

**CONDENSED PROCEEDINGS
OF THE NEW JERSEY
STATE DENTAL SOCIETY
FOR THE YEARS 1875-6-7**

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Various

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Full cloth

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OF THE

NEW JERSEY

State Dental Society

FOR THE YEARS

1875-6-7.

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1878.

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OF THE
New Jersey State Dental Society.

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NEW JERSEY STATE DENTAL SOCIETY.

MINUTES, 1875.

The New Jersey State Dental Society held its Fifth Annual Meeting at Long Branch, July 6th, 7th and 8th, President Brown, of Mount Holly, presiding. Drs. L. S. Marsh, H. E. Parke, D. H. Thickston, Wm. E. Francis, Chas. W. Meloney, W. W. Dorland and C. M. Merritt were elected new members. The Board of Examiners reported that, during the year past, they examined and gave certificates to practice to the following: Drs. Wm. E. Francis, F. J. Leonard, A. L. Strecher, and R. J. Reed, after payment of fee.

The session of Wednesday opened with the President's address, from which we make the following extracts. Giving an interesting resume of the year, he spoke of amalgam as having renewed attention given to its use by careful tests and experiments. That amalgam, properly prepared and used, will preserve a tooth for years, is beyond a doubt; improperly used, it is worse than useless. Celluloid has taken great strides the past year in public favor, and is fast superseding the use of rubber. Beautiful in color, strong in texture, easy of manipulation, it bids fair to take the place of all other materials as a base for artificial teeth. It appears to be just what we wanted to release us from the obnoxious rubber company. I think every dentist who has learned to use it will never go back to rubber. Our law regulating the practice of dentistry is working well. Though being much more stringent than the New York law, yet no fault has been found in its workings. He urged upon the Society the adoption of a rule prohibiting any member of the Society from receiving a student for a less period than three years, and making it obligatory upon the student to attend two courses of lectures, and graduate at some dental college. He would advise the passage of a resolution that after a period of three years, no one should be received as a member who has not complied with the same. The address was well received, and elicited considerable discussion, nearly all coinciding.

The first essay, by Dr. T. B. Welch, of Vineland, was then read, and well received.

Some hurry through their dental operations from selfish motives. They are in haste to be rich, and therefore anxious to make every hour of labor count the greatest number of dollars income. Nearly all such come to grief, as they should. Some who are naturally nervous and excitable, are not aware of a want of care—it being a misfortune, and the sooner they overcome this weakness, the better workmen they will be. Others hurry from pride to be smart—continually boasting of how many teeth they can fill in an hour, or how many teeth they can extract in a minute. This is foolish. We should work as rapidly as we can consistently with accuracy. The greatest pride of the true workman is in the perfection of his work, and he is generally modest in his claim. Let our reputation speak of honor, dignity and success. The essay was well discussed, coinciding with the views of most.

Dr. C. S. Stockton, of Newark, followed with an essay on Dental Education, of which the following is a synopsis:

The first point was the extreme haste of the profession in manufacturing dentists of their students. The early and thorough education of one who proposes to enter the profession of dentistry, is of the greatest importance. The eagerness of the American people to enter business life, and the haste to get rich, are the glory and vice of America. The uneducated man and dentist goes out into the world, and is alone. Letters, philosophy and the sciences have no interest to him, and their delights to him will forever remain closed. He claims that he is not appreciated at his true worth. It is his own fault; for if he enter the circle of the educated, he must be educated himself to their standard. There are so many men not blessed with the best qualifications, and the number has been so increased, that the time has come that societies like this should make their voices heard. I would have no one commence the practice of dentistry at this day unless he be a graduate of the Dental College. I would have no one enter a dental college unless he has spent two years in the office of a competent practitioner. Colleges are blamed for the way they make dentists. In a measure they are unjustly censured. The college has done more for the profession than all other means combined. Young men are taken by some of our practitioners, sent at once to college, without any previous instruction, and the college, in eight months, is expected to make thorough dentists of them. Let us cherish our State Society,

as I know of no better way of promoting dental education in New Jersey than by faithful attendance of its sessions. What possible ambition to high deeds can a man have who lives wholly within himself. Let us, then, as our means to higher professional attainments, cherish this Association, educate each other and the dentists of New Jersey.

Dr. Welch agreed with Dr. Stockton.

Dr. Hayhurst considered that all general laws bore hard in certain cases; but better it be so than to open the flood-gates to incompetency.

Dr. Kingsley thinks the pupil should study three years, and pass through college, as the paper recommends.

Dr. J. R. Goble differed entirely, and thought that it should not be obligatory upon students to attend dental colleges, and spoke of the incompetency of graduates for every-day practical work upon leaving college, they wishing to perform all operations in the manner and way they did in the college. He denounced the system of selling diplomas, having proof of a certain college granting a diploma which the New York Board of Censors refused to grant, because the candidate was wholly incompetent. The diploma of the college could not, in his estimation, guarantee a fitness to practice.

Dr. Hanks defended the college system, but condemned its abuse, and thought the present system of medical and dental colleges wrong.

Dr. Hayhurst, ex-College Professor, cited the thoroughness of the examinations, and did not consider the Board of Censors had as good an opportunity and the time at command as a college faculty.

Dr. C. A. Meeker recommends that the examinations of the Board of Censors be so thorough that the diploma of the Society will be an honor to hold, though the candidate holds a degree of D. D. S. Also, as Dr. Stockton says, to work for the elevation, education, and character of the Society.

After considerable discussion by a number of others, the subject was closed.

Dr. Geo. D. H. Perine, of New York, by special request, spoke at some length upon the use of the Galvano-Cautery Battery for oral surgery. Dr. Perine said that there was advance in all departments of science, particularly so in our own department, dental surgery; he claims that the introduction of the cautery (he being the first person who has applied that particular cautery in oral surgery), *is the advance of the age*, and he strongly recommends its use. If the cautery be

employed for obtunding sensitive dentine, he would advise its application to be made with great care, and only in cases where the instrument can be applied directly to the tooth to be operated upon, guarding the instrument from contact with any other tooth, the action will be instantaneous and effectual. Doctor Perrine illustrated the use of the battery for operations in oral surgery, and presented the instruments he uses. The advantages he set forth are, that the operation is instantaneous, painless, and without shock to the body, which it does not in any degree affect unpleasantly; the application is easy, free from hemorrhage (which is of great moment in surgical operations in the mouth), and, finally, the reparative process is rapid. Doctor Perrine freely gives his thoughts and experiences to his professional brethren, and strongly recommends the use of the battery for oral surgery.

Dr. J. R. Goble, of Hoboken, read a highly interesting paper on the cause and cure of the absorption of the alveolar process, taking the ground that local irritation was the primary cause, preceded by salivary calculus, diseased teeth, etc., the cure of which was to remove the irritation with delicate instruments, keeping the necks free and well polished, and recommending the use of a weak solution of chlorate of potash. He deprecated the custom of so much scrubbing the teeth, citing numerous instances of absorption and denuding of the enamel.

Prof. Abbott, of New York, said he was well pleased with Dr. Goble's remarks, and agreed with the doctor in every particular, and hoped all dentists would instruct their patients in the use of the tooth-brush. He also, by special request, spoke of the use of salicylic acid, for use in diseases of the mouth, it having strong antiseptic properties, and being perfectly harmless.

Dr. Kingsley and others recommended the use of aconite and iodine saturated solution for inflammation, and for use after filling new cavities.

Subject passed.

On motion of Dr. C. S. Stockton, the President was authorized to welcome to New Jersey, the American Dental Convention, which meets at Long Branch in August. Adjourned.

SESSION OF JULY 8TH.

The invention of Dr. Chevaliers, in regard to an improvement in metallic bases, was delegated to a committee of Drs. Stockton, Pinny and Meeker, to report at next meeting.

The *Dental Luminary*, a small pamphlet designed for distribution by dentists among their patients, which would enable