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1858

# Homeopathic Medical Dispensary Second Annual Meeting

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1858

# HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL DISPENSARY.

## SECOND ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Second Annual Meeting of the Corporation was held at the rooms of the Society, Tremont Temple, on Wednesday, April 7, 1858.

At this meeting, alterations were made in the first two sections of the By-laws, so that they now read as follows : —

“I. The affairs of the Institution shall be managed by a Board, consisting of eighteen Trustees, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, which shall be annually elected by ballot on the second Wednesday of January. This Board shall have the power to make such by-laws, rules, and regulations, as may be necessary for the proper management of the Dispensary. At all meetings of the Corporation, members are allowed to vote, either in person or by proxy.”

“II. The Board shall meet quarterly on the third Wednesday of April, July, October, and January, and at other times when convened by the Secretary. Five members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for business. The Board shall have power to fill vacancies in their body during the year.”

At the same meeting the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year : —

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

JACOB SLEEPER.	ORIN S. SANDERS, M.D.	SAMUEL GREGG, M.D.
OTIS CLAPP.	JOHN D. RICHARDSON.	J. C. NEILSON, M.D.
HON. A. H. RICE.	REV. JAMES N. SYKES.	J. H. WOODBURY, M.D.
GEORGE RUSSELL, M.D.	JAMES DENNIE.	M. FULLER, M.D.
SIMON G. CHEEVER.	WILLIAM H. WOOD.	L. MACFARLAND, M.D.
ISAAC RICH.	D. A. JOHNSON, M.D.	SULLIVAN WHITNEY.

H. L. H. HOFFENDAHL, M.D. . . . . Secretary.  
 CHARLES B. HALL . . . . . Treasurer.

### PHYSICIANS.

DR. SAMUEL GREGG . . . . . For January.	DR. L. M. BARKER . . . . . For July.
“ DAVID THAYER . . . . . February.	“ G. W. DENNETT . . . . . August.
“ GEORGE RUSSELL . . . . . March.	“ O. S. SANDERS . . . . . September.
“ L. MACFARLAND . . . . . April.	“ WM. WESSELHOEFT . . . . . October.
“ H. L. CHASE . . . . . May.	“ J. H. WOODBURY . . . . . November.
“ C. F. GEIST . . . . . June.	“ H. C. ANGELL . . . . . December.

### SURGEONS.

DR. M. FULLER, }	{ From January to April, and from July to October.
“ B. H. WEST, }	
“ D. A. JOHNSON, }	{ From April to July, and from October to January.
“ J. C. NEILSON, }	

The Treasurer's report, which was presented at the annual meeting, showed that—

The receipts of the Society during the year, consisting mostly of contributions from members, amounted to . . . . .	\$659.00
The outlay for the year, including rent and fitting up of room, furniture, books, medicines, &c., amounted to . . . . .	633.36
Leaving in the hands of the Treasurer a balance of . . . . .	\$25.64

Subscriptions have been moreover received for the permanent fund to the amount of \$1,216.75. For this sum the Treasurer has found safe and advantageous investments.

The following report of the Secretary was also read at the annual meeting, and, pursuant to the fourth article of the By-laws, is printed for distribution among the members of the Society.

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## SECRETARY'S REPORT.

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*To the Corporation of the Homœopathic Medical Dispensary.*

A year has now nearly elapsed since this Institution has been in active operation; the doors of the Dispensary having been opened on the 20th of April, 1857, for gratuitous medical attendance on the poor. During this time, twelve Homœopathic Physicians and four Surgeons of Boston and its vicinity have, in rotation, administered to the wants of the patients. An assistant has also been in attendance, and performed the duties prescribed by the rules of the Society, in a manner satisfactory to both Physicians and patients.

The following is a list of the number of prescriptions issued per month during the past year:—

1857. April . . . . .	7	1857. October . . . . .	74
" May . . . . .	8	" November . . . . .	69
" June . . . . .	37	" December . . . . .	64
" July . . . . .	20	1858. January . . . . .	70
" August . . . . .	9	" February . . . . .	74
" September . . . . .	83	" March . . . . .	103
		Total . . . . .	618

From this list it appears that the number of patients applying for assistance was quite small during the first five months, but that after this time the business of the Dispensary increased suddenly and permanently in a very satisfactory manner.

*The following is a Tabular Statement of the Number of Cases, and the Results of the Treatment, at the Homœopathic Medical Dispensary, from April 20, 1857, to April 1, 1858.*

FORM OF DISEASE.	No. of Cases.	Cured.	Relieved.	Called once.	Result unknown.	Remaining under treatment.	Not relieved.	Died.
Abcess . . . . .	4	1	1	1	1			
Aene . . . . .	2				1	1		
Amenorrhœa . . . . .	2			2				
Ascariides . . . . .	3	1		1	1	1		
Asthma . . . . .	6	1	2	1	2			
Balanitis . . . . .	1			1				
Bronchitis . . . . .	34	3	7	13	4	7		
Caries . . . . .	1		1					
Catarrh, nasal . . . . .	2	1		1				
Cephalalgia . . . . .	9		4	5				
Congestio cerebralis . . . . .	1					1		
Conjunctivitis . . . . .	3		2	1				
Constipation . . . . .	2		1			1		
Corneitis . . . . .	1		1					
Cystitis . . . . .	1				1			
Diarrhœa . . . . .	15	2	3	4	3	3		
Dislocation (of humerus) . . . . .	1						*1	
Dysentery . . . . .	1		1					
Dysmenorrhœa . . . . .	2					2		
Dyspepsia . . . . .	19		1	3	2	13		
Dysuria . . . . .	2	1				1		
Eczema . . . . .	7	2		2		3		
Endocarditis . . . . .	1					1		
Enuresis nocturna . . . . .	1							
Epilepsy . . . . .	2		1			1		
Erysipelas faciei . . . . .	1			1				
Erythema . . . . .	1	1						
Exostosis . . . . .	1					1		
Febris intermittens . . . . .	1			1				
Fistula lachrymalis . . . . .	1		1					
Fractura femoris . . . . .	1				1			
Furunculus . . . . .	1		1					
Gonorrhœa . . . . .	2			1				
Hemicrania . . . . .	1		1					
Hemorrhoids . . . . .	2		1		1			
Hepatitis . . . . .	1						1	
Hernia inguinalis . . . . .	1		1					
Hysteria . . . . .	2			1	1			
Hypertrophia cordis . . . . .	1					1		
Icterus . . . . .	1				1			
Impetigo . . . . .	2			1		1		
Laryngitis . . . . .	2		2					
Leucoma . . . . .	1			1				
Leucorrhœa . . . . .	1		1					
Lumbrici . . . . .	3			2		1		
Neuralgia . . . . .	3		1	1		1		
Ophthalmia . . . . .	1	1						
Otorrhœa . . . . .	3	1	1	1				
Ozœna . . . . .	1		1					
Paronychia . . . . .	1			1				
Parvngitis . . . . .	2			1				
Phthisis . . . . .	8		2	5		1		
Pleuritis . . . . .	5	1	1	2		1		
Polypus nasi . . . . .	1				1			
Prolapsus uteri . . . . .	1			1				
Prurigo . . . . .	1					1		
Rachitis . . . . .	2			1	1			
Retentio urinae . . . . .	1		1					
Rheumatism . . . . .	4		2	2				
Scabies . . . . .	2		2					
Spermatorrhœa . . . . .	1			1				
Spinal irritation . . . . .	1				1			
Synovitis . . . . .	1			1				
Tonsillitis . . . . .	3			3				
Torticollis . . . . .	1			1				
Ulcus femoris . . . . .	2	2						
Total . . . . .	195	18	44	66	22	44	1	

\* A case of several years' standing, considered not amenable to treatment.



It will be noticed that the number of cases coming under the head of "cured" is comparatively small. But it should be remembered, that in institutions of this nature it is always extremely difficult, if not impossible, to obtain a full report of the results of the treatment. If a patient recovers, he generally does not take the trouble to return to the Dispensary, and report the fact; if he is discouraged, and seeks other treatment, he is still less likely to be heard from.

Still, judging from the nature of many of the diseases which have been treated, and the improved condition of many of the patients at their last visit, it may be fairly inferred that many of the cases coming under the heads of "relieved," "called once," and "result unknown," were in reality cured by the treatment they had undergone.

It is also satisfactory to know, that in the course of a few years, when a Dispensary becomes permanently established, the patients who habitually resort to it gradually become more careful in submitting to the rules of the Institution, and reporting the effects of their treatment. At the same time, it is found that the number of cases coming under the head of "cured" gradually increases, while the number of cases with an uncertain termination is proportionally diminished.

It is to be hoped, and it may be reasonably expected, that, in succeeding years, a similar progressive improvement will be observed in the practical results of this Institution.

H. L. H. HOFFENDAHL, M.D.  
*Secretary.*