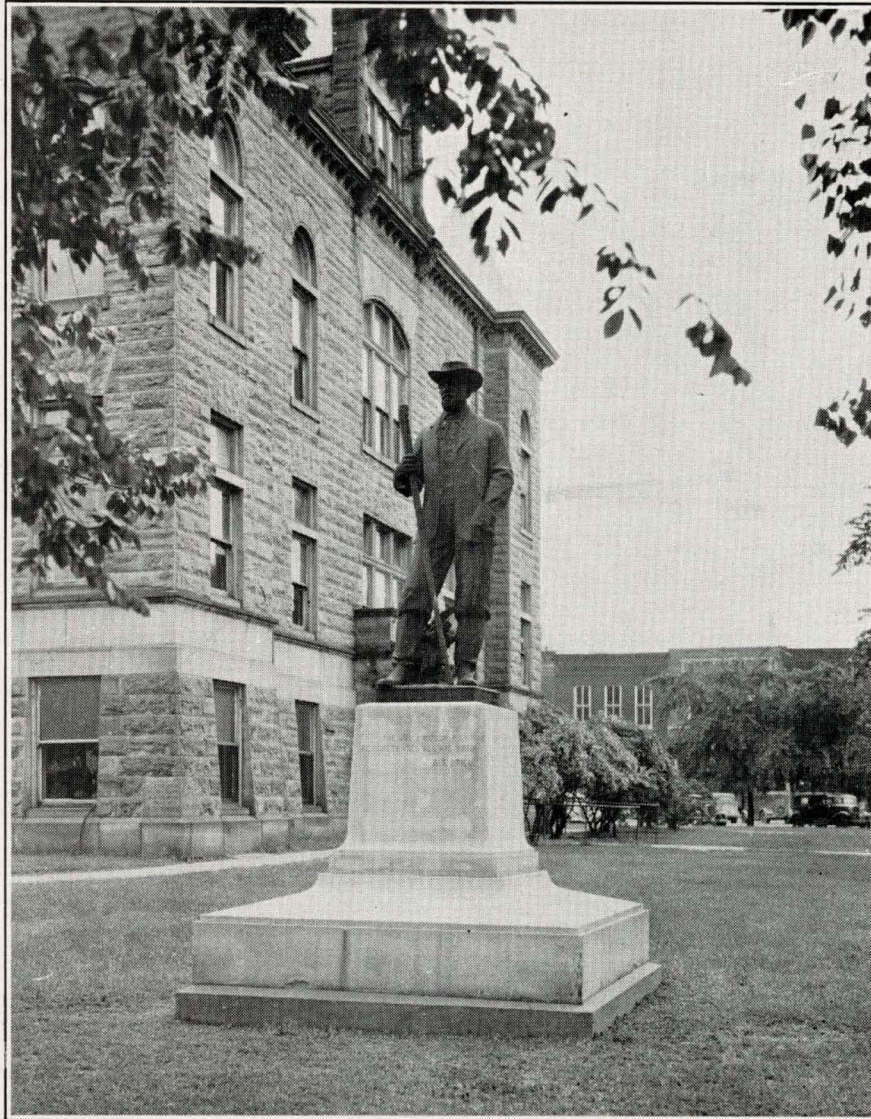


A. O. H. S. BULLETIN

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Editor

Wallace M. Pearson, D.O.
Box 722
Kirksville, Missouri

Officers

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J. R. Forbes, D.O.
120 West Osborn Road
Phoenix 13, Arizona

Vice President

R. McFarlane Tilley, D.O.
1402 East Patterson Ave.
Kirksville, Missouri

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Wallace M. Pearson, D.O.
Box 722
Kirksville, Missouri

Box 205
Cascade, Colorado
May 25, 1962

Dear Editor

Recently I received a letter from the Secretary of the Historical Society asking why I did not write another article for the Bulletin.

I know that for a number of years there has been a tendency to keep the name and the writings of Still somewhat under wraps but it seems to me that the California situation proves the fallacy of such a policy. Rather, I think we should take pride in our past. Naturally it must be presented in proper perspective and the early writings must always be considered in the context of the time in which they were written.

I am therefore submitting the manuscript for your consideration. You may use all of it with whatever editing you may require; any part of it or none of it. If, for any reason, it should be deemed unsuitable for publication I shall understand and will accept the rejection without prejudice. But at the present time I am not physically up to the preparation of a new article as suggested by my friend.

Sincerely

s/M. D. Warner, D.O.

FROM THE JOURNAL OF OSTEOPATHY

A. T. Still Personality, Character, Philosophy

The osteopathic profession is currently passing through a time of trial, testing whether it has sufficient courage and conviction to withstand pressures that would abrogate its position of honor, esteem and recognition that has been won by seventy years of struggle and endeavor to establish its basic concepts as a vital and valid segment of general medical practice. These pressures arose out of prosperity, a prosperity that strangely produced feelings of frustration and envy both within and without the osteopathic profession and resulted in the defection of a significant segment of the osteopathic membership.

The strength of the profession lies not only in numbers but in soundness of principle and method, vigor of leadership, competency of teaching, ethical and comprehensive professional service and the grateful loyalty of the public which it serves. This strength stems from the very nature of its origin, the potency of its purpose, the vicissitudes of its growth and the personality, character and philosophy of its founder.

Booth, in the History of Osteopathy, said, "Osteopathy had its conception in the fertile brain of that one man (Andrew Taylor Still), was developed by his careful judgment, grew into favor through his determined purpose and was placed upon a solid footing by his sagacity". We have been called cultists because we honor the genius and teaching of that man. Is it not strange that those who cast this "stigma" are now ready to accept us into their ranks--for a price, the expiation of our sins by renouncing the teachings of Still and terminating our profession. Still paid a price but

he paid it for a principle, the principle of truth and integrity. He would not compromise principle for privilege. His price was personal labor and sacrifice amid the slurs and slanders of his detractors. His reward was the loyalty, love, respect and honor which he received from those who really knew and understood both the man and his teaching.

The denial or dilution of truth, whether that truth be of ancient or recent vintage, can only result in weakness and subjugation or annihilation. Adherence to the truth in the teachings of Still does not acknowledge the false charge of cultism, nor does it in any way preclude the acceptance of new truths revealed by modern medical science.

The osteopathic profession can fulfill its destined contribution to human welfare only by adhering to its original commitment as stated by Still in the charter of its first college, "to improve our present system of surgery, obstetrics and treatment of disease generally". This means the incorporation into its teaching and practice of all scientific medical principles and procedures whether revealed by Hippocrates, Galen, Osler, Still or by the latest medical research. Let us then be no more ready to deny the stature of Still, than that of his distinguished predecessors, contemporaries, and successors in the evolutionary progress of medicine.

The following quotations, chronologically excerpted from the early issues of the Journal of Osteopathy, present, in his own words and in the words of his contemporaries, a montage of the personality, character and philosophy of Andrew Taylor Still, founder of the osteopathic profession.

From an Address by Dr. A. T. Still to his Students and Diplomates, May 7, 1894.

"At the threshold of your osteopathic duties you have the supreme satisfaction of knowing that you are confronted with a science. By a systematic, rigid adherence to its never failing laws you will ever prove an honor to yourself, a blessing to this school and a benefactor to mankind. You should ever remember that osteopathy adheres strictly to well defined and immutable laws of nature and it is an unerring deity who wills it so. And as such it only remains for the osteopath to conform to these laws and his efforts in this life will not only be crowned with success but made rich with the thanks of his fellow man."

Vol. 1, No. 1, May, 1894

DR. STILL--from the Kirksville Democrat

The article describes a meeting of citizens held at the city hall "to devise ways and means for making a donation to Dr. Still in our city--by providing land for a location for the school". A committee was appointed and a resolution adopted expressing pride and confidence in Dr. Still "as a healer as is evidenced by hundreds of his patients who come halt and lame and depart in a few weeks with light hearts and straightened limbs". "We believe in his integrity as a man and we feel proud that he has gained a national reputation and made Kirksville known in every state in the Union." "We most earnestly ask Dr. Still to remain with us and we promise him substantial and our most hearty support."

Vol. 1, No. 2, June, 1894

The following quote is unsigned but it is so characteristic of Dr. Still's statements that it would seem that he is the author.

"The law of life is absolute. That wonderful unknown and incomprehensible force which furnishes power to move the machinery of all animate

bodies is felt but not understood. Ourselves, we are unable to supply any one substance required in the economy of our bodies, yet there is a force within us which can select from the given materials such substances as are needed to form any part of the human system."

Vol. 1, No. 3, July, 1894

"Osteopathy cures nothing. It adjusts the machinery of man and nature does the work."

"Health is a result of the harmonious action of the system when all parts are un-irritated by any cause."

The Journal contains many letters to Dr. A. T. Still expressing gratitude and heartfelt thanks for "cures" from his advice and treatment. These letters are not testimonials but votive tablets of sincere expression of appreciation from former patients who had been invalids for years.

DR. A. T. STILL AND OSTEOPATHY

P. F. Greenwood
Kirksville Attorney

"Twenty years ago Dr. Still was scarcely known in this community. He can today count on his finger ends the people whom he then could call as friends with any assurance that his requests would be granted. At that time poverty beset his pathway, but by hard study and perseverance he forged ahead; by reason of his great will power and determination to succeed he overcame all obstacles; little by little he climbed the rugged road. Dismayed at nothing, courting rather than shunning opposition from his professional brethren, he applied himself more assiduously to the practice and study of his favorite theme. At first he had not the means to furnish even an office. He practiced this great art in rather a peripatetic manner, visiting different localities in Missouri and Kansas. Soon his name began to be called by some in derision,

by others in a doubting tone, and by a few in praise. Finally, a few remarkable "cures" were made by him; some at his home and some abroad. By degrees he began to be appreciated; soon he found himself able to buy a home to shelter himself and family in Kirksville. Steadily and gradually has the reputation of Dr. Still grown and his practice has increased from that small beginning when the patients came to his home and were treated on the porch, on the lawn or wherever a place could be found. Many an unfortunate has had a shoulder or a hip set, braced against a tree, and gone on his way rejoicing. It is related of a poor woman who came with a dislocated hip, that she had her hip set as she lay in the wagon which brought her.

As time went on he succeeded in arranging a few rooms in a cottage across the way, in which he and his sons could treat the sufferers who came to him and soon a school was established. As the numbers were increased, more assistants were required, until an efficient corps of operators have been educated to successfully carry on the work.

Another year passed by and the rooms first occupied were inadequate for the work; another move was made across the street to a larger cottage which was remodeled and additions made until there were ten rooms which are kept in constant use. And yet today they are overcrowded--the necessities of the practice require more room which will soon be supplied. On the sixth day of August 1894, the sixty-sixth birthday of Dr. Still, the ground was broken for a large and commodious building which is now being pushed to completion as rapidly as men and money can do it. The building which may well be called the Temple of Anatomical Engineering, will be a fitting home for the future development of this great science.

While Dr. Still has secured by his

industry, perseverance and application, a reputation in the healing art, that will live through cycling ages to come, yet he cannot be accused of using his special and peculiar knowledge for the mere purpose of accumulating wealth. While he has accumulated enough to lift him above want he is in moderate circumstances. The suffering of a fellow being excites in his generous nature and manly heart, sympathy and kindly feeling--his hand and heart are always open to the poor.

In twenty years of his life, this one man has wrought a great change in our little city. Kirksville is known today by thousands who would never have known it had it not been for Dr. Still. Do we properly appreciate this man? I fear not. Genius can only be distinguished from other gradations of mind by what is necessarily peculiar to it by the greatness of its powers.

For what he has done and the relief he has given to the human family, he has the thanks of his grateful patients and students. For what he has done and is doing for the home of his choice, all good citizens of Kirksville ought ever be ready to accord to him and his discovery at least a truthful statement of his integrity, honesty and fidelity in all he professes to do."

Vol. 1, No. 4, August, 1894

TO PATIENTS AND VISITORS
by Dr. A. T. Still

"If you come to us for treatment you come of your own free will and not through any trick or scheme of mine. Remember that when many of you come to me, you are not the most choice kind of patients. You come to me with eyes big from belladonna, backs and limbs still from plaster paris casts--you come with bodies suffering with all the diseases that flesh is heir to. Remember you have been treated and dismissed as incurable by all kinds of doctors before you came to us and

if we help you at all--we do more than all the others have done. And yet of all the various forms of affliction that have been treated here, 75% have been greatly benefitted and 50% are sent home well."

"Wonders are found by persons who cannot find wisdom"--Still.

"I have but one rule of life, reason first, justice and humanity all the time"--Still.

Vol. 1, No. 4, July, 1894

"Life is that calm principle sent forth from deity which vivifies all nature"--Still.

Vol. 1, No. 6, October, 1894

ANNUAL TALK
by A. T. Still
December 23, 1894

"Twenty years ago the art of Osteopathy was launched upon the stream of Time. At first its progress was slow, its way shrouded by the gray mists of tradition. But so true was the workmanship in every respect, so strongly and staunchly was the vessel built in every part that it has steered clear of the strands and rocky reefs that have threatened, has successfully combated the tempests of ignorance and superstition and 'will sail majestically on and on until the ripples before its prow break on the shores of eternity.'"

Vol. 1, No. 8, December, 1894

From an Address by A. T. Still
to the students:

"Years ago I dug one skeleton after another out of the indian burial grounds and studied them until I was familiar with the use and structure of every bone in the human system. From this I went on to the study of muscles, ligaments, tissues, arteries, etc. It has been my life work and yet there are things for me to learn."

Vol. 1, No. 9, January, 1895

"It was no more popular to talk against medicine (drugs) than against religion--from the pulpit of a church which my money helped to build, a minister denounced me as an apostate of the first water--I must change my tactics or go to hell. So strong was his denunciation that on the following Tuesday as I passed down the street, --children fled from my paths as--from a leper--all because I dared to talk upon the streets of a coming philosophy --to free man from the slavery of drugs."

From the Globe Democrat, St. Louis:

"On the Wabash Railroad, 205 miles north of St. Louis, lies the pretty little town of Kirksville, the home of Dr. A. T. Still, the founder and discoverer of Osteopathy. It is now the great Mecca for--to and fro there surges a throng of ailing humanity--the results accomplished are not visionary or fanciful, they are real and practical. Marvelous even unto the miraculous are some of the cures and yet all are treated in a natural and scientific manner--which this plain and unassuming man proves are nature's laws. The osteopath adjusts the machinery of the system and depends upon nature to rebuild and restore its normal condition."

Col. 1, No. 9, January, 1895

THE DAWN--Of all the writings of the Old Doctor, there is none which shows better his creativity and beauty of spirit than does this bit of poetical prose. For a number of years I read this at the Founder's Day Memorial at the Old Doctor's grave.--MDW.

"Through all the darksome night I lay enchained by slumber's thrall but with the first faint flushing of the dewy morn I rose and wandered forth.

All nature seemed to wait in hushed expectancy. With iron hand of will I barred the gates of memory, shut out the past with all its old ideas. My

soul took on receptive attitude, my ear was tuned to nature's rhythmic harmony. Afar o'er billows of the briny deep I saw faint shafts of light arise, enriching with a rosy tint the pallor of the dawn. I saw the red disc of the sun peep forth then spring full orb'd and fiery from night's embrace and kiss the world to waking beauty. My spirit was o'erwhelmed with the immeasurable magnitude of the deific plan on which the universe is constructed. Standing on the border land where waves from fancy's sea break on the shores of fact I saw with mental orb, a beauteous vision in the sky. With pen of truth dipped boldly in imagination's ink I paint the picture as it came to me. High up in heaven's empyrean dome of blue I saw great Sirius, central sun of stillness, reign and marshall all his starry host with skill. And as they wheeled and counterwheeled in air I saw among those myriad worlds a family circle all complete that seemed to dwell apart. This was our Solar System with its members fair. Although this group doth dwell in isolation, the union between its members is so perfect that the slightest shock to one doth jar with harsh discord on each sister planet. The central figure of the group, mother sun, illumines space with her effulgent rays and lights the pathway of numerous children and grandchildren too. She is a matchless mother and guides her children well, each one of them is polished to the highest point of perfection known to skill, born without flaw, obeys willingly, hears every call, performs every part assigned it in the grand plan which the mother has on constant exhibition. With reverential eyes I saw this part of a whole whose beginning and end we know not. This branch of the universal life that throbs and pulses through every vein of nature and guides each atom on its way throughout the countless ages of eternity. This life is law and osteopathy its latest clause that teaches us its magnitude and doth

direct and guide creation's crowning work, the living man, unto his perfect right--unchanging health."

Vol. 1, No. 10, February, 1895

"I began to study man and I found no flaw in God's work. The intelligence of deity is unquestionable, its law unalterable. On this law is the science of osteopathy founded."

A. T. Still

On Citizenship--"No man ought to be allowed to wield the ballot unless in his heart and conscience he holds his oath of allegiance to the United States as superior to any other allegiance on the face of the earth--the one supreme interest is the welfare of the country. In voting there ought to be no distinction in regard to color, nationality, religion, or sex but one absolute condition of intelligence and devotion to the country's welfare." Still

Vol. 1, No. 10, February, 1895

From a letter to the Journal:

"Sometime between 1873 and 1875 I was in Kirksville, when someone pointing to a tall stoop shouldered, pleasant looking man, said, 'That is the great Dr. Still' and then with a sly chuckle and gesture toward his forehead, led me to believe that--he was wrong in the upper story. In 1876 I first became personally acquainted with him and found him to be a very different man from what I had been led to believe--good natured, kind hearted and never complaining. I began to hear of his performing marvelous cures. The sight of a man running through the streets, tears of joy streaming down his cheeks offering to sell crutches which his child had used for years but which she no longer had occasion for--all this hard study and scientific investigation was going on in our midst in spite of ridicule and opposition. I feel like exclaiming with Puck, What fools these mortals are."

Vol. 1, No. 11, March 1895

Dr. Still's Talk in
Memorial Hall
April 25, 1895

"Wednesday mornings we make it a rule to talk in this hall on osteopathy. One observation upon our surroundings this morning of budding trees, growing grass, opening flowers too plainly tells that intelligence guided, directed and controlled this wonderful creation of all animate and inanimate things. Deity made this mighty universe with such exactness, beauty and harmony that no mechanical ingenuity possessed by man can equal in creation the mechanism of the first and great creation. But astronomy, zoology, philosophy, anatomy reveal to man these higher, nobler, grander laws and their absolute perfection. Man, the most

complex, intricate and delicately constructed machine of all creation, is the one with which the osteopath must become familiar. You must study and know the exact construction of the human body--you must have the ability to detect the exact location of any and all obstructions to the regular movement of this grand machinery of life. Medicine as shown by the dispensatories has called to its aid 12,000 different potions in its effort to heal diseases. With all these the most intelligent of the profession are not satisfied with the results."

Vol. 1, No. 12, April, 1895

(To be continued)

Submitted by

M. D. Warner, A.B., D.O., D.Sc.
Dean Emeritus

LINES ON A SKELETON

This poem was found near a human skeleton and a reward of fifty guineas failed to disclose its author. I read it first in Dr. William R. Laughlin's ANATOMY IN A NUTSHELL, an osteopathic textbook published in 1905. It was published in the Journal of Osteopathy Vol. 1, No. 5, August, 1894.

Behold this ruin! 'Twas a skull
Once of etherial spirit full,
This narrow cell was life's retreat;
This space was thought's mysterious seat.
What beautiful visions filled this spot!
What dreams of pleasure long forgot!
Nor hope, nor joy, nor love, nor fear
Has left one trace of record here.

Beneath this mouldering canopy
Once shown the bright and busy eye:
But start not at the dismal void--
If social love that eye employed.
If with no flawless fire it gleamed,
That eye shall be forever bright
When stars and sun are sunk in night.

Within this hollow cavern hung,
The ready, swift and tuneful tongue:
If falsehood's honey it disdained,
And when it could not praise, was chained;
If bold in virtue's cause it spoke,

Yet gentle concord never broke,
This silent tongue may plead for thee,
When Time unveils Eternity.

Say, did these fingers delve the mine,
Or with its envied rubies shine?
To hew the rock or wear the gem
Can nothing now avail to them;
But if the page of truth they sought,
Or comfort to the mourner brought,
These hands a richer meed shall claim
Than all that waits on wealth or fame.

Avails it whether bare or shod
These feet the path of duty trod;
If from the bowers of joy they fled
To sooth affliction's humbler bed;
If grandeur's guilty bribe they spurned
And home to virtue's lap returned:
These feet with angel's wings shall vie
And tread the palace of the sky.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY - TREASURER - EDITOR

Balance received August 13, 1962	\$223.70
Covers, Paper, Postage, Mimeographing, Check Charge	28.99
Balance September 22, 1962	<u>\$194.71</u>

Miami Meeting

Meal guarantee	13	-	\$39.00
Meals taken	3	-	9.00
Deficit on meals			<u>\$30.00</u>

The New Orleans convention and clinical assembly will not have a breakfast scheduled because of the conflicts that develop through heavy breakfast schedules.

The absence of a quorum along with the presence of only one officer of the American Osteopathic Historical society at the breakfast creates the necessity that the present officers continue until their successors are elected.

Wallace M. Pearson, D.O.
Secretary, Treasurer, Editor