

The American Osteopath

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THE AMERICAN OSTEOPATH MONTHLY

DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF THE SCIENCE OF OSTIOPATHY.

VOL II

SEPTEMBER, 1900.

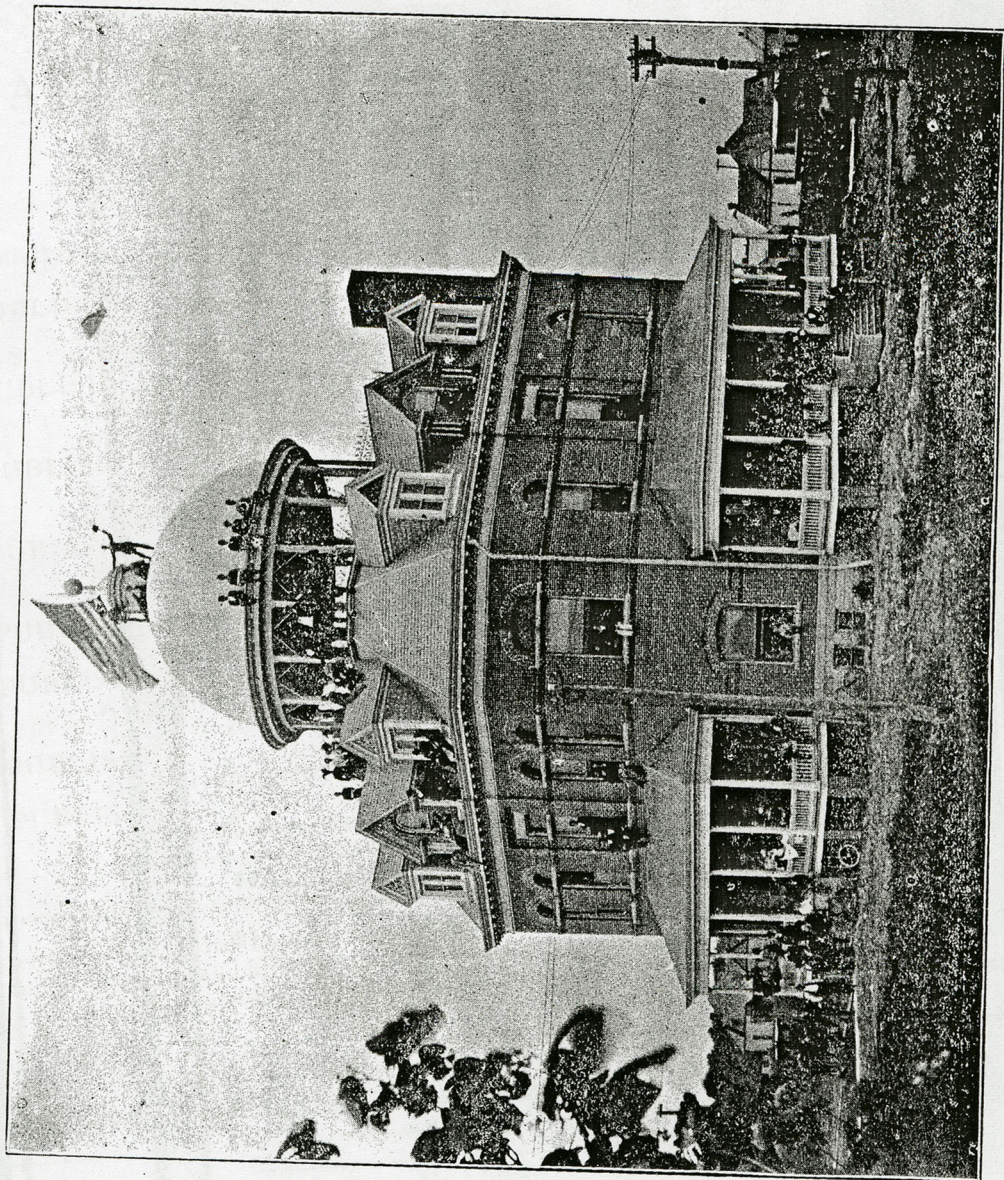
NO. 1

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The American Osteopath.

(MONTHLY.)

VOL. II.

SEPTEMBER, 1900.

No. 1.

OSTEOPATHY.

Its History and Treatment.

Rev. Ernest E. Tucker, Mobile, Ala.

[The author of this article had suffered some time with eye trouble, and his gratitude to the Science of Osteopathy for his relief prompted the use of his pen in explaining the Science, as he viewed it, to others.—ED]

GREAT truths are by a law of their being simple. Great truths are those that are wide in their relations and in their applications; hence they are simple, and the greater, the simpler.

Combinations and details of these simples, are, of course, complex, which are the parts we see. It requires a host of the details and combinations to reveal what are the simples, so that they are, also by a law of their being, the last to be perceived. Simpler things are the last to be learned. The master minds are those that can recognize the simpler and greater things.

There is oft-repeated astonishment that such simple and plainly apparent (when once revealed) and, with all effective truths should have been left for Dr. Still to discover. They should have been

seen and applied long ago, by men who have spent their lives in pathological studies.

There need not be such surprise, however, for this reason. Since the time of the Indian Medicine Man, or his corresponding type in the other tribes, the solution of the problem has always been sought through the use of drugs. This was the first method applied. And as it often led to good results, for reasons which will be made plain later, improvement was sought along these lines. Now these lines in no sense lead towards the methods first used by Dr. Still, and named by him, Osteopathy. It is not strange that from a mind whose whole training had been in the use of drugs, no other method, particularly one involving a rejection of drugs, should be evolved. But the modern tendency is away from drugs and men are everywhere seeking for a new theory to work on. Instead of a theory, Dr. Still has given them a fact, which they may enlarge and apply.

II.

The history of Osteopathy is, up to the present time, the History of Dr. Andrew Taylor Still.

After years of practice as a regular physician, he came to the same

conclusion that many of the most eminent physicians had come to before him—John Mason Goode, M. D., F. R. S., Dr. Alonzo Clark (New York College of Physicians and Surgeons), Sir Astley Cooper (Physician to the Queen of England), Prof. Magendie (Celebrated French Physician), etc., that medicine as practiced was nearly as bad as it was good—based as it was on absolutely irrational experiment, effecting cures, no one knew why, by methods, no one knew what; merely experimenting for results; that at best it was inadequate, and at worst it was blind shooting in a crowd.

But a greater than them all is here. The bravery and faith of his giving up his profession and going to work in the midnight, in all manner of adverse conditions, disowned by his kin, while men called him familiarly "Old Crank Still," to pursue a truth that all the world had failed to catch, needs but to be stated to be acknowledged; besides, what guarantee did he have that the gleam he saw ahead was the truth, or would be of value to the world when obtained? At least, it was worth something to try to be right. His was the act of a man who loves the truth and must follow where he believes he will find it. The social indignity, the derisive reception certain to be accorded him, the uncertainty of it all, he seemed not to see. His eyes were fixed on the light ahead.

This courage was rewarded by the discovery of the only true science of healing known. This claim will be justified on a subsequent page.

The first essential discovery was made in 1874. From then until 1892 Dr. Still was elaborating and studying the application of his discoveries, regarded as a magician by some, as a sorcerer, a faith cure, a lunatic, a genius, by others,

but slowly obtaining recognition. It was demonstrated that his powers could be imparted to others when he taught his sons. Never was it more certain in the minds of his fellow "Kirksvillains" that he was crack-brained than when he founded his school, chartered in 1892. The building has been enlarged many times in the seven years, and is now congested for room. The first class numbered less than a dozen. The class for September 1899 numbered 207. There are eight professors besides Dr. Still and his two sons, with two associate professors. There are seven or eight other recognized schools of Osteopathy in various parts of the United States in an association with uniform standards and courses of study, besides which there are an unknown number of "irregular" schools which teach various forms of "bastard" Osteopathy. It would be well for intending patients to inquire into this.*

Many of the States have legislatively recognized the practice of Osteopathy. They are North and South Dakota, Vermont, Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, Tennessee, Missouri, Ohio. It is a splendidly lucrative profession. It is said (I do not know the authority) that an Osteopath in St. Louis makes easily a thousand dollars a month, and that this is not above the average for the good operators. The terms, \$25.00 per month generally, are not high, yet make this sum reasonable. As long as Dr. Still will live, the History of Osteopathy will of course centre in him; but it is attracting and developing its great men; and the field of its demonstration, which has enlarged from Kirksville to the United States, bids fair to spread next to Europe, and that in a way that will most undoubtedly prove all its claims.

Professor J. Martin Littlejohn,

[* Any inquiry, in regard to any school or practitioner of Osteopathy, addressed to this Magazine will at all times receive prompt reply.—Ed.]

during the last vacation, made a tour of Europe, his especial object being to investigate the latest physiological and psychological work at the leading universities. One result of his visit was a great interest on the part of the leading physicians in England and Germany in Osteopathy, and a promise on the part of the professors of Physiology at the Universities of Edinburg, London, Cambridge and Oxford, (Schaffer of Edinburg, McKendrick of Glasgow, Michael Foster at Cambridge, Burdon Sanderson of Oxford) to pursue their investigations during the year on the lines of Dr. Still's discoveries. Professor Littlejohn had been invited to deliver the address before the London Society of Sciences, August 19, 1899, and went abroad for that purpose, his subject being: "*The Prophylactic and Curative Value of the Science of Osteopathy.*"

It has never been hinted that the English and German professors lend themselves to ideas that belong to the genus "quack" and its fellows. The attitude of the whole thinking aristocracy of Europe seems ripe for the coming of this. Their tendency has been more and more away from the traditional practice of drugs, and they are in an attitude of expectancy. We await with confidence the coming of their verdict.

III

Academically stated, the fundamental principle of Osteopathy is the modern biological idea of the vital activity of the cells themselves. (See Littlejohn's Physiology.) But we will try to put it in a more practical way.

Osteopathy, as before stated, is a true Science, because there is no uncertainty in the operation of nature's laws, elsewhere, or in the

human body and Osteopathy works only through the natural powers and functions of the body.

One way, the poorer way, of stating this is: Nature always makes an effort against disease, and the Osteopath encourages it. The better way is; disease is unnatural, and nature always struggle against the unnatural. The Osteopath is trained to find (and remove) the unnatural condition, using the symptoms as finger marks or guides to the cause or source of the trouble; that is, it consists, more than in anything else, in perfect diagnosis.

This declaration, and the claim that Osteopathy is the best product of the world for healing, involves the claim that other diagnoses are necessarily imperfect. They are; in that they omit to consider the unnatural conditions. The liver may be out of order, and yet be in the most natural of conditions. Its condition is a natural result of a precedent cause, because the liver is not going to fail, simply fail, without a cause or reason—it was not made that way. Its failure will be the natural result of a cause. To treat symptoms as they arise is therefore to ignore the unnatural conditions. Take any organ you please, and if the blood supply and the nerve supply be perfect, and the organ be not overcrowded, nor interfered with some neighboring organ in a pathological condition, nor by some unnatural external condition, the operation of that organ will be perfect. If it is not perfect, it is a symptom, and not a cause. Faith in the ability and wisdom of the creator led Dr. Still to this conclusion and his practice demonstrates it. The body is not a haphazard machine, and its parts will not go wrong or fail to do their duty when everything affecting them is in proper

condition, from "pure cussedness." Then the nerve supply and the blood supply, and the other organs—none of these will arbitrarily fail, from causes arising within themselves. If so, it is the only place in all nature where it is so. So the ultimate sources of all diseases must be sought in conditions or causes external to the body.

Their diagnoses is imperfect, because they fail to consider the unnatural condition, far less the cause. Their diagnosis being imperfect, of course their remedies even if given upon a rational basis would be no better than experiments. But, in that they omit to consider the provisions made in and by the body itself against diseases, they are still further limited.

These two points form points of departure for Osteopathy. First, when all the organs work in harmony together, there is health. Second, that provision is made in and by the body against almost all diseases. One does not require special education to appreciate these things; with regard to the last, he has but to ask himself, "What if it were not so?"

Every violation of the first harmony must have a cause. The cause most frequently responsible it finds to be (a fact, and not a theory, for which its success is its authority) mechanical disarrangement, cutting off the life currents of the blood and nerve force.

Dr. Still says that disease is the result of strangulation of the cell life in the tissues by the cutting off of the vital currents. Such causes are the subluxation of a vertebra or other bone, the hardening of a muscle, (impinging upon a nerve, an artery or a vein) the wasting of the vital force by habits, or a great variety of causes, all external in their origin. Mechanical treatment is much more logical,

and we believe more effectual, than chemical.

The next most frequent "*raison d'etre*" of disease is the weakness of some part of the body organism. Why is it that some systems never suffer from conditions that kill others? The reason is in the different strength of the system. Nature makes provision against almost all—against all normal—external or internal conditions. If it were not so, life would be one long disease. But the weakness of some organ makes it possible for those conditions to produce disease. The Osteopath corrects that weakness—puts up nature's guard.

A weakness also must have a cause. It may be lack of exercise, overwork, habit, or inheritance, perhaps. An organ is weak during growth, just as a growing shoot of a tree is weak. A dislocation may produce only a weakness, or the cause may be entirely past or momentary, the effects only remaining. In general, acute diseases are the result of temporary weakness, and chronic troubles are the result of constantly present causes, such as the interference with a nerve.

Most of the controlling nerves proceed from or are connected with the spinal column. Osteopathy reveals that a large percentage of healthy as well as sick men, have slight displacements here, so these may or may not affect the nerves. That they may, we leave to the reason of the individual; that they do, Osteopathic practice demonstrates. This idea seems never to have entered the heads of students until today, and is still rejected, along with everything Osteopathic, by the medical fraternity. (This discovery, being the first in order of time, was the one that gave the name to the new science.)

The most important lesions are

in the spinal column, but they may be in other places, ribs, ligaments, etc.

This is one of the great simples that have been kept hidden from the wise and prudent of the ages, and left for Dr. Still to give to the world.

Another of the great simples upon which Osteopathy as a healing art depends, is the fact that a nerve may be affected by stimulation or inhibition by mechanical means. So far has the science now developed that it can reach almost every nerve in the body, directly or indirectly. It *can* reach every organ. By this means it assists the weakened organs and quiets the over-excited ones.

Thus, the cause having been first removed, a condition of harmony can be restored, and then nature will herself resume the natural. A cure can thus always be effected if the cause can be removed, if there is sufficient tissues left to afford a basis for rebuilding, and if the system has the necessary strength.

Another great simple has a bearing here. It is that stimulation given to an organ in a healthy condition will not affect it else than as healthful exercise; but to an organ in a pathological condition it may act as an impetus towards the natural—never, or seldom, away from the natural.

We began this division by promising to prove that Osteopathy was a science. No science is perfect in its knowledge, nor in the power to produce effects in its sphere. In so far as it can handle the proper conditions and causes, it can produce the desired effects. It is a science, not by virtue of its power over cause and effect, but by virtue of its knowledge of the certain results that proceed from given causes.

So Osteopathy, a true science,

cannot cure all diseases; but there is no uncertainty in the results to be obtained, if the requisite conditions and causes can be had. It is the only science, art, or method of healing that works along the lines of natural cause and effect and handles them by knowledge.

Dr. Still's claim that "if you have Anatomy and Physiology and common sense, you have Osteopathy," is a picturesque and characteristic but not a fanatical claim. Osteopathy does not know all the laws that affect the body mechanism, but it acts with scientific exactness in so far as it does know.

IV.

What a long stride forward has been made in the matter of diagnosis, as a result of these principles, a few instances will serve to show.

"The English for 'bacteria' says Dr. Still, 'is buzzard.'" Bacteria can feed only on dead tissue. How came the dead tissue there? Some organ is failing to do its duty. Dead tissue does not belong in the blood. There is no stronger germicide known than healthy animal blood. (This does not imply a reflection on all the bacteriological work done, for the blood is not proof against bacteria.) Most bacteriological diseases exist because of imperfection in the blood making organ. If, through these, the strength of the blood be restored, the bacteria will have no more to eat and will be eaten.

Neuralgia may have many causes, but the cause is frequently found in the neck or spinal column, in the shape of a constriction on the nerve. The removal of the constriction will allow nature to rebuild the depleted parts, and stimulation will help that process.

Epilepsy and paralysis belong to the category with neuralgia,

having the same cause. The demand for nerve action is absolute, and health can be restored only by removing the constriction.

In the same category may be placed almost every disease in the calendar; for as can be readily seen, the effects of cutting off or impairing the nerve force may be endless.

Erysipelas is the result of an impaired circulation. Lack of exercise, it may be, or interference from a number of causes, that prevent the return of the blood through the veins, and hence also, a flow from the arteries, and the blood decays in the skin.

The cause of the impaired circulation may be also in the spinal column. Its effects may be felt all over the body, all the conditions being natural results except the first. The weakness of an organ may allow an external condition that would not produce disease in a healthy body to produce it in the weakened organ. The Osteopath endeavors to co-operate with nature; to supplement her energies by stimulation; and nature restores the natural.

In the effects of stimulation on weakened parts is seen another of the great simples at which men wonder that they were not seen before. The natural condition is the easiest condition. Every tendency is towards the natural. So that you give nature a push, a slight shake-up, and if she is able, she will resume the natural. Herein is the greatest reason for the success of traditional medicine.

A cataloguing of disease is not my object. Osteopathy has catalogued them anew under vastly simpler and fewer heads—which is not a proof of its imbecility; and moreover, there are few that it has not so catalogued.

One great advantage the patient has under the Osteopathic treat-

ment. Whereas treatments are sometimes painful, it is often possible to control pain through inhibitory pressure on the nerve communicating it. Dr. Still in setting a dislocated hip pressed his finger on a certain nerve, saying that the limb was perfectly etherized then; another effect of this pressure was the relaxation of all the muscles of the leg, making the operation simpler. The greatness of this advantage will be readily seen.

V.

The patronage of the people is the proof of success, and doubly so with Osteopathy, for its policy has been never to advertise itself, but to let its cures advertise it. With this, notice the fact that it has been almost entirely with the "hopeless cases" that Osteopathy has had to deal. Those cases which are hopeless with drugs are often the easiest to handle by Osteopathic treatment. In this connection recall also the marvelous growth spoken of at the beginning of this article. Another point to be noticed is the fact that it is everywhere the most intelligent classes who take to the new science.

Of course, the theory would be helpless unless practice had demonstrated that the theory was successful in its application. This means a reference to records—and they may be multiplied. Their testimony is—not only that Osteopathy succeeds more than any other known curative method, but that it seldom fails when recovery or improvement is physiologically possible. This, of course, depends to such a great extent on the skill of the individual operator that the statement is somewhat risky. But, if true, even in a measure, it places it immediately above anything yet known.

As it is impossible to go into the

infinity of detail necessary to the establishment of this point, in this short essay, it must suffice to show that control can be had over every organ, to govern its action, and allow nature to recover the normal condition. If you pull the string the monkey jumps! Excuse the connotation of the comparison, but it applies. If an organ is not doing its duty, you can make it do its duty by pulling its string, after you have removed all impediments. The claim is not extravagant, except by comparison with the inability of traditional medicine to produce those results.

The very simplicity of the methods by which Osteopathy works its cures makes it less wonderful that they should be so broad in their application. That they should have (within the natural limits) through this means, control over the functions of the body, does not seem so remarkable. But this granted, the only other thing necessary for control over all diseases is control over the causes outside of the organ that interfere with its operation. The claim made is only this. In so far as they can control these.

The percentage of patients cured, as reliably as can be learned, is seventy, and of those benefited, ninety-five—these, be it remembered, being the hopeless cases of the country.

Individual instances might be multiplied almost indefinitely, but every patent medicine can do that. To allow the reliability of such would be to allow the reliability of Osteopathy, which would be granting the question. In an essay of this size we prefer to trust demonstrations to reason.

VI.

Osteopathy is entitled to be called a medical profession, which

title is not limited to the "drug profession."

There is nothing wrong in the "drug profession," nor of the physicians who represent it. Both do the best they can, and do well, according to their lights. But, in the light of Osteopathy, it ought to become impossible on the face of the earth. Because there is nothing in any of the acknowledged methods of healing that is of any value (except the use of drugs) that may not be had in Osteopathy. The students do not all learn all these things, but Osteopathy acknowledges and accepts the good parts of them all.

Because one does not reject the superior for the inferior, but the inferior.

Because the resort to drugs and all other methods are helpless before many forms of disease. Osteopathy is helpless before none where nature is not helpless. No method can build or take the place of the natural functions. Osteopathy is the nearest approach to the natural methods, working through them; the nearest possible, according to our lights.

Because Osteopathy is in line with, and drugs are in direct violation of natural methods.

Because—though the operation of drugs depends on natural laws as much as anything else in this world, those laws are not known nor are the conditions the drugs will meet known. All that is known is "what it did before"—and—that it may not do the same thing twice in succession.

There is no denial here that medicines do effect cures. They awaken a torpid liver, for instance, by applying a drug to it directly through the mouth or the blood—a poison it may be—that arouses that organ to super-activity, to

throw it off; the effects being felt on the other functions of the liver also. The poison, meanwhile, has gone to all other parts of the body and the liver is left probably weaker. The relative advantages of the two methods of stimulation need not be discussed.

The philosophy of the Homeopaths "similia similibus curantur" is the same as that applied in vaccination. The same poison that must be combatted in another place is introduced in the natural way, and the blood thereby strengthened to conquer it in the pathological area. The Osteopath knows that the body manufactures the antidotes for its own poisons; and that healthy blood is the best of all germicides, and knows how to produce both.

There is really nothing in common between an M. D. and a D.O. except anatomy, physiology, chemistry, histology, and surgery—that is to say, a knowledge of the body. There is nothing common in the treatment. If the second lumbar vertebra be impinging upon the nerves and producing constipation, how many gallons of drugs will it take to restore that vertebra and release the nerves? If the atlas be stepped a fraction of a distance out of place, producing neuralgia, how far must a man travel before he finds a climate that will cure him.

Osteopathy is yet in its beginning, It has opened the way, pointed the finger in the right direction, and it must lead to great results, undreamed of now.

ERNEST E. TUCKER.

This article will be reprinted in **THE JUNIOR OSTEOPATH** in a convenient form for mailing at \$1.00 per hundred copies.

THE FAKE OSTEOPATH.

How to Deal With Him,

S. C. Matthews, D.O., Wilkes Barre, Pa

OSTEOPATHY as a scientific system of Therapeutics is firmly rooted and grounded. In so far as its practitioners have had opportunity to apply its principles it has become equally entrenched in popular favor. It has in its short but eventful history made wonderful progress in winning legislative and judicial recognition. But Osteopaths in proportion to the population of the United States have been very few and it necessarily follows that vast numbers of people are entirely unacquainted with even the rudimentary outlines of the principles of the system which we practice. This being true it is important in order that they get right conceptions of our science, that the people make acquaintances with it as practiced by its duly accredited representatives.

While we have won many victories, other battles remain to be fought; while we have breasted many storms there are still dangers that assail us. Not the least of these in my opinion is that which comes from the crooked methods and incompetent work of spurious Osteopaths and ignorant fakirs who in so many communities are preying upon the public and are reaping for a time, the reward which the good name of Osteopathy, and the good work of legitimate Osteopaths have made possible.

In this connection it might be well to say that when an otherwise legitimate Osteopath pursues the the methods of the fakir (if there be any such) his influence for harm is greater than that of the known

fakir, and serves in a greater degree to bring our profession into disrepute

Speaking solely from personal ground. I suppose none of us fear the fakir as a competitor but considerations of the general good of our science makes this question one of graver importance than a merely personal one. In communities where a legitimate Osteopath is practicing, the advent of the fakir need not occasion any alarm. We know that the competent man can easily hold his business, and by reason of doing better work can drive his incompetent rival from the field. If all communities were supplied with the REAL the starvation of the PRETENDER would soon render useless any discussion of or attempt to solve this problem. But unfortunately as yet, comparatively few communities are thus supplied, and it is the unoccupied territory that the fakir usually invades.

The result is that our science is thus discredited in that community. There are towns within my knowledge where the disreputable and bungling methods of the unauthorized and uneducated practitioner has so injured the good name of our science that a legitimate Osteopath would have the utmost difficulty in establishing himself. At best, it would be a struggle of many weary months.

Not only is the harm felt in the ruining of good territory, but the failure of such men place plausible arguments in the mouths of those who are interested in keeping Osteopathy from receiving that recognition which its merits and renders it more difficult to secure those legal enactments which are necessary in so many places.

It is needless, however, to argue the harmfulness of this class of pestiferous practitioners, who as a rule swoop down upon a community with great flourish of trump-

ets, promise a great deal, perform very little, get all the money they can, and then seek pastures new. All will agree that it is an evil. I merely urge the views before mentioned to show that it is not a "local issue," and that the detriment is not simply nor mainly to our professional brethren who are brought into competition with them. It is a thing which concerns every one who has the welfare and advancement of our science at heart.

Assuming then that it is an evil that ought to be met by the Association, the question yet remains, What is the most effectual method of dealing with it?

In those States where our practice is regulated by law, the statutes prescribe a penalty which may be inflicted upon those who practice in violation of its provisions in regard to qualifications.

It is in only a comparatively few States, however, that we have such laws, and where we do, it is a question whether or not we can afford to resort to the law. I, for one, think we cannot.

No prosecution could well be instituted without some Osteopath being responsible for it. Of course, if a prosecution against a fake Osteopath should be instituted by the authorities why that would be a matter with which we would have nothing to do; but when an Osteopath assumes the role of a prosecutor he is, in the minds of the people of his community admitting his inability to cope with his adversary on equal terms. He is placing himself where so many medical doctors have placed themselves in respect to Osteopathy, and it is by no means an enviable position. It seems to be an invariable rule that healers of all kinds, as well as all kinds of religionists thrive on persecution. I would advise against giving the fellow the advertising and sympathy con-

sequent upon an invocation of the machinery of the law.

The whole question is one, I think, of EDUCATION. Let the people be taught to discriminate. People are often humbugged it is true, but I do not agree with Barnum that they like to be. I believe that the Association did a wise thing in adopting an official organ, and that the publishers of it are doing a good thing in calling attention in each issue of it to the fact that there are unprincipled fakirs abroad in the land who, from mercenary motives, are claiming to be practitioners of Osteopathy, and then telling the public how they may detect the spurious from the genuine. In thus teaching the public to avoid the counterfeit they render a service to the public and our profession. The increased mail which our secretary says she has handled since this system was adopted is an evidence that the public appreciates this service and does not particularly enjoy being humbugged.

In line with this was the action of the trustees in causing a directory of the members of this Association to be published. It too is an educational factor. It might be well for the information of the public to publish a roster of all reputable practitioners but it would make a bulky document and the Association could not well be expected to assume the expense of printing, what in effect is, the business card of those Osteopaths who contribute neither money nor influence to its support.

Could it be made known to every one looking for the services of an Osteopath who the legitimate practitioners are, our duty would be done. I think we would all agree that the person who deliberately chooses an ignorant and incompetent physician is acting within his right and none of us would favor coercing him into employing any particular

person or particular school. I do maintain, however, that our duty to ourselves, our science, and the public compels us to place within the reach of all, so far as possible, the means of knowing who are qualified according to the standards set by this Association. Our duty is to educate. The responsibility then rests with the people themselves.

Now, in regard to how this should be done: In the first place, all of the educational work thus far inaugurated is good and should be continued, and I would urge upon the members a hearty support of the official organ. I am convinced that its circulation among the best people of these communities where fakirs abound and where a reputable Osteopath is located would be sufficient to open the eyes of that community. But, in as much as a great many fakirs are in communities where no Osteopath is located there would be no one who would care to take the trouble and expense of doing it, therefore I think in such cases this work should be taken up by the officers of the Association. Let them, or one of them, say the secretary, whenever it comes to their knowledge that a fakir is operating in a certain locality, insert a notice in the leading newspaper of that community stating in effect that the AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF OSTEOPATHY has prescribed certain qualifications which they deem it necessary every practitioner should possess; that there are many pseudo-Osteopaths in the country who do not measure up to that standard, and that in protection of the public and to prevent their science from being falsely represented they feel it incumbent upon them to advise those contemplating securing the services of an Osteopath to inquire of the secretary (giving the address of that officer) as to the qualifications of

any one claiming to be a practitioner of that science. I believe this authoritative announcement would result in the discomfiture of the pretender by acquainting the people with his lack of qualification.

Some might favor giving the name of the quack in this notice, that would be a question for the Association to determine. Personally, I would prefer that our organization should not have even the appearance of an engine of oppression, but that it should be in reality an Association of education. I would not have it involved in endless and vexatious legal controversies, but would rather see it en-

tirely free from the entanglements of the law. Let us keep out of the courts so long as we can, and when we are brought there by that spirit of intolerance and oppression which animates some of our competitors and which has brought us there in the past, let us fight with all the power and energy of which we are capable.

It seems to me that our highest mission as an organization is to educate the people to the truths of our science in all the ways that it is possible. If this is done in some such way as I have suggested, I believe that the problem of "How to Deal with the Fake Osteopath" will in a great measure be solved.

THE OSTEOPATHIC SITUATION AND NEEDS.

REPORTED BY REPRESENTATIVE OSTEOPATHS IN THE
FIELD OF PRACTICE.

The Situation and Needs in Massachusetts.

Jenness D. Wheeler, D. O., 405 Mar-
borough, Boston, Mass.

THE Osteopathic situation and needs in Massachusetts are the same I think, as in many other states. The medical profession here have business of their own, and attend to it, and do not worry themselves about what osteopaths are doing, in fact they send us patients. We have treated the daughters of three prominent physicians in our office, no doubt others have done the same. The law in this State is the same as in many others, reading as follows

"Whoever, not being registered, shall advertise, or hold himself out to the public as a physician or surgeon in the commonwealth by appending to his name "M. D." or using the title of doctor, meaning thereby a doctor of medicine, shall be punished by a fine not less than

one hundred dollars, nor more than five hundred dollars for each offense, or by imprisonment in jail for three months.

What we need most is a law to protect us from the quack osteopaths. At present it has not been proven that we come under the medical act. Every osteopathist who has taken the examination has done so of his own free will, and I believe they all feel they were fairly treated by the Board of Registration. I think there have been five from the American School, three from the Boston Institute, and one from the Northern who have successfully passed. I am sure that a full term graduate from any of the best colleges could pass the examination.

The Board here recognizes proficiency rather than any school. As was shown in the last yearly report, 28 per cent. from the three old schools were rejected. The science of Osteopathy is slowly but

surely gaining ground in Massachusetts by the good work of those in the field. At present I do not think we have many quacks, not enough to hurt the science, but the danger lies in what may come, there not being any law to protect the true Osteopaths. Our other danger, I believe, is the tendency of some to mix up our science with the isms of the day, not keeping it pure as taught by the founder, that "Grand Old Man" Dr. Andrew Taylor Still. Osteopathy can stand alone and unadulterated in this State or any other. If a person wants Osteopathy they want it pure; if they want a mixture, they should stay away from an Osteopathist, as they can get that kind better from some one else.

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The Situation in Nebraska.

Chas. W. Little, D. O., Lincoln, Neb.

THE situation in Nebraska at the present time is very favorable to Osteopathy, and our needs at the present are not many. Those in practice throughout the state report business good and improving, and our enemies seem to be "resting on their oars."

When the subject of discouraging competition arises the average M. D. has to "try for himself and see how it goes." He seems determined to shut his eyes to the failures of his brethren in other localities where they have tried to drive the Osteopath out, and in turn makes a record of foolishly butting his head against the stone wall of public sentiment.

In the fall of '98, soon after I located in Lincoln, I was visited by an attorney who announced that he represented the medical association of the city, and that he had come to kindly warn me to

leave the state instanter, for I would be arrested several hundred times, more or less, should I be found within the borders of the state after the expiration of the three days of grace. I urged him to begin his driving process without delay, and assured him that I would do all in my power to help him make a strong case against me. I felt called upon, however, to predict that the time would come when he and the bulldozers he represented would regret that they had undertaken to drive Osteopaths from Nebraska. This prediction has been long since fulfilled. As I fully expected, I was beaten in the district court when my trial came up a year later. The case is now in the Supreme Court, and we expect to get a decision—and a favorable one—about the first of October. Three months later the legislature convenes, and the appeal we will make for recognition will not go unheeded. Since my arrest in '98 I have continued my work as before, and though I could have been arrested repeatedly, no one has manifested any inclination to again file complaint. The physicians are bowing to public sentiment, which is favorable to Osteopathy. In Omaha, Dr. M. E. Donohue made a gallant fight and won, the judge holding that the medical law is defective. The district judge before whom my case was tried, could not see the defect in the law, and the jury had no alternative but to convict me. They did their duty in the easiest possible manner, cutting off fifteen of the sixteen counts in the complaint in order to reduce the fine to the minimum—\$50. At Wayne, Dr. J. F. Bumpus was ordered to leave, but refused to do so. His case is waiting the decision of mine in the higher court. In a recent editorial the Lincoln News declared that the medical man of Nebraska had too big a task on

their hands in the attempt to make the "irregulars" leave the field. and stated also that the M. D.'s had "lain down." The News has heretofore seemed to favor the medicine men. Some eighteen months ago there was formed in Nebraska a State Medical League, for the avowed purpose of "ridding the state of Osteopaths, Christian Scientists and other quacks." Up to date apparently all that has been done by the association has been to meet several times to discuss the question: "How shall we get the Osteopaths out of our preserves?"

The entrance of the reputable Osteopath has been an encouragement to the so-called Osteopath, the Divine Healer, the Magnetic Healer and others, and so many have located within the borders of the state that Dr. Crummer, the secretary of the State Board of Health, is threatened with nervous prostration.

A good, strong law recognizing Osteopathy is our greatest need, and we feel confident that such a law will come into existence in the Nebraska statutes next winter.

I desire to return thanks to the A. A. A. O., and to the S. S. Still College of Osteopathy for financial aid in my fight in the Supreme Court.

CHAS. W. LITTLE.

Lincoln, Neb., June 30, 1900.

The Osteopathic Situation in Kentucky.

H. E. Nelson, D. O., Louisville, Ky.

THE Osteopathic situation in Kentucky is not altogether satisfactory but it is very much better than it has ever been, for, by the decision of the Court of Appeals, in the case of Nelson vs. State Board of Health the Court held: that the "practice of Osteopathy" was

not the "practice of medicine" within the meaning of the statute" and thus put the Osteopaths on a footing of their own in no way restricted by the Board of Health.

The Board had previously tried to bring us under their jurisdiction by the passage of a statute reading: "No one shall practice medicine or attempt to practice medicine in any of its branches or treat or attempt to treat a sick or afflicted person by any system or method whatsoever without having complied with the conditions of the medical law," which specifies only graduates in medicine. Under this act they attempted to prosecute all Osteopaths for practicing medicine without a license, which resulted in my case against the State Board.

I quote from the opinion of the Court of Appeals, in part, as follows: "The obvious purpose of the act under consideration is to secure to those who believe in the efficacy of medicines, the ministrations of educated men, thus preventing fraud and imposition and to protect society from the evils which result from the administration of potent drugs by the ignorant and unskillful. * * *"

The thing in the mind of the legislature and declared by the act to be unlawful is "for any person to practice medicine in any of its branches within the limits of this State" without a certificate from the State Board of Health, and as the Board is only authorized to issue a certificate to a reputable physician having a diploma from a reputable medical college, the penalties provided by the last section of the act must be limited to that which is referred to in the title and previous section—the practice of medicine in some of its branches in the State; and the words, "Who shall practice medicine or attempt to practice medicine in any of its branches, or who shall treat or attempt to treat any sick or afflicted

person by any system or method whatsoever, for reward or compensation, without first complying with the conditions of this law," must be held in reference to physicians or surgeons belonging to some school or system of medicine practicing or desiring to practice medicine in this State, as provided by the preceding section. Otherwise this section would be made to include those not provided for in the preceding section, and the effect of the act would be not to protect the people of this State from the unscientific practice of medicine, but to deny to the sick all ministrations not gratuitous unless by registered physicians. Thus construed, the act would be for the protection rather of the doctors of the State than of the people, and we are of the opinion that such a construction would do violence to the actual intention of the legislature.

Appellant may not prescribe or administer medicine; but so long as he confines himself to Osteopathy, kneading and manipulating the body, without the use of medicine or surgical appliances, he violates no law and appellee should not molest him.

The injunction was granted and made perpetual, and the only objection we have to offer is that it throws the State wide open to all who choose to call themselves Osteopaths, and the legitimate practitioner will be constantly worried by men who have attended a quick ageing school or diploma mill, of which there are several, and there is no way to protect the public from the impositions that will be perpetrated upon it by men of this character.

We cannot expect to accomplish everything that is desirable at once, and this wrong can, and I feel sure will, be corrected by legislation. In consultation with good attorneys I have considered the various laws governing Osteopathy, and have

arrived at the conclusion that the best form of law is one that establishes an osteopathic board whose duty it shall be to consider applications and issue license to those desiring to practice Osteopathy in the State, provided they shall have a diploma from a reputable and legally chartered osteopathic school whose curriculum shall embrace anatomy, physiology, chemistry, pathology, and the principles and practice of Osteopathy, and who has been in personal attendance at said school for at least four terms of five months each, or by passing a satisfactory practical examination before said board.

This board could be made self-sustaining by making the fee for registration at least twenty dollars, and if this were done there could certainly be no complaint made by the legislature about the expense of maintaining an extra board. An act like this would certainly meet with the approbation of the Medical Board, for I can see no logical objection that could be offered by them to a measure that is intended to protect the people against the experimental practice of the ignorant and unskillful.

For some unaccountable reason Kentucky seems to be the stamping-ground for all the pseudo-osteopathic practitioners in the country, and each of the diploma mills is well represented. They have been a great detriment to the legitimate Osteopaths, and, through their ignorance and "patent medicine advertising" methods, have done a great deal to lower the standing of our science in the eyes of educated and refined people, and have made it very difficult for us to convince the legislature that Osteopathy is based on scientific principles and requires a thorough course of study to perfect one for its successful practice.

An M. D. in Lexington, who is also a graduate of a certain pseudo-

osteopathic school in Missouri with which you are all familiar, said in a newspaper interview that Osteopathy was a necessary adjunct to medicine, and, as it could be mastered in two months' study, every practitioner of medicine should take the course. Another M. D. in Louisville is advertising quick cures by Osteopathy and that he will treat all cases for half price during the summer months.

This humbuggery, together with the venomous attitude of the State Board of Health, has made the osteopathic situation in Kentucky anything but pleasant, but since the decision of the Court of Appeals has freed us from the opposition of the latter, and our successful work has appealed to the reason and good judgment of the majority of the people, I hope and expect to be able to report to you at our next annual meeting that every legitimate Osteopath in the State is registered and practicing on an equal footing with the members of the medical profession, and that there is not a fake Osteopath within the limits of the State. The time was when the odds were against us, but they are in our favor now and we "intend to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer.

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The Illinois Situation.

J. H. Sullivan, D. O., 504 Masonic Temple, Chicago, Ill.

A FEW words regarding the general situation may not be amiss before discussing the standing of our Science in a localized area. Many of us do not appear to fully realize the stir we are creating in the country at large.

Observing the Osteopathic situation in the various States, a varied set of conditions present themselves. In some we are cor-

dially welcomed; others have instituted special legislation in our behalf notably Vermont; in others the registration of our diplomas is allowed, while in many places we practice simply through pressure of public opinion, the statutes being against us. In old Kentucky the medical trust seeks to imbue the people with the idea that an osteopathic treatment must necessarily be followed by a funeral. In Illinois we have passed all through these stages and are out in the open, breathing freely after our struggles. Looking further down the line, we behold Dr. Hardin in Georgia, single-handed, fighting the medical octopus and causing it to gasp for breath. We all surely say, More power to him!

The general situation is good. Those of us whose privilege it is to go back in thought only six or seven short years can appreciate fully the marvelous advance of our Science. In these few years it has outgrown a home of a few rooms in a small house in Kirksville to its present grand proportions. In those days should any one have had the hardihood—had the prophetic spirit moved him to picturing present conditions—he would have been deemed irresponsible indeed. True we may complain of very harsh treatment, but consideration of this short lapse of time makes us modify our resentment. Consider the abyss to which we consign medicine. Don't censure the medicine man too harshly; change places with him, and what would our feelings be, pray? Rome was not built in a day, nor shall we say this of our Science, though in truth it might almost be said of it in the light of its wonderful strides.

Our battles might be likened to the historic engagement between David and the Giant Goliath, his highness being typified by the Medical Powers and our weapon

consisting simply of our two good hands and a table on which to make the imprint of Nature's reliability in contrast to the exploded drug theories. These hands and the table have already stirred the medicos to a new line of thought. We should indeed feel proud of our mission in the world, even should we in only one instance have demonstrated the truth in osteopathic procedure, for may not that one instance be like unto the vibration causing the ripple on the water—when will it cease?

My special function here being to talk of things in Illinois, I will endeavor to interest you on that line.

The event of greatest importance to the Illinois Osteopath occurred at the last legislative meeting two years ago. At that time two friends and I presented ourselves before Gov. Tanner and the situation was gone over thoroughly. The governor was cognizant of the good in Osteopathy and said so, but said we would have to submit to control as others were doing. Referring to his veto of two years before he said the bill at that time was not what we needed, and particularly not what he wanted. He gave us a respectful hearing, and concluded by advising us to go down stairs and compromise with the State Board or give up our fight for recognition in Illinois. I found Dr. Egan, the secretary of the board, very hostile and determined to wipe us out, if possible, if we persisted in our demands for special legislation. He had been nursing his wrath for two years, claiming he had been ignored at that time. He was supported in his animosity by the united medical association in the State. We made the claim to him that we were sure of our ground in both Houses, but of course had to have the governor, which meant, of course, the endorsement of Dr.

Egan, the secretary. Dr. Egan said he was sure we had the Senate and was just as sure we would fall down in the House. After careful investigation, I found him correct. The House was waiting for us with a club; at least many were, particularly the members from the Chicago district, who would not even listen to one word for Osteopathy. You see the only thing was a compromise. To begin with, I had our bill passed in the Senate to show our strength. Now the medical forces had a pet measure pending which they wanted passed providing for examination for all who came in from outside the State. They did not favor us at all in this, so I simply stated that they would have to provide for us, or we would beat them in the Senate. This brought the compromise. At first they wanted to name the branches we were to be examined in, but they had to eliminate that, and finally, after much trouble, the clause governing us was accepted as follows:

*** "The examination of those desiring to practice any other system of treating human ailments without the use of drugs, internal or external, nor surgery, shall be of a character sufficiently strict to test their qualifications as practitioners. ***"

Now generally speaking the Osteopath is happy in Illinois. We claim that the licensed Osteopath in our State commands more respect than elsewhere. Why? Because the great State by examination has found him what he claims to be. True no mention is made of Osteopathy, neither does the law mention the other pathies. Though, to be sure, they do examine in the practice of these branches those who seek to come in from outside, but our friends advised us to creep before we walked. We feel well treated, and look for added privileges in per-

haps another year.

We control the charlatan, the fake rubber who until lately claimed their work was osteopathic. They have dwindled very perceptibly. The situation in our State has done much for the practice all over the country outside the State, for it has shown us to be intelligent, to an average degree at least—not freaks possessed of a wild hallucination, as our poor rivals picture when asked about us.

Occasionally we are told that Dr. So and So has said we were not scientific, in such case it has been a pleasure to show our license with the comment that we have submitted to an examination, from which our medical friend would flee as from a wild steer.

The greatest obstacle to the proper advancement of our Science in Illinois has been the work done by the graduates of one particular diploma joint of which we all know and have been ashamed; this mill has been a canker sore in our vitals, a Judas in our midst, so to speak. This concern has conferred the degree D. O., on a few M. D.'s for a consideration, sent the little book showing what move to give for Pott's Disease and all other troubles, and of course you know the rest. These M. D.'s hurt us greatly, and their medical diploma protects them; of course anybody may take the State examination, but none but the graduate from an Osteopathic school has as yet taken it—a compliment to our institutions.

Many of the leading physicians of Chicago now approve of our work, of course they have been forced to this position in many instances by the attitude of some patient whose favor they are obliged to court; aside from this our standing the examination has made them give us credit for the possession of anatomical knowledge, and with this they very kindly say we

should be able to do some good.

Our Science has its own standing in Illinois, a separate basis, this is what we have most desired, so we have little fear for the future. One feature of the law recently criticised is that forbidding our calling ourselves Doctor, this, however, cannot prevent our patients so calling us, which they do daily. If this is a serious objection, then the law is not open to much criticism. The people have begun to waver very seriously in their allegiance to the doctor of other days; have tired of his methods, and are turning full of hope toward the east—to the rising osteopathic sun with its shining rays; they appreciate the Osteopath pure and simple, they know us as "Osteopaths," and are welcoming us gladly with our truths and promises of a better era in the field of Therapeutics.

We are full of hope for the future in our state, and wish our sister States the good fortune of achieving for Osteopathy as substantial footing as we have in ours, which, as you may know, the hotbed of medicine in this country. As before stated, we enjoy the friendship of leading doctors. Recently we cured a bad case of Herpes or Zona, sent by this doctor, much to his surprise. We are now treating a very bad case of Rhinitis, the turbinated bones having been sawed, as usual without good effect. We have cured many cases such as these; have always been considerate of the feelings of these doctors and have thereby gained their good will and added to the stability of our structure.

It doesn't pay to abuse the other fellow. Don't claim to know it all, for you certainly do not; don't throw mud or you will soil yourself, don't feel badly if they say of you that you are not scholarly, not refined, etc. Lincoln split rails for a living; Garfield drove mules

on a tow-path, and these things only served as crucibles out of which came their distinction and immortality.

Osteopathic Situation and Needs in Ohio.

M. F. Hulett, D. O., Columbus, O.

THE Osteopaths of Ohio occupy a very peculiar position. They are (with apologies for the use of a paraphrase on an old and popular saying) between the State Medical Board of Examination and the deep blue sea; and if you will allow me the liberty, I will prophesy that, with the continued encouragement received at the hands of the A. A. A. O., and from our friends generally, in Ohio and abroad, we will not be forced by them, into the sea.

We occupy indeed a unique position, in that Osteopathy is the only school of therapeutics mentioned in the Ohio statutes, and yet according to that statute, there is not an Osteopath in the state, nor in the United States, nor on the face of the earth.

The legal struggle for Osteopathic existence in Ohio began in the early part of 1897, when one of our number was arrested on the old and familiar medical board charge of "practicing medicine without a license." I have not time to go into the details of this prosecution, but suffice it to say that in November last the Supreme Court of the State declared that the practice of Osteopathy is not the practice of medicine, as intended by the creators of the medical statute then in force. The definition of the "practice of medicine" as defined in that law is:

"Any person shall be regarded as practicing medicine or surgery within the meaning of this act who shall append the letters M. D. or M. B. to his name, or for a fee prescribe, direct or recommend for the use of any person, any drug or medicine, or any other agency for the treatment ***** of disease."

From this time on until the assembling of the legislature in January, rumors were rife that it was the intent of the medical fraternity to present a new bill that would exclude our practice. This rumor culminated in the introduction about the middle of the session of what is known as the "Love Medical Bill" which, after some amendments, became a law, effective July 1st.

This law provides for a board of seven medical examiners, to be appointed by the Governor, "who shall be physicians in good standing in their profession, representation to be given schools of practice in the State as nearly as possible in proportion to their numerical strength in the State, but no one school to have a majority of the whole board." The board is given power to examine all applicants to practice medicine. "IN ALL ITS BRANCHES," in the following subjects: Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, Chemistry, Materia Medica, and Therapeutics, the principles and practice of medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics, "and such other subjects as the board may require." The applicant shall be "examined in materia medica and therapeutics and the principles and practice of medicine of the school of medicine in which he desires to practice, by the member or members of the board representing such school." Before an applicant is eligible to apply for examination, he must present to the board, among other credentials, a diploma from some legally chartered medical institution in the United States in good standing at the time of issuing such diploma, as defined by the board.

The definition of the practice of medicine in *this* act is:

"Any person shall be regarded as practicing medicine or surgery or midwifery within the meaning of this act who shall

use the words or letters, 'Professor,' Dr., Doctor, M. D., or M. B., or any other title in connection with the name, which in any way represents him as engaged in the practice of medicine or surgery or midwifery, in any of its branches, or who shall prescribe, or who shall recommend for a fee for like use any drug or medicine, appliance, application, operation or treatment, of whatever nature, for the cure of * * * disease."

It was the intent of the framers of this bill to give no recognition in any way to Osteopathy. But when their bill reached the senate, they saw it was *necessary*, in order to secure its passage. So, by representing that a compromise had been reached with the Osteopaths, the following amendment was hastily pushed through :

"That this act shall not apply to any Osteopath who holds a diploma from a legally chartered and regularly conducted school of Osteopathy in good standing as such, wherein the course of instruction requires at least four terms of five months each, in FOUR SEPARATE YEARS; providing that the said Osteopath shall pass an examination satisfactory to the State board of medical registration and examination in the following subjects : Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Physical Diagnosis. Providing that the said Osteopath shall not be granted the privilege of administering drugs nor of performing major or operative surgery."

It is needless to add that no Osteopath ever sanctioned this amendment.

This in brief is the law in Ohio now, so far as it concerns us. As to our relation to it, it will take the courts to determine. The supreme court decision of last fall is in our favor, and may possibly have an influence ; but that decision cannot be relied on entirely, as it settled the matter only so far as the old law was concerned.

The law mentions Osteopathy as a "school of practice," but no Osteopath is on the board, therefore the board is illegally organized.

The law provides for certificates

from the board and the registration of all who are qualified to practice medicine in all its branches. It makes no such provision for issuing certificates to those who comply with the Osteopathic amendment. *They* are simply exempted from the provisions of the act. A discrimination.

The law recognizes Osteopathy as a *system*, yet imposes conditions which cannot be reached by any Osteopath.

There is a penalty for violations of the sections governing those who practice "*medicine in any of its branches*," but none for those who violate the *Osteopathic clause*.

The law defines "practice of medicine" so as to include *any method of treatment "of whatever nature."* Whether or not this will hold I am not prepared to say. A lawyer to whom I recently referred the matter, answered by saying that "if the legislature should say a horse is a cow, that would not make it so." The same idea has been judicially approved by the Kentucky Court of Appeals in the Dr. Nelson case. The Kentucky law says any one "who shall treat or attempt to treat any sick or afflicted person by any system or method whatsoever" shall come within the meaning of the law. But the court held that it was the intent of the legislators to protect the citizens against ignorant administrations of drugs and medicines. If construed otherwise, says the court, the act would be "for the protection rather of the doctors of the State than of the people." There are many other good points in the Kentucky decision that I should like to mention as applicable to the Ohio law, but fear that I may be entering the domain of that staunch advocate of Osteopathic rights, who has won

laurels for our profession in his fight and victory, who comes after me on the program.

Just one more point in this connection: It is a well-established axiom in law that no act is constitutional which does not bear in its title a clear indication of the contents of the act; and there can be but one subject matter in each law. The title of the Ohio medical law is "An act to regulate the practice of medicine," while the text clearly indicates that the act attempts to regulate both the practice of medicine and the practice of Osteopathy. That the two are not synonymous is clearly indicated by the statutes of Vermont, Missouri, Michigan, Iowa, North and South Dakota, and Tennessee; also by supreme court decisions in Ohio and Kentucky, and similar decisions in a number of other States by inferior courts.

As to our needs, little may be said at this time. Osteopathic fakes are pretty generally leaving the State. They have no backing, therefore fear the law, thus disposing of one important question. For the future we will continue to strive to win recognition on nothing but merit. We have just two contests—the greater of which is to conquer disease. This done, the lesser—medical board persecution—becomes less, and more easily accomplished.

The Ohio medical press has given us some attention, and, although unwilling to accord us a royal welcome, condescends to acknowledge our presence. It also very pointedly expresses its opinion of our relation to the law. The May issue of the Columbus *Medical Journal* says:

"In the closing days of the session a bill was passed through the House providing a State Board of Osteopathic Examiners. Such a law would be disastrous to the interests of higher medical education. * * *

We regard it as a lamentable commentary

upon the intelligence of the State that quasi recognition has been given to this delusion by mentioning its meaningless name in a law. Yet safeguards are thrown about it by giving the State Medical Board power of examination in several important branches, and also of determining whether the schools of Osteopathy are regularly conducted and in good standing."

In the April issue of the Cleveland *Journal of Medicine* we find this choice bit of sarcasm:

"The Osteopaths having developed considerable strength in the Senate, apparently sufficient to block the passage of the bill, some concessions to them were necessary. * * * There will be no objection raised by the medical profession to these provisions (the Osteopathic amendment) regulating the practice of Osteopathy. If any man, after having had adequate training, finds his head so muddled as to be captured by the empty phrases of the Osteopaths, the profession cannot object if he publicly admits his mental confusion."

The *Journal of the American Medical Association* doubts "whether the Kirksville, Mo., institution will turn out many qualified practitioners for Ohio, unless it mends its ways."

These are the conditions that now confront us. The law makes unjust and impossible requirements. We cannot meet them. We must therefore do one of two things—withdraw from the State or fight. It would be inconvenient and very humiliating to do the former. If we leave, the possibilities are that Osteopathy could not again enter until a modification of the law. This could not be done for at least two years. And if we left the State, there are probably few would take sufficient interest to insist that the legislature give us a consideration. But it may entail great hardships to stay and fight. At least it is not a pleasant task to be continually resisting State laws. But we can find some consolation in referring back to the hardships borne by him who made it possible for this

convention to assemble—the founder of the school of therapeutics that we are here to perpetuate, and in comparison with which our struggles are petty indeed. Osteopathy has never been guilty of showing the white weather in a righteous cause, and the Ohio members of the profession are not the ones to establish such a cowardly precedent. Therefore, fellow Osteopaths, with these facts before us, we, the Osteopaths of Ohio, have unanimously agreed to stand our ground, and will fight for that recognition which we believe our science deserves. For this right we will contest, if forced to it, to the high courts of the land.

A Description.

THIS new philosophy is based upon the most perfect attainable knowledge of anatomy, with an advanced understanding of the relations existing between the different parts of the human body, and the fact that the all-wise Master Mechanic failed not to place within the machinery of man every force essential to physical health, save that which the natural appetites and sensations will demand.

“Upon this line, with an accurate knowledge of minute anatomy, Osteopathy deals with the human body as an intricate, though perfectly constructed machine, which, if kept in proper adjustment, nourished and cared for, will run smoothly into a ripe and useful old age.

“As long as the human machine is in order, like the locomotive or any other mechanical contrivance, it will perform the functions for which it was intended. When every part of the machine is adjusted and in harmony, health will hold dominion over the human organism by laws as natural and

immutable as the law of gravitation.

“Every living organism has within it, as its special gift from God, the power to manufacture and prepare all the chemical, materials and forces needed to build and rebuild itself, together with all the machinery and apparatus required to do this work in the most perfect manner, producing the only substance that can be utilized in the economy of that individual. No material, other than food and water, taken in satisfaction of the demands of the appetite (not perverted taste) can be introduced from the outside without detriment.

“When the machine fails to properly perform its work, the Osteopath seeks a remedy as would the engineer if his engine was out of order. He must know the anatomy and the physiological use of every part, just as the engineer or machinist understands an engine; and he ‘treats’ the diseased human body as the engineer treats his engine when it fails to perform the functions for which it was constructed. When each organ and part of the human system is provided with an obstructed nerve and blood supply, it will do its full share of the work, and the normal condition of health, toward which all vitality is constantly striving, will be restored and maintained.”

A. T. STILLÉ.

What is Health?

IT is a condition of soundness of any living organism; that state in which all the natural functions are performed freely and without any discomfort. Health is both a science and an art. It is founded on knowledge. It may take little knowledge to be well, but it will require knowledge, sooner or later to keep well.

The American Osteopath.

(MONTHLY.)

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Volume Two.

THE AMERICAN OSTEOPATH (Monthly) begins its second volume with this issue; our work in the future, as in the past, will be to publish articles of educational value; articles which will best give the people an idea of what *Osteopathy* is and what *Osteopathy* is doing to relieve suffering humanity. No attempt will be made to cover any but the popular field in this magazine.

Report of A. A. A. O. Meeting

THE report of the A. A. A. O. Convention held at Chattanooga, Tenn., July 5-7, will be held in the September issue of THE AMERICAN OSTEOPATH (Quarterly).

Clinical Reports.

WE solicit reports of your cases for publication in our Clinical Department. If you have an interesting case, send us a report of it.

State Associations.

THERE cannot be too much stress laid on the importance of thorough organization in the different States. Much more valuable service can be rendered in organization than without it. If you are practicing in a State, be identified with its interests as far

as they affect the practice of Osteopathy.

In legislative and judicial struggles nothing is so effective as a strong organization presenting the claims of Osteopathy. Don't wait for a few to fight the battles and then step in and reap the benefits without sharing a part of the expense and time which made it possible for you to practice, unmolested within the State.

The Condition in Georgia.

OUR friend the enemy seems determined to make the most of it in Georgia and do all the hard fighting possible before the meeting of the next legislature in that State.

Here is what they have Dr. John Swanson charged with:

That the said John Swanson, in the said county of Fulton, on the 21st day of March, 1900, did for compensation gift or bonus receive, and with the intent of receiving compensation, gift or bonus, practice medicine in said county of Fulton without being authorized so to do by a diploma from an incorporated Medical College, Medical School or University, and without having attended one or more full terms at a regularly chartered medical college, and without having been in the active practice of medicine since the year 1866, and without having been by law authorized to practice medicine in 1866, and without having been licensed by any medical board in said State of Georgia, in that the said John Swanson, on the said date, did suggest, recommend or prescribe for the use of R. S. Ozlum a course of medical treatment consisting of massage and nerve manipulation, for the cure, relief or palliation of pain in the kidneys and stomach trouble and indigestion, diseases of the body, after having received, or with the intent of receiving therefor, either directly or indirectly, compensation, gift or bonus.

From this charge it will be readily seen that there are some doctors in Georgia who are either ignorant of the simplest conception of what Osteopathy is, or they are the greatest manufacturers of ignorance in the country. We do not believe that the good people of Georgia will allow another passing of the legislature without enacting laws that will place the Science of Osteopathy on an equal footing with other schools of medicine.

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 ✓ Patterson, Lillibelle L. (N199)*Colfax, Wash.
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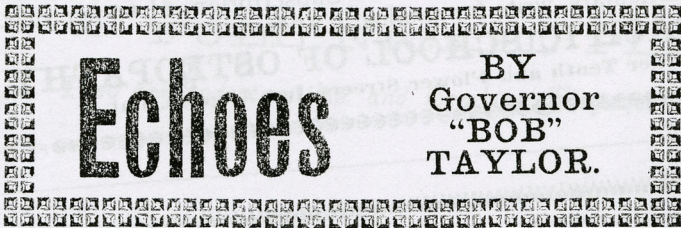
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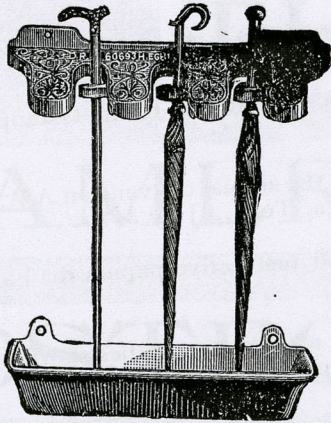
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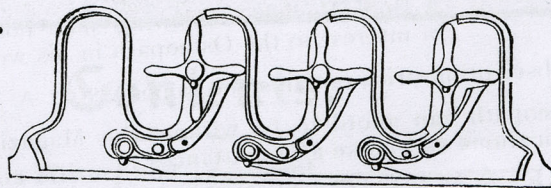
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