

**TRANSACTIONS OF THE  
VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY  
1897. ANNUAL MEETING IN 1898  
AT BRATTLEBORO, OCT. 13TH  
AND 14TH**

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**VERMONT STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY**

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VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY  
1897. ANNUAL MEETING IN 1898  
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AND 14TH**



**TRANSACTIONS**

OF THE

**Vermont State Medical Society**

1897.

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**PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY.**

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**D. C. HAWLEY, M. D., Secretary.**

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**Annual Meeting in 1898 at Brattleboro, Oct. 13th and 14th.**

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**Note**—Each article published herein stands upon its own merits as the expression of its author's opinion, for which the Society does not hold itself responsible.

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TRANSACTIONS  
OF THE  
EIGHTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE  
Vermont State Medical Society

HELD IN  
St. Albans, October 14th and 15th, 1897.

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The Society convened in the City Hall in St. Albans, on Thursday, October 14th, and was called to order at 10.30 A. M. by the President, Dr. F. R. Stoddard of Shelburne. Prayer was offered by the Rev. C. S. Nutter of St. Albans.

PRAYER.

Oh, God! our Father, we reverently speak Thy name. We desire Thy blessing and benediction every day of our lives. We would acknowledge Thee in all our ways and pray Thee to direct our paths, and especially when we undertake any work of importance, we ask Thy guidance and blessing. We beseech Thee reveal Thy.

self unto us. Bless this society of physicians in their important business ; we pray that they may put their trust in Thee and that Thy benediction and blessing may be upon them in all their work and in their consultation as physicians. We pray that they may realize that Thou art their helper, and we pray that Thou wilt give them great success in their work. We ask Thy blessing upon the members of this association and upon the medical fraternity throughout the world. We thank Thee, O God, for the great progress that has been made of late years ; we thank Thee for the increased stock of wisdom Thou hast endowed them with, and we pray more and more that Thy blessing may be upon them and that more and more they may have victory in their work and success in their work, that they may be a blessing to their fellowmen. Direct us, O God, as members of the human family in our relations with one another, and when we come to close this earthly life, may it be one of our realities that we have been of help and service to our fellowmen in our day and generation. May we be able to look over the past with some degree of pleasure and look forward with Christian confidence and hope for the life immortal. We ask these things in the name of Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

The President—We have with us this morning a gentleman who has left his business to come up here and say a few words of welcome to the Society, as a representative of the City of St. Albans. It gives me pleasure to introduce the mayor of the city, Mr. Fuller C. Smith.



## REMARKS OF MAYOR SMITH.

*Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Vermont State Medical Society :*

The people of St. Albans, without a dissenting voice feel that some word of welcome should be extended to you who are gathered here in convention as members of the Vermont State Medical Society. Those of you who are more or less acquainted with our front door steps doubtless know that our latch-string is always out, but I may be permitted to say without undue praise that it is not often we have within our gates a body of men so distinguished the State over for ability in one of the grandest professions of the age, and one so progressive in its sphere of activity, as the Doctors of Medicine. It is not every day that St. Albans would welcome a counsel of Doctors,—that often means a last resort for relief in times of physical distress. But we shall endeavor to convince you before you go away that St. Albans is not sick. We welcome you to our streets, to our places of business, to our public buildings, to the homes of our clubs and fraternal organizations, and finally to our own firesides where the warmth of a generous personal welcome will make you feel that we have here a portion of the best there is of Vermont manhood and womanhood. I do not welcome you to the city in the spirit of barter or trade, or to overwhelm you with the sense of our importance as an industrial center, or to impress you with the greatness of our citizens. We make no claims to metropolitan greatness, but in business, in the arts and sciences and in literary and professional pursuits you will find our people abreast with the other people of the State. We do extend to you

a loyal handshake and greeting because in our simple way we are glad to have you among us for a few days or as long as you care to stay. The good physician is the good Samaritan; his services are not always to be reckoned in dollars and cents. "I was sick and ye ministered unto me," is often the only reward he has in return for his most anxious labor. As a citizen the good doctor is nearly always turned to as the helper of all and we have here in St. Albans members of your profession who possess in the fullest measure the esteem and confidence of all our people. This, in brief, is why we are glad to greet you and we sincerely trust your short stay here will convince you that deep in the hearts of our people is a lasting affection for the members of your profession. I thank you for the opportunity of greeting you in the city of St. Albans.

The President—Mr. Mayor, on behalf of the Society, I sincerely thank you for your cordial welcome, and we will endeavor to show you how well the physicians can appreciate such kindness as you have shown us.

The records of the last meeting were read by the Secretary and approved as read.

The Secretary, Dr. D. C. Hawley, presented his annual report, as follows :

*Mr. President and Members of the Vermont State Medical Society :*

Another year is passed, another mile-stone is reached and we are met for our eighty-fourth annual meeting.

It is on the whole a fair statement that the Society is in a prosperous condition.

Our membership is increasing, and we are accomplishing something every year for ourselves and for the public good.

There are a few points, none of them new, to which I wish to call your attention.

Our Transactions are now being published in more attractive and durable form than formerly and at a considerable increase in cost.

Further, many of our members are very careless in regard to the payment of dues.

As a result the treasury is so depleted that nearly every year a part of the cost of publication has to be carried over until the annual meeting and last year we were unable to publish the Transactions at all. This should not be, and the prompt payment of dues by every member would render it unnecessary. I would suggest that our by-laws be amended so that no member may receive the Transactions until his dues are paid for the fiscal year or years for which they are issued. This would necessitate the early payment of dues by all who wish the Transactions, as the Publication Committee could not issue a large number of extra copies, for those who might pay late.

On the subject of Medical Legislation, I will say that I believe every one feels the urgent necessity of a new Medical Practice Act. It is obviously necessary, however, that the Society know and formulate its wants on this subject before asking the Legislature to enact a suitable and acceptable law. A committee should, in my opinion, be appointed to draw up a medical practice act, of equal standard with the best now in force in other States, which should be approved by the Society and then placed