

**TRANSACTIONS OF THE MEDICAL AND  
CHIRURGICAL FACULTY OF THE STATE  
OF MARYLAND. ONE HUNDRED AND  
SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION HELD AT  
BALTIMORE, APRIL 26, 27, 28, 1904**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649489381

Transactions of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of the State of Maryland. One Hundred and Sixth Annual Session Held at Baltimore, April 26, 27, 28, 1904 by Various

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**VARIOUS**

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TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

Medical and Chirurgical  
Faculty

OF THE

STATE OF MARYLAND.

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH ANNUAL  
SESSION

HELD AT

BALTIMORE, MD., APRIL 26, 27, 28, 1904,

ALSO

SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION HELD AT BLUE MOUNTAIN HOUSE, MD.  
SEPTEMBER 24, 25, 1903.

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BALTIMORE.  
1904.

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## SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING.

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The Semi-annual Meeting of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty was held at the Blue Mountain House, Blue Mountain, Md., on September 24 and 25, 1903. The meeting was called to order with sixty members present, Thursday afternoon, September 24, at 3 o'clock, by the President, Dr. Eugene F. Cordell, who made the following address:

The first prompting of my heart on this occasion is to express to you, my colleagues of this ancient and honorable Faculty, my deep appreciation of the honor which you have so unexpectedly conferred upon me in electing me to this important office, and I utilize the first public opportunity for obeying this impulse. It is indeed a high distinction, to occupy a chair that has been filled for over a century by the most eminent members of our profession in this State. Nay more—it is an incentive to the highest exertion, to know that by your unanimous designation I am treading in the footsteps of such men as Upton Scott, Philip Thomas, Ennalls Martin, Richard Sprigg Stewart, Joshua I. Cohen, Nathan R. Smith, Christopher Johnston, Frank Donaldson, Richard McSherry, John R. Quinan, and the distinguished gentlemen who more recently have adorned this position. While I cannot expect to reach the lofty height of influence and usefulness attained by these heroic figures, I do claim an allegiance to professional interests and an earnest desire to promote them, not less than any one of my predecessors. So that if the office shall appear to have lost any of its importance and effectiveness in my hands, it will be due, not to a lack of earnest purpose to advance your interests, but solely to those limitations which Nature puts upon each of us and to which we must submit.

We have met in Semi-annual Session, on this beautiful day, in the midst of this lovely mountain scenery and at this delightful season of the year, to consider matters of vital interest, not only to us as physicians, but to the citizens of the entire State. We are to consider at this meeting some of the most pressing questions of the hour. Your attention will be drawn, for example, to the diagnosis and prevention of typhoid fever, a subject of ever fresh and burning interest to us; you will hear the new code of ethics expounded by one who took a leading part in its framing and adoption; you will hear from specialists their views upon the State care of the insane and the prevention of blindness; the Secretary of the Board of Examiners will discuss the alterations needed in the medical practice act; while reports will be made by other colleagues who have had those matters under special consideration, upon the organization of the county medical societies as affiliated parts of this Society, and upon the amendments needed in our own constitution to put us in thorough accord with the American Medical Association. Besides these, we shall have a series of papers more strictly relating to medical and surgical practice. Our most earnest deliberation and wisest counsel are called for in the discussion of these matters. The fact that so many great questions are upon our programme shows that we appreciate our responsibilities and are prepared to shoulder them bravely.

Gentlemen, the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty has long since thrown off the swaddling clothes of infancy; it has left behind the inexperience and fickleness of youth; it has passed safely through the trying ordeal of middle age; and it has reached the full maturity of settled and experienced manhood. Its broad shoulders, I trust, are sufficient for any burdens that it may be destined to bear. Said a physician to me at the Surgeon General's Library, in Washington, the other day: "You have a great society in Baltimore, one that ranks with the College of Physicians of Philadelphia; you have a great future before you." These are encouraging words from a high source. Let us carefully provide what further is necessary in the equipment of our society to fit it more thoroughly for the work it has to do.

Now, let me ask with all frankness and earnestness, do we realize here that unity of purpose, that spirit of cooperation, that constant attitude of self-sacrifice, which are necessary to give full effect to our actions? Just think what a power could be exercised in this community by our large membership, composed of such material as it is, if all worked together in perfect concert! How we could elevate professional character, how we could mould public opinion, how we could influence legislation, how we could promote measures for the relief of suffering and the protection of health and life! And how insignificant appear the differences which often divide and estrange us, when compared with the settlement of such vital questions as those, for example, that will come up for consideration here!

This is a matter of such incomparable importance that I desire to lay the utmost stress upon it. Some men seem to be born to oppose those things which their fellowmen approve and desire. Some seem to have an infatuation for stirring up strife. Some are contrary from pique, pride, prejudice, or ignorance. Some "lean and hungry Cassius" cannot follow where other men begin. Various are the motives of human action, and it is too much to expect that any millenium of disinterestedness is at hand; the utmost I can hope, perhaps, from anything I can say, is that my words may reach the ears of some who may be strengthened in the resolution to rise above all selfish motives in deciding the questions that will come before us from time to time in this Faculty.

I now most earnestly call your attention to the pressing need of larger quarters for the purposes of our Faculty. With the late rapid growth of our library and increase of our membership, we have outgrown our home and are being crowded out. Not only are the shelves full to repletion, but there is no room for more shelves. The basement designed for a banquet hall is packed with duplicates and with books belonging to the exchange of the American Association of Medical Librarians, of which we are the custodians. Where to put new books that are coming in in ever increasing numbers is a matter that is causing the