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THE
AMERICAN
OSTEOPATH
DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF THE
OSTEOPATHIC PROFESSION.

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KIRKSVILLE, MO.

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$2.00 A YEAR.
THE AMERICAN OSTEOPATH,
DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF THE
OSTEOPATHIC PROFESSION.

HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT
OF
OSTEOPATHY,
TOGETHER WITH A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF
DR. ANDREW TAYLOR STILL,
ITS FOUNDER.

DIRECTORY OF GRADUATES
Entitled to the degree of D. O. (Diplomate in Osteopathy), giving date of
graduation, from what school and where graduate is located.

A copy of the law in each State where Osteopathy is legalized.

THE AMERICAN OSTEOPATH CO.
KIRKSVILLE, MO.
HISTORY OF OSTEOPATHY.

Since man began to feel the blight of sickness, he has asked himself how he can be healed. The curing of diseases was one among the first arts of the ancients, and long before Aesculapius the art of healing by drugs was practised in Egypt.

The man who is ill, be it chronic or acute, has one chief desire and that is to be healed. No greater improvement has been made in any of the sciences in the last fifty years than in the science of healing. Old remedies such as leeching and bleeding have become antiquated and new remedies less repulsive and more effective have been sought and discovered.

Dr. Flint was in his time regarded as the head of the medical profession. On one occasion in an address to a graduating class of medical students, he made this remark:

"Young doctors give too much medicine. A doctor will give more medicine the first year than in the next three, he will give more the fifth year than the next ten. The better doctor he becomes the less he gives, and I suppose if we would become perfect doctors, we would give none."

That remark was said in all sincerity there can be no doubt, but that Dr. Flint, great man as he was, had never entertained a single thought of the true method of healing, can be no question.

At the time the great doctor and teacher was giving his ideas to his students in regard to the failure of medicines to heal diseases, there was a man delving into the science of nature, and by careful study and demonstration proving to his own mind that nature's method of treatment was the only true means of healing all diseases. He came not from New York, London, Paris, nor Berlin. The seat of wisdom is not confined to any one locality, but extends over the universe.

This patient, plodding, toiling investigator pursued his studies on the wind-swept plains of Kansas, and rich fields of Missouri. He was amply fitted by nature and study for an explorer in sciences. He was a medical doctor of the old school, has been an army surgeon, but was bound by no traditions or set principles of any school or university. He had tried drugs in all cases, and failed to receive satisfactory results. Then like Hahnemann, he came to doubt old methods. He saw that the world had been going wrong, and that he must cut loose from all the past, and blaze out a new road in the great forest of science.

To do this he discarded all text-books on the theory and practice of medicine, and began to study from nature. Indian bodies furnished him subjects for dissection and study, and in his lonely cabin and the dreary waste of prairie he studied anatomy as it had never been studied before. From his researches he evolved two great principles, health and disease. He realized more than ever that health is the natural condition of man, and disease the unnatural. Then how was health to be reached and perpetuated.

Having naturally a mechanical turn of mind, he came to look upon the human body as a machine, the perfected work of God, and he reasoned that when the Creator made this machine he made no mistake. When the great machine was free and in good working order it was in health, and would run its natural course of time, the full journey of life.

When the farmer's machinery got out of repair it was taken to a skilled mechanic who straightened the bent shafts, and mended the broken and strained parts. Then when he saw a limb broken and saw how nature welded the broken bones it set him to thinking that might not this wonderful human machine be mended by a mechanic skilled in the art? One who knew all the muscles, nerves, nerve centers, and how to control the blood supply and action of the heart?
theory grew with him and became a passion—the one desire of his soul.

This man was Dr. Andrew T. Still. Never was a discoverer more reviled and ridiculed, when he began to publicly advocate his science.

He went to Baldwin, Kansas, where he had lived and been regarded as one of the most successful doctors of his time. But when he began to advocate his new theories, he was met with scoff and ridicule. Even some of his relatives were of the opinion that he was losing his mind and that he ought to be “looked after.”

Leaving Kansas he wandered into Missouri, the state where his young days had been spent, and became an itinerant healer, traveling from place to place, advocating his new theories and practicing when he could find patients willing to submit to his treatment, which was not often.

The birth of Osteopathy may be said to be in 1872, though the science had been growing in the mind of Dr. Still for many years. It was that year that he severed his connection with drugs and became an Osteopath. The science had not yet been named, though he was practicing it, or rather testing and proving its wonderful merits.

How some of those wonderful truths came to his mind it is difficult to say. They were so far beyond human reason, that they almost seem like inspiration. He could reason that a healthy blood supply and correct action of the heart would produce health, but how to bring about these desired actions in an abnormal state, was difficult to reason out.

One day while carrying a poor woman’s child that was suffering in the last stages of flux, he found the bowels cold and the back hot. He reasoned that the abnormal heat in one place and cold in another was caused by the unequal distribution of blood, and began to manipulate to drive the blood forward and distribute it, and to his great surprise effected an almost immediate cure. From that day to this Dr. Still and his followers, fully educated in the science of Osteopathy, have defied flux in any and every form.

That same year he successfully treated a score of cases, and yet was looked upon as a quack and charlatan, whose prime object was to swindle the afflicted of the little means they had. This was said of him notwithstanding most of his good services were rendered free of charge.

Dr. Still had given up all for Osteopathy. He who had once been fairly well off, was now poor and despaired; a wanderer going about doing good. He had left his family in Kansas, and it was seldom he could procure the necessary money to support them, but he never lost faith in the science which was to immortalize him for all time.

His practice being among the poor and ignorant who could neither understand the valuable truths he expounded, nor repay him for the blessings they received at his hands, made his researches after science dreary indeed. His were dark days then. From town to town he wandered telling of his wonderful science, listened to by few, and believed by still less.

Even those who were healed by Osteopathy under the treatment of its discoverer Dr. A. T. Still, being ignorant and incapable of comprehending the wonderful science, attributed his healing power not to the art of healing, but to magnetism, spiritualism or some supernatural power, while some were convinced it was of the devil.

How like old Morse’s experience with the telegraph. His discovery was wholly contrary to all recognized science and many believed that his wonderful work was of the devil, yet to-day it is one of the simple achievements of science.

At Macon, Mo., Dr. Still halted among some humble friends, who had learned to love the grand man, who seemed to live only to do good. Then one night he was sent for, to enter an aristocratic home. Not to come in broad day by the front door, but to be slipped in like a poor relation of whom they were ashamed through the kitchen door. He found a little girl suffering and dying of diphtheria. By the bedside stood her weeping mother. The medical doctor, a noble man, had exhausted his skill and as the child grew worse and worse, had left the house that he might not see her die.

The Osteopath was slipped in the back way as a last resort to save the child from the grave. He went over it, and by applying his hands to its neck soon discovered the swollen veins and muscles. Was there hope—or, could the daring child be saved?

Peace, be still!

Then the Osteopath by that wonderful knowledge of anatomy which all true Osteopaths must have, began to manipulate the human machine, as any skilful mechanic might. He had learned that with a knowledge of osteopathy he could lay his hand upon the patient burning with fever and control that fever, or the heart beating just as a skilful engineer may control the speed of a locomotive.

He did not take out his watch and hold the patient’s wrist, or look at her tongue, nor look wise. He took off his coat as if he was going to work, or fight. In truth he was going to fight disease and death.

Diphtheria vanished, fled before that conqueror of disease, and the Osteopath was let quietly out of the house as if he had been a thief. He was a thief. He had cheated death and stolen a little life from the destroying angel to give back to loving parents. For this he had to steal out of the house, for the aristocratic friends, though he had saved the life of their child, were ashamed to let the world know that that old quack had been at their home.

Dr. Still located at Kirksville, Mo., where for a long time he and his family lived in a small house in the eastern part of the town. He was yet an object of ridicule and his only patients were among the ignorant and poor as usual, who were unable to pay him for his services. For many years after he located at Kirksville he continued to wander about from town to town treating such patients as he could, doing much work and receiving small pay, yet more than in the beginning of his career. His three sons, Charles E., Harry and Herman Still, were instructed by their father and became valuable assistants. They went with him sometimes in his journeys. The ignorant yet wondered how he could produce health without giving medicine. A wash-woman finding a hole in the side of one of the doctor’s shirts which she was laundering was quite sure she had solved the problem, and gave it out to her friends that the mystery of the doctor’s cure was that he made a magnetic battery in his bosom, and while pretending to work upon them he gave out a health restoring stream of electricity which healed the patient. Absurd as this story was it found believers.

Dr. Still in his autobiography tells an amusing story which illustrates the strange ideas people at that time had on the subject of Osteopathy. One day while he was at Hannibal a lady elegantly dressed and displaying evidence of intelligence came to interview the doctor, with the intention of obtaining the source of this wonderful power. After asking him many questions, she at last said:

“I want you to tell me the honest truth; isn’t this mostly hypnotism?”

To which the doctor with a peculiar smile answered:

“Yes, madam, I set seventeen hips in one day.”

For a long time in the early history of Osteopathy the opinion prevailed that it was merely a bonesetting science and was confined to that branch of the healing art only. People who were partially convinced of the merits of Osteopathy were often heard to say:

“If I had any dislocations or broken bones I would have an Osteopath, but in case of fever, lung or liver troubles I will still depend on old theories and
remedies." Osteopathy was all the while proving perfect master of mumps, measles, whooping cough, fevers, flux, and in fact all diseases which fly at the advance of a well-regulated system of attack.

Osteopathy is a regulator which regulates, sets right and puts in running order that excellent machine the human body. It is as capable of curing all acute as well as chronic diseases. It straightens the crooked spine, it gives life to the paralyzed limbs, it regulates the palpitating heart, it gives life to a torpid liver, it revives and heals diseased kidneys, and by regulating a healthy blood-supply, drives out disease and restores health once more to power in the human body, proving equally as effective in acute as in chronic diseases.

For a long time Dr. Still remained in Kirksville which, though it was then but a small village, hardly knew him. Occasionally a sad-eyed man with solemn kindly mien was seen going about the town, but no one thought for a moment that he was a philosopher. "Who is he?" "Oh, that is a crank called Dr. Still." "What does he do?" "Oh, he professes to cure people by laying on of hands." "Does he do any good?" "No."

Thus affairs went on for a long time, when the change began to come. The servants who had witnessed the powers of Dr. Still in treating diseases among them, told their mistresses. They were just a little credulous and occasionally when one had a head-ache she would secretly submit to his treatment for head-ache. This she kept to herself until she learned that some other lady of her own race having been snatched of truth struggling through ignorance and superstition to the light of recognition. Though "crushed to earth," truth in this case rose finally triumphant in the end.

Dr. Still admits that in the beginning of his career he had very little thought of making Osteopathy a science to be studied by all the remainder of the world. The founding of a new school of philosophy was the least of his thoughts.

It may be that reforms always come about unconsciously. The man who starts out to reform and make himself a name seldom accomplishes anything. It is the man who starts out to develop truth, to advocate right, who in the end becomes a reformer.

Dr. Still engaged Dr. William Smith, a graduate of Edinburgh Medical college to teach his sons anatomy, preparatory to his giving them more complete instructions in Osteopathy. A few friends persuaded Dr. Still to permit them to enter the class and study the wonderful science.

He was thus persuaded into taking a class in Osteopathy, which led to a foundation of the American School of Osteopathy. Those who studied the science wanted to graduate, and those graduating wanted some evidence of their having taken the course. Diplomas were necessary to graduates, and diplomas could only be issued from a school.

Then the doctor was persuaded to procure a charter from the State of Missouri for the American School of Osteopathy, the first and for a long time the only school of the kind in the world. Medical doctors and those who had never studied medicine were among the new classes.

Dr. Still soon realized that it would be necessary to have a regular course of study in anatomy, physiology, histology, chemistry, osteopathic therapeutics and all the various branches which are essential to the study.

The school was opened in a frame building of three or four rooms which was also used as an infirmary. This was soon found to be too small, and a large building of brick and stone was erected. This was still too small, and an addition added. Students and patients coming by the hundreds, it was the highest breach of medical etiquette for Osteopaths to come along and cure them. They had no objection to people being cured if it was done in their way, but they would put up with no new-fangled notions which had so little respect for their learned opinions as to save the lives of people when they said they must die.

But Osteopathy despite all the persecutions it met, continued to spread and gain in strength and power. Day by day it advanced, and those hungering and thirsting for the truth went to the fountain to drink of those waters.

Every term the classes graduated grew larger and more and more enthusiastic. They began to spread all over the United States and territories, into Canada and foreign lands. They invaded the isles of the Pacific.

When the medical doctors tried to prevent their teaching and healing by legislation, they only advertised them the more. States began to adopt Osteopathic laws. The first to legally adopt Osteopathy was the stern old rock.
ripped New England State of Vermont. Missouri, the Dakotas, Iowa and other States quickly passed laws permitting the practice, and in other states by decisions of the supreme court, legalized the practice.

Other schools of Osteopathy were established and now there is a regular college organization, "The Associated Colleges of Osteopathy," maintaining a uniform curriculum and time of attendance, pressing onward to the highest standard of excellence. Graduates from these colleges have formed an organization, "The American Association for the Advancement of Osteopathy," the membership of which is nearly or quite five hundred, each working to advance the profession of Osteopathy.

The science is growing, is spreading, all emanating from one fountain, Dr. A. T. Still, who still lives in Kirksville, and is yet the President of the American School of Osteopathy. The world is just awaking to the blessings of this, nature's true system of healing, the wonders of which are not yet, half known.

DR. A. T. STILL.

The science of Osteopathy and Dr. A. T. Still its discoverer are so closely related that the history of one and biography of the other can hardly be written separately. Dr. Still is a native of Virginia. His father, Dr. Abram Still, was a Methodist preacher, and when Dr. Andrew T. Still was quite young was sent to a missionary to Tennessee.

Before the subject of this brief sketch had passed beyond the stage of childhood to that of boyhood, his father was again removed to North Missouri as a missionary among the Indians and frontiersmen.

The child of a Methodist minister in the work is very apt to be shifted over a considerable territory, much of which is not altogether pleasant, for it is a well-known fact Methodist preachers are not allowed to remain in one place until they stagnate.

North Missouri at the time Reverend Abram Still removed to it, was almost a wilderness. The minister was not only a preacher but a medical doctor as well. He and his wife being educated people proceeded to educate their children. Andrew T. Still was sent to a school and soon acquired the rudiments of education.

A close observer by nature, and an explorer by instinct, he became a scientist. One peculiar trait about the youth which was so essential to him in the discovery and development of his new science, was he would not believe any assertion of a scientific nature until proved by his own investigation. Simply because chemists said hydrogen two parts and oxygen one made water, was not enough to convince his skeptical mind until he had verified the assertion by his own combination.

When Dr. Still was a young man he studied medicine and was admitted to practice. His father removed to Kansas and he went with him, and helped in the construction and organization of a college at Baldwin.

Cholera broke out among the Indians and Dr. Still proved very successful in treating it. When Fremont went west was in need of a surgeon, Dr. Still was appointed to the position of the army surgeon. He says:

"I served as a surgeon under Fremont, and I know what I am talking about when I say that a surgeon's outfit was complete when it contained calomel, quinine, whiskey, opium, rags and knife."

He was elected a member to the Kansas Legislature during the dark days of the border trouble and on several occasions came very nearly losing his life. Dr. Still was a warm friend of Jim Lane, John Brown and other free soil agitators.

On one occasion while going to see a patient he came upon a party of pro-slavery men drilling. He dismounted and telling them if they did not do better than that Jim Lane would demolish them, proceeded to drill himself.

On another occasion while going home from a sick bed, one night, he learned that some of the proslavery men were watching the bridge to intercept him. He went two or three miles above where the creek was spanned by a log the top of which had been hewn to a flat surface.

Dr. Still rode a mule, which being a very sure-footed animal he rode across the creek on the log. When he told his friends this story they doubted it until they saw the foot-prints of the mule on the log.

When the war broke out Dr. Still enlisted in the 9th Kansas cavalry and served a few months in the border warfare between Kansas and Missouri. He was afterward made Major of the 21st Kansas Regiment which in 1864 went over into Missouri, then the battle ground of the northwestern part of the seat of war.

Old "Pap" Price had invaded Missouri and making things warm. General Joe Shelby was in the western part of the state and Major Still's regiment gave him a running fight over about forty miles, but Price and Shelby escaped.

Then came the end of the war, and among others mustered out of service was Major Still. He was soon engaged in another warfare. A warfare against disease. He who had always taken more pleasure in healing wounds than making them began to study as none others had studied the art of healing.

To his great disappointment he found his old remedies fail. What would cure a certain kind of fever in one person failed in another, and often failed to cure the same person twice of the same disease. He began to lose faith in drugs. That loss of faith continued with the repeated failures. He became disgusted, and when spinal meningitis made such ravages in his own family he lost all faith in drugs. On page 99 of his autobiography he says:

"It was when I stood gazing upon three members of my family,—two of my own children and one adopted child,—all dead from the disease spinal meningitis, that I propounded to myself the serious question, In sickness has not God left man in a world of guessing? Guess what is the matter? What to give, and guess the result? And when dead, guess where he goes? I decided then that God was not a guessing God, but a God of truth."

At that time Dr. Still divorced himself from drugs. After all his own efforts and the efforts of three learned brothers in the medical field his children had died. Drugs were a failure.

It was then he began to study the human anatomy anew. Study it as he never had before. Indian graves furnished him with subjects for dissection. There on the wind-swept prairie in his lonely cabin he studied anatomy from nature's book. He was fettered by no traditions of old schools; he had cut loose from the past and as an explorer was free to get nearer to the truth. Nothing was accepted until proved.

A careful examination proved to his mind that the human body was strange and wonderfully made. That it was the most complete and perfect piece of machinery ever constructed and far beyond the skill of a finite hand. Only God could make such a perfect machine.

That machine if unabused would run through all time without an ache or a pain. By experiment he discovered that drugs given for diseases would rot the bones of the dead and he reasoned they might the living. He also reasoned that as no machinery made by man needed any drugs to keep it running, why should man, the most perfect of all machinery, need any.

When his watch would not run correctly, or at all, he took it to a watchmaker and noticed that he removed the foreign substance, or straightened the bent wheel; why not apply the same law to the machine man?

He learned how to control the blood supply and regulate the action of the
heart by stimulating or suppressing certain nerves or muscles. The great nerve centers he found controlling the entire human body and through them he could reach any part. He could resuscitate a torpid liver, he could stimulate weak kidneys, he could allay fever, and in fact remedy any ill that flesh is heir to.

We have shown the brief sketch of the history of Osteopathy, how the doctor's theories were received, and how hard he had to fight for recognition.

Dr. A.T. Still is a modest man. He does not claim to be wiser than any other, but says any one might have made the same discovery, had they got upon the same train of thought.

His manners are simple, plain and unassuming. The new comers at Kirksville are all anxious to see the "Old Doctor," as he is called to designate him from the younger Doctor Stills. When they meet him they find a kindly face, a smiling eye, and cheerful voice, but plain and common. His manner is so fatherly that among the students and graduates from his school he has been given by universal consent the appellation of "pap."

He is one of the remarkable men of the age, and when the names of our congressmen, senators and even presidents have been forgotten, the memory of A.T. Still will still be green in a world which his wisdom has blessed.

OSTEOPATHIC STATE LAWS.

States that Have Passed Favorable Statutes, Named in Order of Their Enactment.

It is a notable fact that nearly all the States that have enacted laws to protect the practice of Osteopathy, have done so as the outcome of oppressive measures against this new school of healing.

At first this would seem a rather queer state of affairs, but closer consideration develops the fact that the warm friends of Osteopathy, friends because of the benefits experienced or witnessed, came forward to present the claims of this new science and making earnest pleas that the means of obtaining relief from this source be not denied suffering humanity.

Then, too, the law-makers saw that it was not the people who were crying down this new science, and it was not the drug doctors who were being treated by the new school, so no doubt they reasoned: "If this thing is wrong and should be prohibited by law, it seems to us the reverse conditions should prevail themselves: the people who have had experience with and have been treated by this system should be the ones to cry it down, and the drug doctor who knows nothing about Osteopathy would be incapable of judging of its merits."

But the drug doctors were earnest and much interested in the welfare of the "dear people," saying: "We know all that there is to be known on the subject of health and disease, and the people are incapable of choosing their own physician."

"Whether you believe in taking poisonous drugs or not, you must do so according to our directions, and we appeal to this law-making body to bring you to time."

And the assemblies, believing (and they evidently believed as they voted) that if there is good and no harm in this system, let the people have it; they have the same right to choose their own physicians for their bodies as they have to choose a minister for their souls; and the action of the State Assemblies was so recorded.

VERMONT

Has the honor of enacting the first law to protect the practice of Osteopathy. The good work done by Dr. Geo. J. Helmer, the pioneer Osteopath in the East, caused prompt action to be taken in favor of the new science, as the bill was hardly twenty-four hours old before it had the Governor's signature. Passed by a viva voce vote Nov. 25, 1896; approved Nov. 24, 1896.


It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. It shall be lawful for the graduates and the holders of diplomas from the American School of Osteopathy at Kirksville, Missouri, to regularly chartered school under the laws of Missouri, to practice their art of healing in the State of Vermont.

MISSOURI

The birthplace of Osteopathy, was the next State to enact a law protecting the practice. However, Missouri made the first effort in 1895 to legalize this new science and passed a bill through both branches of the legislature, and, notwithstanding the overwhelming majority, Governor Stone vetoed it. Two years later another bill, House Bill No. 415, known as the Osteopathic Bill, was before the legislature and passed by another large majority.

In both these fights, no one deserves more credit than Arthur G. Hildreth, whose honest and painstaking explanations of the possibilities of Osteopathy won for the new science many staunch friends.

The official count of this vote was as follows: Senate—yeas, 26; nays, 3; absent with leave, 5. House—yeas, 101; nays, 16; absent, 18; absent with leave, 3; sick, 2. Bill approved by Gov. Lon V. Stephens, Mar. 4th, 1897.

An act declaring the treatment of diseases of the human body by the system, method or science commonly known as Osteopathy, and as taught and practiced by the American School of Osteopathy of Kirksville, Missouri, not to be the practice of medicine and surgery within the meaning of article 1, of chapter 110 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, 1889; and regulating and licensing the practice of Osteopathy in the state of Missouri, and fixing penalties for violation of the provisions of this act.

It is enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri as follows:
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lieving disease, with or without drugs, or by any manipulation by which any disease may be cured or alleviated.

NORTH DAKOTA

Was the third State to recognize the new practice by legislative enactment. Mrs. Helen de Lendrecie, of Fargo, had received vast benefits from Osteopathic treatment and when there was a movement on foot to prevent the Osteopaths from entering the State she went before the legislature single-handed and her earnest plea for the cause of justice and right turned defeat into victory.

The official count was as follows: Senate—ayes, 23; nays, 5; absent, 4; House—ayes, 43; nays, 16; absent, 3. The bill became a law July 1, 1897.

OSTEOPATHY.

Chapter 105. (S. B. 109.)

Practice of Osteopathy.

An Act Relating to the practice of Osteopathy in the State of North Dakota.

Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota, 1. Diploma must be recorded. Any person having a diploma regularly issued by the American School of Osteopathy, of Kirksville, Missouri, or any other legally chartered and regularly conducted school of Osteopathy, who shall have been in personal attendance as a student in such school for at least four terms of not less than five months each before graduating shall be authorized to treat diseases of the human body according to such system, after having filed such diploma for record with the clerk of the county court of the county in which such person proposes to practice, and having filed with such clerk an affidavit that the diploma is genuine, and that he or she is the person to whom the same was issued, and that all the provisions of this act were fully complied with before the issuance of such diploma; whereupon the clerk shall record such diploma in a book to be provided by him for that purpose, and shall endorse upon such diploma the date of filing and recording the same, for which he shall receive from that person a fee of one dollar.


Any person who shall practice or pretend or attempt to practice the system, method or science of Osteopathy in treating diseases of the human body without having complied with the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in the sum of not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars for each offense; provided that nothing in this act shall be construed as prohibiting any legally authorized practitioner of medicine or surgery in this state from curing or relieving diseases with or without drugs, or by any manipulation by which any disease may be cured or alleviated.

MICHIGAN

The fourth state to recognize Osteopathy, owes that recognition mainly to Governor Pingree, Postmaster Carroll, of Grand Rapids, and other influential citizens, who were friendly to the science because they had seen or experienced its benefits.

This is the official vote: Senate—ayes, 24; nays, 1; House—ayes, 72; nays, none. Bill was approved April 21, 1897.

An Act regulating and licensing the practice of Osteopathy in the State of Michigan.

Section 1. The people of the State of Michigan enact, that any person having a diploma regularly issued by the American School of Osteopathy, of Kirksville, Missouri, or any other legally chartered and regularly conducted school of Osteopathy, who shall have been in personal attendance as student of anatomy, physiology and diseases of the human structure, in such school, for at least four terms of not less than five months each, before graduation, shall be authorized to treat diseases of the human body according to such system, without the use of medicine or surgery, after having filed such diploma for record with the clerk of the county in which such person proposes to practice, and having filed with such clerk an affidavit that the diploma is genuine, and that he or she is the person to whom the same was issued, and that all the provisions of this act were fully complied with before the issuance of such diploma; whereupon the clerk shall record such diploma in a book to be provided by him for that purpose, and shall endorse upon such diploma the date of filing and recording the same, for which he shall receive from that person a fee of one dollar.

Section 2. Any person who shall practice or pretend or attempt to practice the system, method or science of Osteopathy in treating diseases of the human body, within this state, without having complied with the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in a sum of not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars for each offense: Provided, that nothing in this act shall be construed as prohibiting any legally authorized practitioner of medicine and surgery, or other persons in this state, from curing or relieving disease, with or without drugs, or by any manipulation by which any disease may be cured or alleviated.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

IOWA

Was the fifth state to legalize the practice of Osteopathy, and that law was brought about under rather peculiar circumstances. The Osteopaths had been practicing in Iowa, whose laws at the time were favorable only to the drug doctor, but to make themselves more secure and to be fully protected against the Osteopathic practitioner, the drug doctors of the State had a special act passed which made it next to impossible for any but the "elect" to use even any of the old and tried brain poultice and hot water remedies of our grandmothers. They went so far as to say that if Iowa let the Osteopathy practice in the State it would break up the practice of medicine, and besieged the assembly in the name of the poisons that had carried away thousands yearly not to change this time-honored custom. At that time there were but a handful of Osteopaths in Iowa, in fact but a handful anywhere, and they attempted no defense and left the State.

The people had become accustomed to the benefits of Osteopathy (and it may be of interest here to note that Iowa was third on the list in furnishing patients to the A. T. Still Infirmary at Kirksville, Mo., which is but a short distance from Iowa), and did not feel that they should be compelled to go to other states for that which they should have in their state, so the people rose up and demanded their rights under the constitution, the result of which was as follows:

Senate—ays, 27; nays, 20; absent or not voting, 3. House—ays, 51; nays, 30; absent or not voting, 18. Bill was approved March 31, '98.

In Iowa as in Missouri the new science is indebted to Dr. Hildreth for ably presenting the claims of Osteopathy.

An Act to regulate the practice of Osteopathy in the State of Iowa. (Amendatory to title XII, chapter 17, of the code, relating to the practice of medicine.)

Section 1. Any person holding a diploma from a legally incorporated and regularly conducted school of Osteopathy of good repute as such, and wherein the course of study comprises a term of at least twenty months or four terms of five months each, in actual attendance at such school, and shall include instructions in the following branches, to wit: Anatomy, physiology, chemistry, histology, pathology, gynecology, obstetrics and theory and practice of Osteopathy, shall upon the presentation of such diploma to the board of medical examiners and satisfying such board that he or she is the legal holder thereof, shall be granted by such board, a certificate permitting such person to practice Osteopathy in
the state of Iowa, upon payment to said board of a fee of twenty dollars, which certificate shall be recorded by the county clerk of the county in which the holder thereof desires to practice, for which he shall receive a fee of one dollar.

Sec. 2. The certificate provided for in the foregoing section, shall not authorize the holder thereof to prescribe or use drugs in his practice nor to perform major or operative surgery.

Sec. 3. Any person who for the purpose of securing such certificate shall falsely represent himself or herself to be the legal holder of any such diploma, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction be fined not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars.

Sec. 4. Any such certificate may be revoked by the state board of health upon satisfactory proof of fraudulent misrepresentation in procuring the same or for any violation of the provisions of the certificate and for any gross immorality by the holder thereof.

Sec. 5. The system, method or science of treating diseases of the human body commonly known as Osteopathy, is hereby declared to be the practice of medicine within the meaning of section 14, Chapter 53, of the laws of 1883, of the Territory of Dakota being Section 203 of the compiled laws.

Sec. 6. Any person practicing or attempting to practice Osteopathy without first having obtained and filed the certificate above provided for shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction be fined not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars.

Sec. 7. Any person practicing Osteopathy who violates the provisions of section 2 of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars and in addition to such fine have his or her certificate provided for in section one, revoked.

ILLINOIS.
A Bill
For an act to regulate the practice of Medicine in the State of Illinois, and to repeal an act therein named.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois represented in the General Assembly: That the State Board of Health shall organize within three months after the passage of this act; it shall procure a seal and shall receive through its secretary applications for certificates and examinations. The president and secretary shall have the authority to administer oaths, and the board to take testimony in all matters relating to its duties.

Section 2. No person shall hereafter begin the practice of medicine or any of the branches thereof, or midwifery, in this State without first applying for and obtaining a license from the State Board of Health to do so. Application shall be in writing, and shall be accompanied by the examination fee hereinafter specified, and with proof that the applicant is of good moral character. Applications from candidates who desire to practice medicine and surgery in all their branches shall be accompanied by the proof that the applicant is a graduate of a medical college or institution in good standing, as may be determined by the board. When the application aforesaid has been inspected by the board and found to comply with the foregoing provisions, the board shall notify the applicant to appear before it for examination, at the time and place mentioned in such notice. Examinations may be made in whole or in part in writing by the board, and shall be of a character sufficiently strict to test the qualifications of the candidate as a practitioner.

The examination of those who desire to practice midwifery with all the branches shall embrace those general subjects and topics, a knowledge of which is generally and commonly required of candidates for the degree of doctor of medicine, by reputable medical colleges in the United States. The examination of those who desire to practice midwifery shall be of such a character as to determine the qualification of the applicant to practice midwifery. The examination of those who desire to practice any other system or science of treating human ailments who do not use medicines internally or externally, and who do not practice operative surgery, shall be of a character sufficiently strict to test their qualifications as practitioners. All examinations provided for in this act shall be conducted under rules and regulations prescribed by the board, which shall provide for a fair and wholly impartial method of examination. Provided that graduates of legally chartered medical colleges in Illinois in good standing as may be deter-
mined by the board, may be granted certificates without examination.

Section 3. If the applicant successfully passes his examination or presents a diploma from a legally chartered medical college in Illinois in good standing, the board shall issue to such applicant a license authorizing him to practice medicine, midwifery, or other system of treating human ailments, as the case may be: Provided, that those who are authorized to practice other systems cannot use medicine internally or externally or perform surgical operations: Provided, further, that only those who are authorized to practice medicine and surgery in all their branches shall call or advertise themselves as physicians or doctors; and provided, further, that those who are authorized to practice midwifery shall not use any drug or medicine or attend other cases than labor. Such license shall be in such form as may be determined by the board, and in accordance with the provisions of this act: Provided, however, that any wilful violation on the part of an applicant of any of the rules and regulations of the board governing examinations shall be sufficient cause for the board to refuse to issue a license to such applicant. Such certificates shall be signed by all members of the board and attested by the secretary.

Section 4. Every person holding a certificate from the state board of health shall have it recorded in the office of the clerk of the county in which he resides or practices within three months from its date, and the date of recording shall be endorsed thereon. Until such certificate is recorded, as herein provided, the holder thereof shall not exercise any of the rights or privileges conferred therein. Any person practicing in another county shall record the certificate in like manner in the county in which he practices, and the holder of the certificate shall pay to the county clerk the usual fee for making the record. The county clerk shall keep, in a book provided for the purpose, a complete list of the certificates recorded by him, with the date of the issue of the certificate. The register of the county clerk shall be open to public inspection during business hours.

Section 5. The fees for examination and for a certificate shall be as follows: Ten (10) dollars for examination in medicine and surgery, and five (5) dollars for a certificate if issued. Five (5) dollars for an examination in midwifery, and three (3) dollars for a certificate if issued. For all other practitioners ten (10) dollars for an examination and five (5) dollars for a certificate if issued.

Section 6. The State board of health may refuse to issue the certificates provided for in this act to individuals who have been convicted of the practice of criminal abortion, or who have by false or fraudulent representation obtained or sought to obtain practice in their profession, or by false or fraudulent pretensions of their profession, have obtained or sought to obtain money or any other thing of value, or who advertise under names other than their own, or for any other unprofessional or dishonorable conduct, and the board may revoke such certificates for like causes. Provided, that no certificate shall be revoked until the holder or applicant shall be given a hearing before the board.

Section 7. Any person shall be regarded as practicing medicine without the meaning of this act, who shall treat or profess to treat, operate on or prescribe for any physical ailment or any physical injury to or deformity of another. Provided, that nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to the administration of domestic or family remedies in cases of emergency, or to the laws regulating the practice of dentistry or of pharmacy. And this act shall not apply to surgeons of the United States army, navy or marine hospital service in the discharge of their official duties, or to any person who ministers to or treats the sick or suffering by mental or spiritual means, with the use of any drug or material remedy.

Section 8. That any itinerant vendor of any drug, nostrum, ointment or appliance of any kind intended for the treatment of diseases or injury, who shall vend or sell any such drug, nostrum or appliance or who shall, by writing or printing, or any other method, profess to the public to cure or treat disease or deformity by any drug, nostrum or appliance, shall pay a license of twenty-five (25) dollars per month into the treasury of the board, to be collected by the board in the name of the people of the State of Illinois, for the use of said board. And it shall be lawful for the State board of health to issue such license on application made to such board, said license to be signed by the president of the board and attested by the secretary with the seal of the board; but said board may, for sufficient cause, refuse said license. And such itinerant vendor who shall vend or sell any such drug, ointment, nostrum, or appliance, or who shall, by writing or printing or any other method profess to cure or treat disease or deformity by any drug, nostrum or appliance without a license to do so, shall be deemed guilty of a violation of this section, and upon conviction shall be subject to the penalties hereinafter provided.

Section 9. Any person practicing medicine or surgery or treating human ailments in the State without a certificate issued by this board in compliance with the provisions of this act, shall for each and every instance of such practice or violation forfeit and pay to the people of the State of Illinois, for the use of the said board of health, the sum of one hundred (100) dollars for the first offense, and two hundred (200) dollars for each subsequent offense, the same to be recovered in an action of debt before any court of competent jurisdiction, and any person filing or attempting to file as his own the diploma or certificate of another, or a forged affidavit of identification, shall be guilty of a felony and upon conviction shall be subject to such fine and imprisonment as are made and provided by the statutes of the State for a crime of forgery. Provided, that this section shall not apply to physicians who hold unrevoked certificates from the State board of health issued prior to the time of the taking effect of this act.

Section 10. Upon conviction of either of the offenses mentioned in this act the court shall, as a part of the judgment, order that the defendant be committed to the common jail of the county until the fine and costs are paid, and upon failure to pay the same immediately the defendant shall be committed under said order for first offense not more than thirty (30) days, and for each subsequent offense not more than ninety days: provided, that either party may appeal in the same time and manner as appeals may be taken in other cases, except that where an appeal is prayed in behalf of the people, no appeal bond shall be required to be filed, whether the appeal be from a justice of the peace or from the county or circuit courts, or from the appellate court. But it shall be sufficient in behalf of the people of the State of Illinois, for the use of the State Board of Health, to pray an appeal and thereupon an appeal may be had without bond or security. On the 30th day of September of each year the State Board of Health shall make a report of its proceedings and of all money received and disbursed in the enforcement of this act and

Section 11. All funds in the treasury of the State Board of Health on the 30th day of September of each year which have been received in the enforcement of this act shall be paid by the board into the State treasury.

Section 12. An act to regulate the practice of medicine in the State of Illinois approved June 17, 1887, in force July 1, 1887, and all other acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.
TENNESSEE

Next recognized Osteopathy, making in all up to this time eight that belong to the “United States of Osteopathy.” This bill might be known as the “Friday Bill,” having passed the House Friday, April 7; the Senate, Friday, April 14th; the Governor signing it Friday, April 21st.

Credit for the passage of this bill is due mainly, Drs. E. H. and J. R. Shackelford, the pioneer Osteopaths in the State, R. H. Dudley, Mayor of Nashville, Ex-Gov. Robt. L. Taylor and many other friends of Osteopathy in Tennessee.

The official count is so near unanimous in both branches of the legislature that we might call it so.

AN ACT
Regulating the practice of Osteopathy in Tennessee:

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee that any person having a diploma regularly issued by the American School of Osteopathy at Kirksville, Mo., or any other legally chartered and regularly conducted school of Osteopathy, who shall have been in personal attendance as a student in such school for at least four terms of not less than five months each before graduation, shall be authorized to treat diseases of the human body according to said system, after having filed such diploma for record with the clerk of the County Court in which such person resides, and having filed with such clerk an affidavit that such diploma is genuine, and that he or she is the person to whom the same was issued, and that all the provisions of this act were complied with before the issuance of such diploma whereupon the clerk shall record such diploma in a book to be provided by him for that purpose, and shall endorse on such diploma the date of filing the same, for which he shall receive from such person a fee of $1.00.

Section 2. Be it further enacted that any person who shall attempt to practice or use the system, method or science of Osteopathy in treating diseases of the human body without having complied with the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof be fined in a sum not exceeding $100 for each offense, provided that nothing in this act shall be construed as prohibiting any legally authorized practitioner of medicine or surgery of this state from curing or relieving disease with or without drugs, or by any manipulation by which any disease may be cured or alleviated.

Section 3. Be it further enacted that this act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

TO THE PUBLIC.

If you need the services of any one in the healing art, of whatever school, it is of the greatest importance to you that you call some one that is competent to take charge of your case, as the best in any school is none too good when a man is sick. Osteopathy, by virtue of its marvelous cures has many pretenders. It is against this class of pretenders and fakirs that we wish to warn you.

If you or your friends are interested in Osteopathy send a two cent stamp for postage to The American Osteopath, Kirksville, Mo., and get a sample copy.

OSTEOPATHIC DIRECTORY.

Alphabetically Arranged According to Date of Graduation and Location.

NAME
Achorn, Ada A
Achorn, C. E
Agee, P. M
Albright, Grace
Alikire, J. W
Almmerman, Lou, †
Anderson, J. E
Archer, G. S
Ashlock, H. Thos
Ash, Mary E
Atty, Norman B
Bailey, H. E
Bailey, M. W
Bailey, James R
Baird, Frank H
Bailey, C. A. (M. D.)
Baker, Arthur D
Banning, J. W
Barnes, S. D
Barber, E. D
Barber, Helen
Beaven, Elmer H
Becker, Kathrine G
Beckham, J. A
Bell, Adeline
Beam, E. A
Bennis, J. B
Benham, Roy H
Ben, T. C
Bernard, Roy
Bernard, H. E
Beets, W. E
Bigby, Edgar O
Bird, Arthur
Blaser, Wm. O
Bodwell, D. M.
Bodwell, R. C
Bolles, Nettie H
Bolles, N. Alden
Bolles, Mary
Bowden, R. W

GRADUATED
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LOCATION
*Boston, Mass., 178 Huntington Ave.
*Boston, Mass., 178 Huntington Ave.
*Lexington, Mo.
*LaFayette, Ind.
*Portland, Oregon.
*Madisonville, Ky.
*Little Rock, Ark., 289 Masonic Tpl.
*Howard Lake, Minn.
*Burlington, Wis., Gill Blk.
*Burlington, Iowa, Tama Bldg.
*Chicago, Ill., McClurg Bldg.
*Kansas City, Mo., Hall Bldg.
*Kansas City, Mo., Hall Bldg.
*Idaho Springs, Colo.
*Mansfield, O., 160 Park Ave., W.
*Iowa Falls, Iowa, Ellsworth Blk.
*Winnebago City, Minn.
*Paris, Ky.
*Montpelier, Vt., 64 State St.
*St. Paul, Minn., 708 N. Y. Life Bldg.
*St. Paul, Minn., 708 N. Y. Life Bldg.
*Grand Forks, N. D.
*Centerville, Ia.
*Detroit, Mich., 504 Ferguson Bldg.
*Bethany, Mo.
*Monmouth, Ill.
*Rich Hill, Mo.
*Madison, Wis., Main & Carroll Sts.
*Cripple Creek, Colo., Collins Hotel.
*Waterloo, Ia., 222 W. 4th St.
*Denver, Colo., 882 E. Colfax Ave.
*Denver, Colo., 882 E. Colfax Ave.
*Denver, Colo., 882 E. Colfax Ave.
*Denver, Colo., 882 E. Colfax Ave.
*Denver, Colo., 882 E. Colfax Ave.
*Des Moines, Ia., 1422-30 W. Locust.
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<td>Bower, John H.</td>
<td>A. S. O. 6-99</td>
<td>*Manhattan, Kas.</td>
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The American Osteopath.

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*Began study under his father about 1885, before there was a school organized.
The American Osteopath.


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Parren, N. B.
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Rheem, L. M.
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Willis, A. G.

MORRIS.
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Tipper, T. J.

NORTHEI.FIELD.
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OWATONNA.
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ST. CLOUD.
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ST. PAUL.
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Parkhill, F. G.

TRACY.
Crawley, J. C.

WINNERAG0 CITY.
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WINONA.
Shepherd, B. P.

MISSOURI.

COINSVILLE.
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COLUMBIA.
Hester, J. M.

FULTON.
Wenger, H. U.

GALLATIN.
Pendleton, Gid H.

HANNIBAL.
Burton, J. C.

IRONTON.
Smith, Wm. J.

JOPLIN.
Seaman, W. J.

KANSAS CITY.
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Barber Helen.
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KIRKSVILLE.
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Laughlin, W. R.
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McCannell C. P.
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Still, Blanche.
Still, C. E.
Still, H. M.
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KIRKSVILLE.

LEWIS COUNTY.

LYONS.

MINNEAPOLIS.

MISSOURI.

MISSOURI.

MISSOURI.

MISSOURI.

NEBRASKA.

NEBRASKA.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

NEW JERSEY.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK.

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NEW YORK.

OHIO.

OHIO.

OHIO.

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OHIO.

OHIO.

OHIO.
YOUNGSTOWN.
Carlock, Chloë C.
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Schwartz, E. E.

OREGON.
EUGENE CITY.
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PORTLAND.
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Smith, L. B.
LeRoy.

PENNSYLVANIA.
ALLEGHENY.
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Turner, Thos. E.

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Matthews, S. C.

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Canton.
Eneboe, Lena.

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VonWelleslady, B.

HOT SPRINGS.
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Sceere, H. H.

GALVESTON.
King, A. M.

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NASHVILLE.
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SPRINGFIELD.
Goodrich, L. J.

TEXAS.
DALLAS.
Davis, F. S.

FORT WORTH.
Ray, T. L.

HOT SPRINGS.
Millikin, F. M.

CLARKSVILLE.
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CLARKSBURG.
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MASON.

WHEELING.
Doneghy, A. I.

WISCONSIN.
BURLINGTON.
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FORT ATKINSON.
Bailey, Jas. R.

JANESVILLE.
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Chase, L.

DOMINION OF CANADA.
WINNIPEG.
Hitchings, John R.

MANITOBA.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHNS.
Spangler, H. L.

WISCONSIN.

WATERTOWN.
McCoy, Chas. K.

WASHINGTON.
Seattle.

TACOMA.
Snell, Wm.

TACOMA.

WALLA WALLA.
Johnson, Robt. S.

WEST VIRGINIA.

CHARLESTON.
Kibler, J. W.

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OUR POSITION.

This publication is the outgrowth of what seemed a necessity from the standpoint of both the Osteopath and the patient who desires Osteopathic treatment.

It is the right that the Osteopath who has spen two years hard work in our Osteopathic colleges and after having received his diploma of qualification, should be placed before the public as a man or woman worthy of the profession he practices.

It is not right that the pretenders of Osteopathy, those who have found some one of the "same feather" to give them a "snap shot" course in Osteopathy, whose diplomas are "fixed" and "developed" with as much ease as the "Kodak" fiend develops his picture after the subject has been before the camera; it is not right, we say, that these people should be allowed to call themselves "Osteopaths from such and such a first class school" and the public have no means of knowing whether or not he is a fake and a fraud and not competent to fake charge of a case.

It is right that before buying a piece of goods the purchaser should have the right to see the trade mark that is registered on it, and it is equally true that any one who is sick has the right to know who it is that is to treat them, where he is from, whose trade mark he bears, whose diploma he possesses.

We do not agree with the drug doctor on therapeutics, but we have respect for him if he practices honestly what his diploma calls for; we have just as little respect for that kind of a pretender as any if he is not what he says he is—trying to practice something he knows nothing about, hiding under his diploma as an M. D. and trying to practice Osteopathy.

If the information The American Osteopath gives out will be the means of causing investigation, then we will feel truly that the enterprise was not started in vain.

The Osteopathic journals now in existence have a field of their own and the tilling of that field will not be interfered with by this magazine.

OUR PLAN.

It was intended at first, that this publication should be issued semi-annually, but since beginning the work many things have led us to believe that the best interest of the profession could be served by an issue at least four times a year, so instead of twice a year as first intended, The American Osteopath will be issued September, December, March and June.

The name carries with it the idea of a personality in the same sense one would speak of an American banker, as distinguished from one of any other nation; the American system, etc.; and Osteopathy being strictly American we thought it befitting to name a publication devoted to the American Osteopath that name.

The price of the originally intended publication was $2.00 a year, and notwithstanding the extra cost in getting out these extra issues the price will remain the same, and we will rely on the extra subscription list to make up for it.

It is our purpose to get out The American Osteopath in two forms.
general issue which goes to the general public for their information, this will contain history of Osteopathy, as rewritten from time to time, a short biography of Dr. Still, and any other reading of interest to the general public, and the directory of all the practicing Osteopaths, graduates from reputable schools. A professional issue which will contain all that the general issue contains and a section added, in which will be discussed matters strictly Osteopathic and will go only to the profession, as you know this latter class of work could not be done in the journals now published, as they all go to the general public and are all, but one, issued in the interest of some school or infirmary.

OUR PROPOSITION.

We have based our proposition on five hundred subscribers by the time our next issues goes to press, and here it is: fill out the inclosed blank, remit us money order for $2.00 and will mail you The American Osteopath for one year and send you four copies (general issue) of each issue besides. This gives you twenty copies a year, which if placed in the right manner will do a world of good. Look on the page headed “To the Public” and you will see that each general issue has an agreement to furnish other copies to those interested. Can you find an easier and cheaper way of letting the public know who are the genuine and who the pretenders? We think not.

THE ILLINOIS LAW.

In publishing the law in this State we do not feel that we are publishing a law which is of very great benefit to the Osteopathic profession. The May issue of the Journal of Osteopathy says: “Osteopathists who know the situation endorse the Illinois statute as better than any yet framed to authorize Osteopathic practice.” We fail to see how this law could be “better than any yet framed” when it takes away the whole foundation of Osteopathy, denies it the right it has as a distinct system of therapeutics. We claim that our method is distinctive and that there is reason for it and that we can vindicate it in therapeutics. What confidence could we have in Osteopathy if we could not go to clinic room and demonstrate the distinctive principles which we profess?

There are many bad features of the bill, but all others are of small consequence in comparison with the one feature which denies Osteopathy the right as a distinctive system.

TO THE PROFESSION.

With this issue we begin a publication covering a new field, and you can be of valuable service to us in the tilling of that field if you choose to do so. We ask you to look over the directory and if there is any mistake in the date of issuance of your diploma, or your location, write us by return mail, as we wish to revise the directory immediately before sending out the first issue as complete. The American Osteopath will be published September, December, March and June, so if you change your location write us on the 15th of the month preceding publication, as this is to your interest and costs you nothing.

We invite your criticisms of this publication, as we can serve you best if you tell us what you need. To those who have not yet subscribed for the magazine, we send only the general issue as a sample, the professional section, containing report of A. A. A. O. convention, report of the Associated Colleges, etc., being omitted.

Our columns will at all times be open for the discussion of matters in the interest of the profession.