

# American Institute of Homœopathy.

FESTIVITIES AT BOSTON.

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## THE DINNER AND LEVEE

AT

FANEUIL HALL, JUNE 2, 1859.

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The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Homœopathy held in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 2d day of June, 1859, was the largest assemblage of Homœopathic Physicians ever convened in the United States. Members of the profession were present from almost every part of the country, and the most gratifying evidences were received of the continued advancement of the system, and its increasing favor with the educated and intelligent classes throughout the land. The hospitality and public spirit of the friends of Homœopathy in Boston were abundantly exhibited in all the arrangements for the meeting, and particularly in the festivities which marked the termination of the session.

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### THE DINNER.

On Thursday, the last day of the meeting, at 4 P. M., the members of the Institute, with distinguished guests, in all amounting to about three hundred persons, assembled in the banquet room of Faneuil Hall, on the invitation of the Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society, and the Boston Academy of Homœopathic Medicine, to partake of a superb complimentary dinner.

The hall was tastefully and elegantly decorated, and the entrance bore the following cordial greeting to the members of the Institute :

“AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMŒOPATHY.

16TH ANNUAL SESSION.

WELCOME TO BOSTON!”

Various mottoes adorned the walls, and conspicuous among them was the favorite one of our Great Master: “AUDE SAPERE.”

The Germania Band were present, and at frequent intervals discoursed their choicest music.

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Among the invited guests were, His Honor, Frederick W. Lincoln, Jr., Mayor of Boston; Hon. Albert Currier, Mayor of Newburyport; Hon. Jacob Sleeper, State Councillor; Judge Metcalf of the Supreme Court, Judge Russell of the Superior Court, Judge Maine of the Police Court; John M. Clark, High Sheriff; Col. T. Bigelow Lawrence; Aldermen Otis Clapp and Clement Willis; Prof. Henry W. Longfellow, Rev. Thomas Starr King, Dr. Winslow Lewis, William Lloyd Garrison, Esq., Charles B. Hall, Esq., and Joseph Story, Esq.

Dr. Charles Wild of Brookline, presided at the table. Rev. Mr. Hinckley of Lowell, Mass., invoked the divine blessing; and after an hour spent in enjoying the luxurious viands with which the tables were loaded, the President addressed the company as follows:

### SPEECH OF DR. WILD.

I feel somewhat reluctant to interrupt the pleasant conversation that seems to prevail around this table; but as this appears too limited for our present purpose, and as we have pretty faithfully regarded ourselves and our immediate neighbors, I propose that we extend the sphere of our attention to the whole assembly. Accordingly, I hasten to acquit myself of the duty in behalf of the members of the Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society, and the Boston Academy of Homœopathic Medicine, of tendering a cordial welcome to our Homœopathic brethren from other states to the Metropolis of our old Commonwealth, and indulging in a little pardonable pride of nativity by reminding them that they occupy hallowed ground; that immediately beneath them is the veritable cradle of American liberty; that within the range of a pistol shot the pavement was wantonly stained with the blood of its first martyrs; that within a musket's reach the tea was put to steep, without any regard to culinary precision, in cold salt water, at the great revolutionary tea-party; that far within a cannon's range our forefathers on Bunker Hill received their first grand lesson of self-reliance, and imparted to their oppressors an equally important one of respect and caution; and that then and there burst forth the smothered flame of freedom, which all the energy of the mightiest power of earth failed to subdue. [Applause] In these scenes, doubtless new to many of you, we all have a co-inheritance, and in their reminiscences we may all take an equal interest and satisfaction. In the hall below you have had an opportunity to contemplate upon the appearance and characters of the venerable worthies who have passed away; and we now, with pride and pleasure, would invite you to the acquaintance and congeniality of some of the living magnates of our city and of the old Bay State—our rulers, lawgivers, administrators of justice, clerical teachers, worthy sons of patriotic sires, who have honored our call to meet you and join in our welcome; and we commend them to you as the enlightened friends of progress in every department of science, the liberal patrons of Homœopathy, and well worthy of your respect and confidence.

On the other hand, from past connection and experience we can assure them, that upon you their kindness and comity will be fitly bestowed; that your acquirements are of the highest order, and that you are fully competent to distinguish between a "pseudo science" and a sound system of medical practice, as any or all of your adversaries [applause], and rather more successful in your distinction; that you are to the full, as honest in proclaiming your real convictions to the world, and quite as devoted to the cause of genuine humanity. For ourselves, our greatest boast is, that we have attained to a sufficient influence in the community to bring into contact with the élite of our profession the distinguished guests of our vicinity, now present. And it will

be our greatest pleasure to be the humble medium of promoting an agreeable intercourse between you, upon the basis of a declared independence of antiquated conventionalisms in medicine, upon this soil, ever sacred to unlimited freedom of sentiment and debate.

When we remember, that but a few years since, the arbitrary power of the old school of medicine enlisting in its behalf the political authorities, rendered it in Germany a penal offence to pursue the truths we have espoused, but which proved to be irrepressible even by European tyranny, we may congratulate ourselves, that in this land of universal liberty, we have had only to contend with the prestige of the elevated character and position, and the well earned scientific reputation of our opponents, rather than with any popular prejudice in favor of their medical opinions or practice; and we concede that, considering the magnitude of our encroachments upon their cherished fancies and pursuits, they have submitted with a much more commendable grace and patience than might have been reasonably anticipated.

We meet here to-day under circumstances peculiarly favorable to social enjoyment, without an unkind feeling toward any of our fellow men, but animated by an intense desire to prolong human life and promote human happiness, fortified internally by conscious honesty of purpose, sustained externally by the ever-ready aid of the most enlightened portion of society, and encouraged by a progress confessedly as rapid as is consistent with stability, there appears to be no reason why we may not make this a season of unalloyed conviviality; that it must be too limited in duration, is an unfortunate necessity of the time; but that must be compensated by the anticipation of the promised presence of our fair and dear friends and allies, who will this evening give you in their smiles, a crowning welcome to this scene of festivity. Assured, then, that the more unconstrained your intercourse may be, the better you will reciprocally esteem each other; I bid you again thrice welcome to this temple of political, religious, and scientific liberty. [Applause.]

J. H. Woodbury, M. D., of East Boston, the toast-master, then read the first regular sentiment:

*The American Institute of Homœopathy*—The first National Medical Association; as it takes the precedence in age, so may it ever in the pursuit of truth, science and wisdom.

P. P. Wells, M. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y., Chairman of the Institute, was introduced by the President, and was received with hearty cheers. He said:

### SPEECH OF DR. WELLS.

Mr. President: I could wish that the duty of responding to this sentiment had been entrusted to one more capable than I am of returning suitable thanks to the members of the Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society, and the Boston Academy of Homœopathic Medicine, for such a welcome as we have just received, to such scenes as these by which we are surrounded. Sir, your sentiment states of the American Institute of Homœopathy that it is the oldest National Medical Association. I was present at its organization, in the year 1844, when some forty or fifty physicians met in a private office, and after due deliberation, associated themselves together, assuming the title which you have named in your sentiment. Since that year the Institute has held annual meetings in eight of the states of the Union; it has annually issued a volume of its proceedings, containing many papers of varied interest and value; it has brought together from all parts of the country, members of our profession, and made them acquainted with each other: it has been the means of concentrating opinion, confirming convictions and extending intelligence; it has been the means of great good to the profes-

sion, and through its members, to the community generally. I have had pleasure in noticing, from year to year, in the meetings of the Institute, evidence of increasing intelligence in matters pertaining to the system to which we are devoted, and I am happy to say that it was never so great as on the occasion of this session which has just now closed. I think it is a subject of honest pride and congratulation on the part of the members of the Institute.

At our organization, I suppose the number of practitioners of Homœopathy in the United States, might have been about three hundred. The original membership of the Institute was between forty and fifty. The present membership of the Institute is between five and six hundred; the members of the profession in the United States between five and six thousand. Gentlemen, in these facts I recognize a progress which calls for our gratitude and rejoicing. And, sir, in this progress I behold encouragement and hope for the fulfillment of the wish expressed in your sentiment, that the American Institute may go on to increase in knowledge and in wisdom until it shall occupy the first place among associations of its kind. I am sure that to the hope which you have expressed every member of the Institute will respond a hearty amen. [Applause.] Sir, on behalf of the American Institute of Homœopathy, I again return thanks to the members of the Massachusetts Society, and the Hahnemannian Academy of Boston. [Warm applause.]

The next sentiment was :

*America*—Her law is progress, her government vindicates those who dare to seek truth in untried ways.

The Band responded with the soul-stirring strains of "*America*."

Third regular toast :

*Massachusetts*—Foremost among Commonwealths in defending Liberty, in fostering Education, in sustaining Science, and in relieving distress; she welcomes every effort to find a more excellent way to confer blessings on the world.

The toast was received with cheers.

In the unavoidable absence of His Excellency, Governor Banks, Hon. Jacob Sleeper, of the Governor's Council, being called upon to reply, spoke as follows :

### SPEECH OF HON. JACOB SLEEPER.

Mr. President: I did not come here with the slightest expectation of being called upon this afternoon; least of all did I expect to be called upon to stand in the place of His Excellency, the Governor. I have never aspired to that honor. [Laughter.] I regret, as I am quite sure that all present will, that His Excellency is not with us this afternoon, as I am certain he would have been very happy to have been here, to tender to his fellow citizens the assurance of his kindly regards, and to the strangers who are with us, his welcome.

I certainly sympathize with the sentiment that has been offered in behalf of the Commonwealth. Massachusetts, sir, has always been a progressive state; its people have always been ready to investigate any new subject and to give it a hearing, and when they approve of it they have the courage to say so. [Applause.] And I regard it as cause of congratulation that this new system of practice, so recently introduced among us, is gaining friends among the more intelligent and reflecting portion of the community. To our friends who have come from a distance to visit us, we extend a cordial wel-

come; and to all engaged in this benevolent work of relieving human suffering and promoting human happiness, we heartily bid you God speed. [Cordial applause.]

Fourth toast:

*The Legislature*—Though not altogether free from the prejudices of the schools, yet ready to foster all intelligent efforts to develop truth and improve existing institutions.

Hon. Charles A. Phelps, President of the Senate of Massachusetts, who was expected to reply to the toast, being necessarily absent, Charles B. Hall, Esq., of Boston, President of the Massachusetts Homœopathic Hospital, was called upon to respond.

### SPEECH OF CHARLES B. HALL, ESQ.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Medical Society: I always rejoice in occasions of this kind. I think, sir, that we have, in this country, too few social gatherings like this. We are too emphatically a working people. We do not come together often enough for social enjoyment and interchange of thought. I had understood, sir, that a distinguished gentleman, the President of the Senate of this Commonwealth, was to respond to the sentiment which you have just given; and I see about me gentlemen now belonging to the Legislature, upon whom you might have called, with much greater propriety than upon me. I am called upon to respond for the Hon. Chas. A. Phelps. I don't know what that gentleman was going to say; I have had no conversation with him on that subject, and therefore what I say must be for myself. Having, in former years, had some opportunity for observing matters about the State House, I can say, what you all know, that our Legislature is proverbial for its readiness to give to any object calculated to do good to our people, and especially to those whose needs demand that something should be done by others for their benefit and comfort. It has granted to us, friends of Homœopathy, a charter for a Massachusetts Homœopathic Hospital, with the right of holding real estate to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, and with all the privileges possessed by any corporation of that kind in the Commonwealth. It has granted a charter to the Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society, with all the privileges granted to any association of a similar character. It has granted a charter to the Homœopathic Medical Dispensary, with the privilege of holding real or personal estate to the amount of fifty or one hundred thousand dollars. It may not be recollected by many gentlemen present, that four years ago last winter, when the first of these charters was granted, a report was made in favor of granting to the Homœopathic Hospital the sum of ten thousand dollars. A bill to that effect passed through all the various readings in both houses, and was only killed at last by one vote in the Senate. Soon after this we had a financial crisis, such as has not often been known in this country; in view of the necessity thus imposed upon the state, of extreme caution in making grants, the friends of Homœopathy did not deem it advisable to repeat their request; and, the last winter, the crisis had hardly passed away, so that the time did not yet seem to have arrived for asking the grant; But, sir, it appears to me that from all we know of the Legislature we have a right to expect that it will grant us such aid as we need and desire, at some future time. [Applause.] It has given to the Massachusetts Hospital, I think, seventy thousand dollars in money, which with other grants, would have amounted, at this time, to nearly a quarter of a million of dollars. Now I don't believe that the Legislature of the Commonwealth will be thus liberal to that school of practice, and decline entirely to vote to a very large class of

citizens who believe in another practice, any grant whatever. I believe that at a proper time, if we ask for a grant, we shall have it; and I would not ask for a quarter of a million,—I should be satisfied with *fifty thousand dollars*, to begin with. [Applause.] It is well known, with regard to the Dispensary, that last winter some gentlemen conceived the project of a fair for its benefit. Their thoughts were carried out by the ladies, who became, finally, the principals in the enterprise. We raised, and have now, a fund of some fifteen thousand dollars, which can not be spent for any purpose whatever; the income only can be used, for all time, for the benefit of the poor. [Applause.] This, sir, it seems to me, is a very good beginning. But this is not all we want; we want a Massachusetts Homœopathic Hospital, not simply by its charter and organization, but it must have funds, and be a working corporation. [Cheers.]

Without detaining you by any further remarks, I will close by giving you this sentiment :

*The Massachusetts Legislature*—May it be as liberal to the Homœopathic school of practitioners as it has been to the Allopathic practitioners of this Commonwealth. [Applause.]

Fifth regular toast :

*Boston*—A city where free enquiry always meets the largest encouragement, and truth wins hosts of disciples; our cause could not fail in such an atmosphere.

The President introduced Hon. Frederick W. Lincoln, Jr., Mayor of the city of Boston.

## SPEECH OF MAYOR LINCOLN.

Mr. President and Gentlemen: I can not say as some of my predecessors have said this afternoon, that I did not expect to make a speech. For one of the embarrassments which I always feel in attending such an occasion as this, is that I have to make a speech; and I was sure, sir, that I could not escape from that little pellet of yours, which was certain to bring me down. I feel, sir, a little embarrassed. I am here in an official position; I am not here as a Homœopath or as an Allopath, or as a Thompsonian, or as a Hydropath; I am here simply to respond to the courteous invitation which I received from my friends and fellow citizens, to be present here, and to welcome, in my own and the city's behalf, their friends from abroad. From abroad—from all over the Union, I understand, delegates are here. It seems to me there is a national ring in the idea of such a gathering in the top of Faneuil Hall. And, gentlemen, I welcome you here. [Cheers.]

In regard, sir, to the practice of medicine,—I know nothing about it. I have been sick, as is the fortune of most of us; and I have got well. Whether it was nature, or the skill of my physician, I don't know; at all events, I had to pay my physician, and I suppose it must be put down to his credit. [Much laughter.] But, sir, if there is, in civilized life, a profession which we ought all to respect, no matter what the system, it is that of the physician. They come near to us in the most trying moments; when our loved ones are on the bed of languishment it is to them we look, with hope and with fear. Sir, there is no person that comes to us who becomes more endeared to us than the family physician.

You have called on me, sir, to respond to the sentiment,—“Boston, a city where free inquiry always meets the largest encouragement.” That, sir, I feel to be a fact. There is here a good conservative element, which holds that which it ought to hold, and at the same time, through our whole history there has been a good sentiment of progress, which has made Boston what it

is. In medicine we have done much. You recollect the old story of the inoculation for the small-pox, in the last generation, and more recently of the use of ether as a preventive of pain in surgical operations. I believe in both those cases we are indebted to Boston for the adoption of these beneficial practices.

Your sentiment adds,—a city where “truth wins hosts of disciples; our cause could not fail to prosper in such an atmosphere.” I have sometimes heard it said that Homœopaths were mostly among the intellectual classes. I suppose, sir, they are students of Shakspeare, and say, “Throw physic to the dogs.” [Laughter and applause.]

But, sir, I must bring these random remarks to a close; and I will do so by offering as a sentiment:

*The Good Physician*, who in his practice unites the experience which past ages have given, with the discoveries of the present, and who, feeling the responsibilities of his position, considers as a sacred charge the distressed and suffering ones with whom he is brought in contact. [Applause.]

Sixth regular toast:

*The Judiciary*—The Doctors of the Law; the only doctors whose prescriptions must be swallowed, and whose bills must be paid. The world will need them as long as it does M. D.'s and D. D.'s,—that is as long as men will transgress the laws of nature and of heaven.

## SPEECH OF HON. THOMAS RUSSELL.

Mr. President: You spoke, a few minutes since, of pseudo science; I know very little about science, but I do know something about a *sudor-ific*, and none can be more powerful than being called upon to speak when you have nothing to say. I may say, for once, with truth, that “I was called upon unexpectedly;” for even after the toast was announced, I looked to your right and saw there the venerable presence of one of our Supreme Court Judges (Metcalf), and I sat here feeling as quiet and safe in his shadow as the citizens of Massachusetts sit in the shadow of that court of which he is so distinguished an ornament.

I have thought, sometimes, sir, that your profession and ours, though they profess to feel a great deal of respect for each other, yet have a little bit of awe mingled with that respect. I have been reminded sometimes, as a doctor introduced me to a meeting, in a kind of caressing way, of a timid man approaching a somewhat doubtful dog,—“Good fellow! good fellow! lie still,”—all the while afraid that the good fellow would bite. I hasten to relieve you; for I am just now one of the most innocent and harmless judges you ever saw. [Laughter.] You speak of administering the laws; I am, this month, “an administrator *de bonis non*,” for which overhaul your Revised Statutes, and when found make a note of. But as to you, I can not be quite so sure. I have been slightly afraid of doctors; but, this week, I have special cause for alarm; for only this morning I read that it was voted, at the Homœopathic meeting yesterday, that every member of the Bureau should select some medicine, and for this year experiment with it on some one of his friends. [Great laughter.] Mr. President, are you a member of the Bureau? [Fresh laughter.] If you are, who is your friend? [Renewed merriment.] And, above all, what is your remedy?—or in the language of the lamented Sam. Weller: What is your particular wanity? [Shouts of laughter.] Is it hemlock? or hellebore? or what is it? From one thing save me,—don't try that *polygonum-punctatum* reported upon yesterday. [Great merriment.] There is no need of trying that, for as long as there are roguish boys in the world, they will contrive to get a leaf of smart-weed in other people's mouths. I speak not wholly without information on that point.

I think the Committee of Arrangements have already tried an experiment on our constitution; and to borrow language from your own dictionary, I think that after such a dinner as this a long speech is "contra-indicated." Indeed, seeing who were around me, I thought it would not be the place to make a set speech; for a set speech here would be a drug, and this is the last place to bring a drug. Besides, I hate anything set, except a table — or a hen.

But let me say that I do admire the consistency of that same Committee of Arrangements. They foresaw that we might feel a little inconvenience after our meal, and see how scientifically they have provided a remedy. For a hearty dinner at four o'clock, take a light supper at nine o'clock. *Similia similibus curantur*. [Laughter.] Consistency is a jewel everywhere; and that Homœopathic remedy, attended, as it will be, with an exhibition of *bella-donna*, I am sure will prove efficacious. [Continued merriment.]

I have been wondering, all the time, by what right I am here at a Homœopathic meeting. Your toast tells us that the prescriptions of judges must be swallowed, though I have never heard it said that they were homœopathic, for, I tell you, in some of their prescriptions one swallow makes a Summer and a Winter, too. It is customary for speakers on such occasions to show they have some right to be present, and if possible that they have a better right than anybody else to take part in the festival. I have searched the family records for any facts, which might give me a right to be here, and I find that it is one of the stories related of my infancy, that before I had the power of speech, at the first production of rhubarb I lifted my inarticulate voice against it, and showed, even then, that repugnance to allopathic treatment which I feel now. I can assure you that the repugnance has never been removed, though the rhubarb was. [Laughter.]

But let me also, by the way, give you a little piece of legal advice, gratis. Our good Mayor has spoken of throwing physic to the dogs. Don't you do it! Don't you do it! The very last Legislature of Massachusetts passed a law forbidding cruelty to animals. [Great merriment.] But, not satisfied with searching my own records, I went back to see if I could not find the first instance of Homœopathic practice. I think I told some of you, on a former occasion, that I had found the first Homœopath. He was the man who said: "Set a rogue to catch a rogue." We used to apply it to police officers; but, in this enlightened age and city, we have done away with that, years ago. But I have found a better instance than this. You have all read, in that excellent work, edited by Mr. Joseph Miller, the story of that poor sportsman who fired at a deer—the story is generally told at political meetings—and did not hit it, and when the animal proved to be a calf, he defended himself ingeniously, by saying: "I fired to hit it, if it was a deer, and to miss it if it was a calf." That man was a Homœopath; for it is the pride of your theory and practice, that if your pellets do not always do a great deal of good, they never can do any harm. If you don't hit the disease, you don't kill the calf; and, therefore, some of us are here. [Laughter.] Now just see how differently the Allopaths practice. It was only the last week, that a good friend of mine, who is an unconscious imitator of Mrs. Partington, told me of a terrible dose of opium his brother had taken. "And will you believe it, Judge," said he, "he lost his conscientiousness for six hours!" I think the doctor, who administers such doses, loses his conscientiousness before he gives them. The old practice of the Allopaths reminds me of my old dancing master, who used to call out every five minutes, "Dos-a-dos." That was the motto of the Allopaths, dose-a-dose. [Great merriment.] If you had done nothing but to reform the practice of those same good friends of ours, and teach them moderation in their doses, you would be worthy of more thanks than I could give you to-day. In behalf of men no longer strained, as they used to be, by the violence of pills, powders and physic; in behalf of poor children no longer drugged to sleep and drugged to death by laudanum and paregoric, I thank you even for what you have done with Allopathic physicians. I do not wish to say anything extravagant in regard to Homœopathy; but this I



am sure I may say in its praise: if to be the greatest chess player in the world is "a new clause in the Declaration of Independence," then the practice of Homœopathy is certainly an amendment to our constitution. [Great laughter.]

One word I meant to say to those who have come here to visit us at home. I wanted to remind them that it was meet that they should gather here—the friend on my left says it is meat and drink—that we should not only assemble in this place to have our feast, but right that you should meet in Boston, and in the Cradle of Liberty, for nowhere else in the world is there a spot where men are more likely to follow truth, in spite of abuse, in spite of attack, in spite of ridicule, than here in old Boston, and here in Faneuil Hall. [Applause.] I meant to say something of this, but it was better said last week by one from whose wisdom I am proud to borrow, though I should never dare to contend with him in wit, for I am sure we can not give the Massachusetts Medical Society a Roland for their Oliver; but I borrow from his wisdom, and was glad when he told us that in Boston it was never a reproach to any cause or idea that it was called heretical or absurd. I was glad when I heard his voice reckoning the triumphs of free thought in this free city, make mention of that faithful physician who dared to practice in his own family the then novel and unpopular discovery of Jenner, scouted and laughed at once, universally accepted now—vaccination, that Homœopathic remedy which cures in advance by taking a very little of the same virus which occasions the disease, only taking it in good season. I was glad to be reminded that this practice was then despised more thoroughly than your practice has ever been. I saw in that a bright omen for the future of Homœopathy. When her festivals are held in Boston her day of triumph is close at hand. Liberal science, from the three hills of our city, can see no limits to her empire.

But there is one field, where you and your Allopathic brethren stand together, and know no rivalry, except to see who shall be truest and foremost; for, whether he be Allopathic, or whether he be Homœopathic, I trust there is not a physician in Boston, or in America, who would be slow to hear the call of the poorest suffering man or woman. Professor Parsons has just recorded of his father, the great Chief Justice, that he never made a charge to a clergyman or a widow. Let it be recorded of our physicians, that the poorest woman in North street, the poorest man in the meanest tenement in Broad street, can summon to their bed-side the best medical talent of the land. I give you as a sentiment:

*The Professors of the Healing Art*, however divided in opinion, always united in their earnest search for truth; in their devotion to the good of man; in their countless charities, and in our affectionate regard. [Hearty applause and cheers.]

Seventh regular toast:

*Homœopathy and Poesy*—The praises of our whole science should be sung in verse as well as declared by advocates in prose.

To this toast George W. Pettes, Esq., of Boston, responded with the following poem:

## POEM BY GEORGE W. PETTES, ESQ.

"Once on a time," or "several years ago,"  
 The waves of progress moved uncommon slow ;  
 And certain people, faster than their peers,  
 Talked of great changes in the coming years.  
 They said, those nervous, discontented folk,  
 That calomel, by ounces, was no joke.  
 That they declined, when somewhat out of tune,  
 Imbibing laudanum from a table spoon ;  
 And though at times, when sitting down to dine,  
 Each man consumed three bottles of good wine,  
 Yet, when his case would undergo review,  
 He thought of castor oil, that *one* might do.  
 And they resolved, when next beset by ills,  
 To use economy in taking pills.

I don't intend their principles to scan ;  
 Perchance, e'en you, sir, were a *Wild* young man ;  
 But in behalf of all the human race  
 Who are not present in this cosy place,  
 I thank the men who formed the triple plan  
 Of aiding science, benefitting man,  
 And rendering each prescriptionary mess  
 Small by degrees, and beautifully less.

Those good old days, when dosed with "number six,"  
 Snug at our feet, two hot, companion bricks,  
 Piled on us, comforters of red and blue,  
 Quilts made of scraps of every size and hue,  
 Till, like Macbeth, we're forced to cry "enough."  
 (Our granddams' remedy for cold or cough,)  
 Have passed away, and in their stead we own  
 The hundred arts of our prolific zone.  
 The allopathist makes us sicker still,  
 And in the cure displays his wondrous skill,  
 The homœopathist, reasonably verbose,  
 Prescribes his gentle, infinitesimal dose.  
 The hydropathist *floods* the trouble off,  
 And sometimes drowns the patient *and* the cough.  
 Botanic doctors, weeds and briars give,  
 Which, if we let alone, we chance to live.  
 The man mesmeric, touches sudden springs ;  
 The man galvanic, fetters us with rings ;  
 And yon pale seer at Galen's feet who sits,  
 Though good for nothing else, is death on fits.

A kind divinity 'mong broken bones,  
 A learned doctress is Miss Julia Jones :  
 Some of her patients, when she shows her art,  
 Experience palpitation of the heart.  
 Fever 's her *forte*, if your's has not begun,  
 Forthwith her presence throws you into one.  
 Health is a blessing, but a man may bear,  
 A little pain, if under Julia's care.  
 In fact he'd rather be a little worse  
 Than lose this ministering angel for his nurse.

Sir, I was asked to make some funny rhyme,  
 Of course, with pressing duties, in brief time,  
 But now, ere giving way to abler men,  
 One serious thought shall claim my honest pen.  
 Of this large number congregated here,  
 Each shall return to his respective sphere,—  
 May each be prospered in attempt to lend  
 Aid to the helpless who most need a friend.  
 True to his trust, to each the purpose given.  
 To win the approval of benignant heaven.

Eighth regular toast :

*Galen and Hahnemann*—The Mysian, a star in a dark age : The German adds brightness to an age of light.

Ninth toast :

*The Press*—The greatest of all human agencies for the improvement of mankind, the overthrow of error and the indication of truth.

Dr. William E. Payne, of Bath, Maine, was called upon to respond to the eighth toast, Col. Schouler and Hon. Richard Frothingham, Jr., to respond to the ninth, but in the absence of these gentlemen no response was made to either sentiment.

Tenth toast :

*The Clergy*—Our fellow laborers in ministering to suffering humanity ; if their ministrations are more welcome and successful than ours we rejoice in it, since the need is greater, and we will not attempt to restrict their method or prescribe for them a school of practice.

Rev. T. Starr King answered this toast, as follows :

### SPEECH OF REV. THOMAS STARR KING.

Mr. Chairman : I said, as soon as our friend—I may hope to say *my* friend—Judge Russell, had finished speaking, I pity the man that is to follow him. I did not suppose that the gentleman near me was to entertain us immediately with his charming poem, or I should have qualified the saying ; but I find that two gentlemen, who have been called upon since the poet took his seat, have so far sympathized with me in that feeling as to leave the room and dodge their duty. Now I say, I pity the man that was to follow Judge Russell, *the next but one*, and I hope you all sympathize with me in that sentiment ; if not, you are very cruel. Is it not very proper that our friend has been promoted to a Superior Court ? Would it have been proper at all, to make him a Judge of the Court of *Common Pleas* ? [Applause.] But I have been trying to think, gentlemen, what brought me here, when there was some danger of being called on to make a speech, which I hate above all mortal things. One or two reasons, serious ones, and perhaps not altogether discreditable, I may allude to before closing. Yet I suspect that a prominent motive was curiosity. You know how anxious people often are to learn how a distinguished man *lives*—how, if he be a preacher, he carries out in the spirit of his daily career, the principles which he interprets and enforces in his great sermons. You know, too, what great interest the children all feel, if they are going to a menagerie, to be carried there about feeding

time. Now let me confess that I was tempted by your invitation, because I wanted to go to a meeting where I could see the doctors eat. [Laughter.] And I have been deeply interested in seeing that you are not homœopathic in your treatment on some occasions. I queried whether the principal dish would be sparrows' tongues; I did'nt know but that the table would be provided with a humming-bird for six; I thought it possible that we might have coffee about as strong as the tea which was made in the harbor at the old Boston Tea Party already alluded to. I had some suspicion that we might see a musquito served *a la fourchette*; I imagined it possible that we might have one spear of asparagus for a whole table, or that the infinite divisibility of matter might be illustrated for us by the trituration of a grain of pepper, or a flake of salt. And yet, if I had known that our excellent friend, Mr. Smith, was to be the caterer, whatever might be your principles of eating, I should have been sure that he would have treated you on the allopathic system.

It is always pleasant, gentlemen, to see a gathering of exclusively professional men. Perhaps some of you have read the remarkable account by Zschokke, a Swiss clergyman and novelist, of a peculiar power, which he says he possessed, but which he could not explain, which enabled him, sometimes, when a person came into his presence, to see not only the bodily form but the very soul of the man, and also the moral landscape in which he stood. He could see at once all his surroundings and influence upon society; sometimes he was even able to see the whole history and psychology of the man. (If there were many such clergymen now in the pulpit, I don't think they would have very large audiences.)

Now if we should go to a meeting of clergymen what a vast mass of dreary paper would be seen by us, if we possessed the power with which Zschokke was endowed. At a gathering of lawyers, what piles of briefs would at once stand out around them, to such insight — thousands of causes which have produced no effects for their clients! Could we have gone to a dinner of physicians of the old school of practice, a hundred years ago, what horror would have taken possession of us in seeing each one of those men stand out the representative of a large pond of delicately flavored senna and salts, a trench about as big as that at Sebastopol filled with blood, and a pile of pills equal in bulk to one of the pyramids of cannon balls which we see at the Navy-yard! This is scarcely an exaggeration. I suppose that, in those days, two doctors, as far as shedding the vital fluid is concerned, were about as good as one brigade. Must we not acknowledge the striking propriety in their old name of *leeches*? And is it not well worth the while of any person interested in the philosophy of progress to come and see a gathering of physicians like those in this room, each one of whom represents, in contra-distinction to the picture that would have been called up a century since, a little pile of pellets which an ant could probably throw up in one day, and perhaps about a pound of sugar. Certainly, I don't believe that anything more frightful would be revealed in the professional surroundings of the average physician here, if a man like Zschokke could see the landscape implements of his professional life.

Let us rejoice that it is so. Let us not be unhappy, either, over the fact that, in one respect, this tendency represented by your school of practice, is beginning to spread to the clergy. I believe the Homœopathic system is becoming frightfully developed in our congregations. They clamor for short sermons, and many of them are troubled if they have anything more than infinitesimal doses of some more serious services. A friend of mine, a prominent ornament of the pulpit of New England, went not long ago to a neighboring city to preach. His discourse was a very elaborate one. He went home with one of the prominent members of the society; and at dinner was treated by his host with an essay upon government, a subject which he seemed to have studied quite carefully. My friend, who is a philosopher in that line as well as in divinity, said to him, "Well, sir, you have evidently examined with care the English and American Constitutions; which scheme

of government, on the whole, do you think is the better?" The old gentleman looked up and said, "I have not entirely made up my mind; but two principles would determine me; I should prefer the government where they preach the shortest sermons and hang the most folks."

Now, Mr. Chairman, the labors of such men as Brother Spear are leading us away from the ideal of society in the latter direction; but we are approaching the Homœopathic system, more and more, in the former. And thus the tendencies to barbarism on the one side and to progress on the other are about balanced. [Laughter.]

Yet, Mr. Chairman, I came here urged by motives that must be more seriously expressed. You have complimented the clergy as the representatives of Christianity. We should remember, however, that there can be no complete representatives of the Christian system. There is no *single class* in the community which can be called up to answer especially to our broad faith; no isolated class of men can dare stand forward as the peculiar representative of the Christian religion. You know it was said by one of old, "To one is given by the Spirit, the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit." Although, sir, the clergy may stand out as a separated body, in our thought, and be classified as distinct in the community on occasions like these, the real ministers of Christianity can not be. Every man who expressed a great spiritual truth in his life, and who publishes a generous consecrating sentiment by his profession, is a Christian, and a minister of the Gospel of Christ. It is glorious to have the privilege of standing in an assembly like this to bear testimony to this old christian truth, and to bring a noble text of the Apostle Paul to back it up.

And, sir, as I have sat here and thought how much good these men have done in our community in the last few years, it has seemed to me that, after all, the two great offices of the Christian religion are divided so that they can be, on the whole, represented by the clergy and the physicians, better than any other two classes. The great aim of Christianity in regard to men, perhaps, can be represented by these two learned bodies. Very much as two complementary colors make up the clear white light, so they represent the full-orbed offices of the Master; for He, you remember, was not only the great Teacher, but the great Physician. He preached and He cured. He touched equally the body and the soul with His word and with His miracles. And if from His right hand has come down the apostolic succession of the clergy, let us remember that from His left hand has come down the apostolic succession of the physicians. And the tendency of these two great bodies to unite in a common point is shown, I think, in the great effort of the ministers of every Protestant denomination to be accounted "doctor" at last, [laughter,] which is the highest aim in the outward lines of ambition, of every one of us, except the brethren of the Episcopal body. And I think that this tendency ought to be balanced by the willingness of the physicians, in their medical societies, to grant to their leading members the title of "Reverend." [Laughter.]

And can it be possible that any other man deserves that title more fully, or can claim more clearly the confidence and respect which the title implies, than he who goes into the chamber of sickness to publish from his presence a healing influence while his genius and skill are ministering to the poor, suffering frame. You know, sir, that, very often, the spiritual ills are reached by bodily remedies, and, bodily ills may be reached, also, by touching anew and tenderly some spiritual spring that has lost its vitality. I know it is the case with many here, that they have been paid for their outward attendance when the real service they have performed in the sick room has been in the administration of something higher still, something for which they could not have thought of charging, and yet which has done the work of which outward physical remedies have been accounted as the cause. I honor such men whenever I see them; I pour out from a full heart my thanks to the committee for the honor they have done me in asking me to meet so many

of them here. And in thanking them, also for the privilege of speaking to such a sentiment as that by which they have called me up, let me condense all that I wish to say, in these few words :

*The Physicians of All Sects*—the other half of the Christian ministry, often the better half ; their devotion and fidelity should serve at once as example and stimulant to their clerical brethren, while they form so noble a chapter in the history of human benevolence and heroism. [Enthusiastic applause.]

Eleventh toast :

*The Nestor of Homœopathy in New England*—He adopted the Homœopathic theory and practice twenty-one years ago. Being now of age, he can speak for himself.

Samuel Gregg, M. D., of Boston, responded thus :

### SPEECH OF DR. GREGG.

Gentlemen : The story of Nestor tells us, that he was preserved from destruction by Hercules on account of his tender age. It is also said of him, that he particularly distinguished himself by his eloquence and wisdom, all of which can not apply to your respondent. But if the appellation is meant to portray his tranquil, virtuous and useful life, as delineating the greatest perfection of which human nature is capable, your respondent has no objection. As to my age, sir, it is well known how lads rejoice to get “out of their teens ;” and why should I not rejoice to be surrounded, at this day, with such a host of compeers ?

In my tyrocinium, I had a hard and lonely time of it. For nearly a year after I commenced the practice of Homœopathy, there was no professional advocate of the system in all New England with whom I could consult on the subject. At that time the only Homœopathic literature in English translation, was Hahnemann’s *Organon*, an early and very small edition of “*Herrings’ Domestic Practice*,” and the text of “*Jahr’s Materia Medica*,” the *Repertory* to which was then in press.

Such, sir, were my beginnings, and why should I not, at this day of my “majority,” feel happy to be thus surrounded by the hoary heads of wisdom, and the vivacity of youth and enterprise ?

Mr. President : I would propose to you,

*The American Institute of Homœopathy*—May the efforts of its members never remit until they have arrived at the consummation of the hope of its early founders. [Cordial applause.]

Twelfth toast :

*Our Allopathic Brethren*—In discussing our differences with them, we reverse our practice, and will try to give them, in exchange for their small pellets of error, large doses of truth.

Winslow Lewis, M. D., Consulting Surgeon of Massachusetts General Hospital, responded :

## SPEECH OF DR. WINSLOW LEWIS.

Gentlemen ; or would it not be in better taste for me to say Brother Practitioners [Cheers] : Would it not evince a kindlier spirit, the spirit by which I have ever been actuated toward your body, to address you as co-laborers engaged in the holy cause of administering to the best of God's gifts, health. [Renewed applause.] I am exceedingly embarrassed, for several reasons. My reverend friend on my right [Mr. King], implored your pity because he had to follow two brilliant men on this occasion. Now he has superadded his own excellence to those who preceded him. I am left here, too, certainly, in some respects, a lone and solitary individual. My other friend on the right [Judge Russell], the wit, the scholar, the eloquent man, the man of high position, the great exponent of the law, although he is in so small a space, in respect to whom I may reverse the mathematical axiom and say of him, *parvus in se confinet majora*, asked why he was here, and surely then I may ask it for myself.

And yet, sir, I stand before you deeply interested in this audience, for I allow that you and I are in the same high pursuit, and I number in this audience very many warm personal friends. Some of you, students, who have wandered, perhaps happily wandered, from the paths that I taught you ; I hope you may have arrived nearer the great truth which we all seek. I have never been one of those who have vituperated the science which you teach. Of that science I confess my utter ignorance, the more shame that I stand here to say so, but I know that the benefits which have accrued to Allopathy from your science have been immense ; that they have revolutionized our therapeutic agencies, and I am not prepared to say, that it has not done more good than was effected by your predecessors. Still I am not here to decry Allopathy. I look back to its antiquity ; I look back to the illustrious names which adorn our science, and I fear that at my period of life no change for the better can ever happen to me. But as I said before, do I not stand in a very peculiar position ? Perhaps I am the only Allopathic practitioner present. If I am, do I not occupy a somewhat perilous position ? But I am not afraid of your therapeutical agencies. [Laughter.] I think that from an attack of the whole materia medica of your books I should come out unharmed. But reverse the position. Were one of *you* to stand in such an assemblage of Allopaths and be thus attacked, how would you feel under the huge *pill* or more huge *bolus* ? Would you not then succumb and say that in therapeutic thunder you were no great shakes. [Great laughter.]

I have nothing to say on this occasion except that I am glad to be once more with you, for this is not the first time that I have had the pleasure of an invitation to meet the Homœopaths of this city.

This Therapeutics is a curious thing, and this *truth* alluded to in the sentiment which has called me up, is a thing still sought for, still not attained. Perhaps you have finally attained it. This is not for me to gainsay. But the therapeutics of truth, are they of necessity small or large ? Do we know the size of the Goddess, Truth. Perhaps she is sylph-like and diminutive ; perhaps she is amazonian in her structure ; perhaps as she is supposed to reside in the depths of a well her therapeutic agency may be exhibited by drawing her up in a thimble as well as in a hogshead. [Laughter and applause.] Brethren : I will give you a sentiment in which we can all cordially join. I give you that practice which best carries out the science of medicine. [Loud applause and three hearty cheers.]

Thirteenth toast :

*Homœopathy*.—Let it be judged by its merits and tried by its success, for only so will it consent to wear the laurels it may win.

Professor Charles J. Hempel, M. D., of Philadelphia, responded :

## SPEECH OF PROFESSOR HEMPEL.

Mr. President: After the many beautiful sentiments which have been uttered this evening, I really do not feel prepared to add much, if anything, to this torrent of eloquence. I am not naturally a public speaker; I am in the habit of addressing my class, and I believe I do it to their satisfaction; but I have never been in the habit of addressing—and, indeed, I have never been called upon to address—an audience like this. The subject of Homœopathy is perfectly familiar to me, sir; but I find myself entirely overwhelmed by the mass of associations which crowd upon me in this sacred hall. When I talk in this way, I want you to understand that I mean what I say; I don't say this merely as a figure of speech, but I wish you to understand me literally,—I am not only confounded in my mind, my ideas vanish away from me, I have hardly been able to master my emotions. When I entered this building—and this is the first time that I have had the exquisite pleasure of seeing Faneuil Hall—when I entered this building, sir, the tears flowed down my cheeks, I felt that I was indeed rocked in the Cradle of Liberty. [Cheers.] Mr. President: Freedom has ever been my watchword. When I was a boy, sir, I was wedded to freedom. I never could brook restraint, for I was born, as it were, with the impulse of liberty. I desire freedom, I desire it now, for every human being. I believe, sir, that the battle of freedom is our great mission. I have no respect for any man who is not prepared to fight this great battle, not only to-day, not only to-morrow, but every moment of his life [cheers], that it is especially incumbent upon Homœopathic physicians to battle for freedom, freedom from prejudice, freedom from superstition, freedom from the creeds, freedom from dogmas. I believe, sir, that it should be the rule of every Homœopathic physician to place *man* above mere institutions, and I believe that this rule should be lived up to. And I am a Homœopathic physician for no other reason under heaven than because I believe Homœopathy to be the very best system of promoting the great end which every true physician has in view, to relieve human suffering. [Applause.] If I knew of a system of medicine which would accomplish this more speedily, I should abjure Homœopathy this instant and adopt the other system. I do not know of any better system, and I therefore practice by the Homœopathic law, *similia similibus curantur*; and I shall defend this, on every occasion as a divine law, a heaven-born law, simply because I believe it to be fitter than any other medical formula to free man from disease.

But, sir, I do not wish to detain you with any extended remarks, to weaken the impression of the beautiful sentiments you have heard this evening. I would merely say that I wish to request of my co-laborers in the good cause of medicine here assembled, not to leave this sacred temple without a pledge to their inmost consciences, and in the presence of their Maker to promise that they will never let a single day pass by without doing something, saying something, feeling or wishing something, to protect the great interests of suffering humanity. I believe, sir, that Homœopathy is the law of God, and I therefore believe that this humanity is bound to gravitate towards it. I believe that Homœopathy is a higher law, not as universally conjectured by human society, nor as yet incorporated upon the great statute-book of medicine, but still a higher law, which, sooner or later, will be acknowledged by every truth-loving physician. In the meanwhile, I would request all of you to work for that time, unitedly, and avoid all unnecessary sparring, all unnecessary discussion, and endeavoring to concentrate our efforts in this one great cause. Let every man have his own private opinions, let us differ, if you please, in small matters, as we have done in our late convention; but when we stand in the presence of our great law, let us all unite, let us all feel that we are defending a noble cause, and let us all be convinced that this course will ultimately bear fruit for the regeneration of man, physical, moral and intellectual, for this is the great mission of Homœopathy, to build



up the human body, free from weakness and disease, and basing upon this beautiful platform a sound mind and a regenerate heart.

I would offer this sentiment :

*Homœopathy*—May she end in preparing the day when every man, a being of reason, shall move with his body in perfect accord with every legitimate and pure desire, with his mind in perfect accord with every beautiful perception of truth, with his soul in perfect accord with every legitimate, pure, and noble affection. [Applause.]

Fourteenth toast :

*The Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania*—Pleased with its past success, proud of its present position, we have the highest assurance for its future.

William A. Reed, M. D., Professor in the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, on rising to respond, was greeted with warm applause. He spoke as follows :

### SPEECH OF PROFESSOR REED.

Mr. President : Instead of apologizing for the lameness of the speech which I am expected to make, I choose rather to have you discover that yourselves, feeling sure of your charity.

On behalf of the College, I return sincere thanks for the highly complimentary manner in which you have been pleased to notice it.

I can not declare that we have deserved your commendation, but, I can say that we are grateful for it. We are glad to receive the approbation of our colleagues throughout the land. We rejoice when we are assured that we may expect their coöperation ; and we thank you, Sir, and we thank many of those present, not only for their professions of good will, but also, for the evidence of this which they have so often given by their actions.

At this late hour I may but allude to the history of our College. That there have been errors in the past we are not slow to admit : that there have been times in the history of our institution when we could have wished for better results to present for your approval, we can not deny ; but we do now claim for ourselves that we are in that position, and we possess these appurtenances which entitle us to pledge those of you who are training students, such facilities for the securing to them of a medical education as may not be surpassed any where else in all our country.

The history of our College reveals great labor on the part of those who have heretofore been called to sustain the burden of teaching. Their toils have cost the health of most of them, have consumed the lives of two of the most distinguished. The memories of Matthews and Loomis are revered by all. There are those around me here, who, with myself, are proud to be recognized as Alumni of the Institution which gave us teachers like these. There also are my classmates who listened to the teachings of both of those who have passed away, and witnessed the efforts which robbed them of their strength. They achieved success in their labors, but their lives were the cost.

The results of the efforts of our predecessors afford the best proof of the success or the failure of the institution as an educational enterprise. We have good evidence of its success, in our present convention, where fully one-third of the physicians in attendance are Alumni of the College. To these we point with pride. We are glad to acknowledge them our colleagues ; we rejoice in seeing them respected and cherished in their several positions.

Not to tire you, Sir, I will close these perhaps desultory remarks with a simple sentiment.

On behalf of the College I would offer you :

*The Alumni of our Institution*—We are glad to find them honored and beloved physicians. [Cheers.]

Letters had been received from many noted Homœopathic physicians of this country and Europe, and from distinguished public men who could not be present; but there was not time to read these, as the President here announced that the hour for separation had arrived, and the company dispersed to meet again later in the evening.

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## THE LEVEE.

At 9 P. M., the same company, with their ladies, a large number of invited guests, and the ladies who had taken a prominent part in the Fair, recently held in Boston, in aid of the Homœopathic Dispensary, about fifteen hundred persons, in all, assembled in Faneuil Hall, which had been gorgeously decorated for the occasion. The entrance to the hall was through an arch of flags, and the entry and stairs to the upper hall, were tastefully draped with flags and bunting. In the main hall various colored buntings radiated from the ceiling to the gallery cornices, and drooping from the centre was a cluster of stars on a blue field, surrounded by American flags on staves with gilt ornaments; above and below the galleries were heavy festoons of bunting, extending the entire length of the hall. On the front of the gallery, opposite the rostrum, were the words: "A Cordial Welcome to the FAIR Benefactors of the FAIR." On one of the side gallery fronts, the words: "The Dispensary Acquired," and on the opposite side: "The Hospital Required," briefly expressed what has been, and what will be done for Homœopathy in Boston. The eagle was appropriately dressed with bunting, and in rear of the same a glory of flags. The windows of the galleries were draped with flags of different nations, and the windows on the lower floor with American flags, interspersed with elegant mirrors. In the recess of the centre door was a mirror draped with flags; on the rostrum, a large and splendid bronze bust of Hahnemann, with this motto: "*Die Milde Macht ist gross*;" underneath and twining around the pedestal was the highly appropriate motto of the Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society: "*Certio rem medendi usum maluit.*" Suspended from the galleries was a number of beautiful bannerols which added much to the effect, and the whole reduplicated by the mirrors on every side gave a brilliancy and almost magic beauty to the scene. The Germania Band occupied the rostrum, and sent forth their sweetest melody. The music at once introduced the company into a social and enjoyable atmosphere. The hall, though well filled, was not crowded, and promenade and conversation were freely indulged in. Never before were so many Homœopathic Physicians gathered together, and all seemed to show in their demeanor that if they give their patients small doses of medicine, they themselves can take large doses of enjoyment. The ladies were in full dress, and by their graces and smiles, gave life and animation to the scene. It was the frequent remark of gentle-

men from other cities, that such an assemblage of intelligence, refinement, wit and beauty was unsurpassed by their former experiences, and none were surprised that the Fair, in such hands, should have proved such a signal success. At 11 o'clock supper was announced, and the company was ushered into a large and finely decorated hall, with numerous anterooms. The tables were laden with the choicest delicacies of the season and adorned with the rarest and most beautiful flowers. An hour was here spent, and ample justice done to the exceedingly liberal provision, when all returned to the main hall where conversation continued, while some of the company formed quadrilles to the music of the band. Gradually adieus were spoken, and the numbers who left Old Faneuil Hall on that night will not soon forget the pleasant termination of the Sixteenth Annual Session of the American Institute of Homœopathy.

