic relations of medical science, without a constant recognition and a diligent study of the symptoms, or phenomena of disease. For, the groupings and infinite combinations of symptoms furnish the themes both for diagnostic and for therapeutic observation and culture, as those of the eight musical notes, or of the nine digits, furnish exercise for ultimate mathematical or musical excellence and skill. We might, then, as well make a virtue of necessity, and become, one and all, "symptom hunters," if thereby we may excel as physicians, and thus best illustrate the sublime principles which underlie our system of medical practice, and which constitute the science of homœopathic therapeutics. The intuitive faculties will furnish but little aid in the selection of proper remedies for the successful treatment of disease, without an antecedent as well as a concurrent study of those symptoms which represent it; and, although pathology and symptomatology in the abstract, may be studied separately, they must, in their practical application, go hand in hand; in other words, upon a correct diagnosis or analysis, both as to disease and as to the agents to be curatively employed against it, and upon the ability to determine their correspondencies, a successful result depends; and these requisites come not by intuition, but rather as the reward of systematic and diligent study and observation.

Just so far as the foregoing positions are apprehended and appreciated, can there be an understanding of the relations of pathology to symptomatology and of their mutual dependence and inseparability. So also must the degree of this knowledge, be the measure of advancement in the comprehension of homœopathic principles. Any claims, or any aquirements that do not embrace it, will fall short of those which constitute the true homœopathic physician. There can not be a more complete or comprehensive test than this furnishes of a physicians capabilities to practice his art, nor a surer foundation upon which to build a truly successful practice. No better method whereby the claims of medical science to a position beside those sciences that are already recognized and confirmed, may be established.



On motion the Society then adjourned to meet at Battle Creek,  
on the third Tuesday in May next.

I. N. ELDRIDGE,

*Recording Secretary.*









