ty-fifth anniversary of the graduation of the first class of trained nurses at Bellevue Hospital. The exercises were held in the large ball-room of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, and there were present over eight hundred nurses, representing twenty hospitals in the various boroughs of the city. Bishop Henry C. Potter presided. At the time the school was organized, when but six properly qualified women could be induced to enter it, the service in the public hospitals was in a deplorable condition, and most of the nurses were prisoners from the institutions on Blackwell's Island. Dr. W. Gill Wylie, who was then just completing his term as house-surgeon at Bellevue, became much interested in the project of a training school, and offered to go to Europe, at his own expense, to examine the methods of nursing in vogue there. He returned with an encouraging report and a long letter from Florence Nightingale, containing many valuable suggestions, and the class was started.

GIFTS TO NEW YORK UNIVERSITY. — At a meeting of the Council of the University of the City of New York, held March 6th, Chancellor MacCracken reported gifts of money amounting to nearly \$50,000 by six persons, who wished their names withheld; \$20,000 of the sum thus contributed, it was announced, is to be devoted to the School of Applied Science, and a portion of the remainder is to go to the medical department.

KIPLING'S PHYSICIANS CONGRATULATED. — During the above meeting a resolution was adopted extending the congratulations of the Council to the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. E. G. Janeway, and his associate in the Faculty, Dr. Theodore Dunham, "upon the success which has attended their efforts to save to the cause of letters and of mankind the life of Rudyard Kipling."

THE LOOMIS LABORATORY IN COURT. — On March 7th the taking of testimony was begun before Justice Truax, in the Supreme Court, in the suit brought by the Medical College Laboratory of the City of New York (commonly known as the Loomis Laboratory) against the New York University for the recovery of the building and apparatus in East Twenty-sixth Street, valued at about \$230,000, held by the defendants. These, it is claimed, were conveyed under representations as to their future management made by Chancellor Henry M. MacCracken, of the University, which, it is alleged, have not been carried out.

THE NEW BUILDING FOR CORNELL MEDICAL SCHOOL. — In the meanwhile there have been filed at the Department of Buildings the final drawings and specifications of the elaborate new building for the medical department of Cornell University, most of the professors in which are formally connected with the New York University Medical School. The Cornell School, it will be remembered, is now carrying on its work in the Loomis Laboratory and the former Bellevue College building.

THE HUNDRED YEAR CLUB. — A preliminary meeting of the newly organized "Hundred Year Club," having for its object the study of longevity, was held on March 7th. In its prospectus it is stated that its aims are: (1) To collect and maintain a library to contain everything of value written on the subject. (2) To concentrate the experience of mature analytical minds, particularly those who have attained excessive longevity, and learn the lessons therefrom. (3) To secure the essence of scientific knowledge in plain language, that the wonderful progress being made in this direction may be utilized by the people.

DEATH OF MICHAEL KELLY. — On March 6th died the oldest patient in Bellevue Hospital, or, more correctly, the patient who had been longest an inmate there. He was admitted on April 23, 1874, when he was forty years old. His disease was molluscum fibrosum, of such extent that the principal tumor is said to have weighed about twelve pounds.

MARGARET FAHNESTOCK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES. — A nurses' training school, to be known as the Margaret Fahnestock Training School for Nurses, is about to be erected in connection with the New York Post-Graduate Hospital. The building, affording accommodations for about seventy nurses, will be the gift of Mr. H. C. Fahnestock — its estimated cost is \$100,000.

A PHYSICIAN KILLED BY A GUN-SHOT ACCIDENT. — Dr. William G. Kahle, of Franklin, N. Y., attached to the Hospital Corps of the 202d Regiment, New York Volunteers, was killed by a gun-shot accident at Guanajay, Pinar del Rio, on March 7th. He was thirty-five years of age, and a brother of Dr. Benton T. Kahle, of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Miscellany.

A REMONSTRANCE AGAINST THE RECOGNITION OF "OSTEOPATHY,"

SUBMITTED BY DR. FRANK W. DRAPER, OF BOSTON, TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, MARCH 8, 1899.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee: —

The bill which is the subject and occasion of this hearing is entitled "An Act to authorize the practice of Osteopathy."

Through some misadventure, a part of the title has been omitted. If it were all there, as it ought to be, it would read: "An Act to authorize the Practice of Osteopathy, to impair the Usefulness of the Statutes relating to Medical Practice, and to lower the Standard of Medical Qualifications in this Commonwealth."

I do not care to define or to analyze the motives which have actuated the petitioners for this legislation, nor am I inclined to use weapons of sarcasm or ridicule against the strange doctrines which have brought together this large assembly of credulous disciples. I am here for another purpose. It is because I recognize the bad effects of any such legislation as that which is asked for that I am before you, with these gentlemen with whom I am associated, to protest and remonstrate, with all the emphasis of which I

am capable, against any favorable consideration of this bill by you as a committee, or by the Legislature.

My reasons for this remonstrance are easily understood and are readily stated.

Osteopathy, — what is it? Perhaps you, Mr. Chairman, and you, Gentlemen of the Committee, know. Diligent search has failed to find for me any nearer approach to a definition than that prodigious gem of a sentence which you have already heard, but which will bear repetition: —

"Osteopathy is that science which consists of such exact, exhaustive, and verifiable knowledge of the structure and functions of the human mechanism, anatomical, physiological, and psychological, including the chemistry and physics of its known elements, as has made discoverable certain organic laws and remedial resources, within the body itself, by which nature, under the scientific treatment peculiar to Osteopathic practice, apart from all ordinary methods of extraneous, artificial, or medicinal stimulation, and in harmonious accord with its own mechanical principles, molecular activities, and metabolic processes, may recover from displacements, disorganizations, derangements, and consequent disease, and regain its normal equilibrium of form and function in health and strength."—*Boston Osteopath*, February, 1899.

In other words, after this excursion in a circle, Osteopathy is — Osteopathy, — and it is nothing else.

But whatever Osteopathy is or is not, a law like that which is outlined in this bill is clearly unnecessary and superfluous, from the point of Osteopathy itself. If this new thing is what it claims to be, if it is able to treat successfully the diseases which are named in its published promises, it does not need this recognition and special indulgence. If it has the health-giving and death-preventing principle which is alleged, it does not require any action by any legislature to develop it and give it nurture. If there is any virtue in it, the general medical profession will soon find it out and adopt it for the benefit of mankind, as it has taken vaccination, anesthesia, antiseptics, electricity and antitoxin, — none of which asked or required legislative help.

But if Osteopathy is not endowed with this vital principle, if, on the other hand, it is a business enterprise devised and carried on for the money that is in it, using a name as a trade-mark to deceive the credulous and tempt the unwary, seeking legislative recognition for a purely selfish end, then you, gentlemen, will know how to answer a petition which is as adroit as it is audacious.

The bill represents objectionable legislation from another point of view. It is a violation of the traditional and habitual practice in Massachusetts, in that it seeks to secure special favors for a class or sect. It is an attempt to bring in class-legislation and to obtain special privileges; and, if I know anything of the history of our Commonwealth, the sentiment of the people has always been against such a policy.

Think for a moment what would happen if you recommend the passage of this bill and by some ill chance the Legislature should enact it. Do you not see what a reprehensible precedent you have established? You have opened the door of opportunity to psychopaths, vivopaths, hydro-paths and cosmopaths, and these halls will be invaded winter after winter with one tribe after another of pretenders who have just as good and just as strong claims as these Osteopaths. You have no right, Gentlemen of the Committee, to impose such a bequest upon your successors.

Then, too, this bill proposes to recognize a low and cheap grade of medical education, which is a shameful proposition in these days of enlightened progress. Such a scheme alone should kill this petition. You are asked to stamp with your approval a diploma which represents "short measure" in medical education, in both time and in quality of instruction. Compare the twenty months of Osteopathic study mentioned in the bill with the thirty-six months distributed over four full years which the fully organized medical school of to-day requires of its students. Compare the courses of instruction in the Osteopathic Institute with the courses in any chartered medical school in this Commonwealth and see if the result of the comparison justifies you in lowering the standard of medical teaching in this Commonwealth.

Finally, any such legislation as this bill proposes will inevitably weaken and impair the usefulness of the law

relating to registration in medicine. To seek to secure a representative on the Board of Registration because he is an Osteopath is a proposition too absurd to be considered. To have an examination devised with exemptions specially ordered in behalf of Osteopathy is equally preposterous and dangerous. The spirit and fundamental purpose of registration is to afford to the people of Massachusetts a guaranty, moderate and admittedly inadequate, it is true, but still a guaranty, that those who take upon themselves the responsibility of caring for sick or injured persons are not unworthy of confidence and are not ignorant to the point of untrustworthiness. Massachusetts, through her commission, asks of men and women who desire to be physicians, "Do you know enough for this? Are you fitted for this task? Are your qualifications adequate?" This is the simple practical test; and there is no reason under heaven, and this hearing has not suggested one, why Osteopaths should be exempt from its provisions. After the test has been met and the candidate for medical practice has satisfied the Board of Registration that he has the requisite qualifications, the State does not care what measures or methods he uses in the treatment of his cases. Every one of the more than 4,000 registered physicians in this State may use Osteopathy to his heart's content and no one will interfere. But if you recognize Osteopaths as a class; if you set them apart with your approval; if you permit them to practise under less rigid and exacting tests than the great body of medical men and women in Massachusetts, you damage irreparably the statute which is the public's only defence against quackery and pretension, and you admit the thin edge of the wedge which will work its destruction.

Gentlemen, the Commonwealth has no use for any school, class, sect or party of doctors who find it necessary to label themselves with a trade-mark to distinguish them as superior beings and to allure patients to their offices. For her and for the great body of the people the word *physician* is enough for, every-day purpose. By far the larger part of medical men to-day, and I am proud to be of their number, get on perfectly well without resorting to any "pathy" whatsoever. They reject and repudiate even such terms as *allopath* and *allopathy* as meaningless nicknames. And they ask you in the name of qualified medical men, of progressive medical education, and of all people who need medical aid, not to grant this petition to the latest addition to the prolific brood of pathies, but to insist that these petitioners shall submit themselves, as physicians, to the full tests which the State desires to make of all physicians.

Obituary.

DR. HENRY P. QUINCY.

We regret to record the death of Dr. Henry P. Quincy, which occurred at his home, in Boston, on Saturday last, March 11th. He had suffered from ill health for several months, and had, in consequence, retired from his active pursuits. The immediate cause of death was an apoplectic stroke two days previous, which left him unconscious until the end. Dr. Quincy was well known to the students of the Harvard Medical School, having taught histology for the past twenty years without interruption. At the beginning of this long period of service, histology was barely recognized, the study was not required, the only equipment was a few inferior microscopes, and his only workplace was a corner hospitably allotted to him in the physiological laboratory of the old building on North Grove Street. When he retired, a few months since, he left a large, well-equipped laboratory; giving a required course in histology, attended by over two hundred students. The Medical School is indebted to him for long, faithful and valuable service.

Dr. Quincy was born in Boston, October 28, 1838, and