

1042

CONSTITUTION

AND

BY-LAWS

ADOPTED BY THE

CLARK COUNTY BRANCH

OF THE

Ohio State - Medical Society,

Organized in Springfield,

MAY 30, 1850:

WITH A

CODE OF MEDICAL ETHICS

AND

FEE BILL.

367

Springfield :

PRINTED AT THE REPUBLIC OFFICE.

1851.

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CLARK COUNTY BRANCH
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OHIO STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Pursuant to a call made by the Regular Practitioners of Medicine in the city of Springfield, recommending the organization of a Medical Society in Clark County, the following persons assembled in a room at the Buckeye Hotel in Springfield on the 30th day of May, 1850, and resolved themselves into an association under the above name:

Names of those present at the First Meeting.

DR. I. HENDERSHOTT,	DR. J. B. LINGLE,
“ R. RODGERS,	“ G. H. BUNYAN,
“ B. GILLET,	“ H. H. YOUNG,
“ JESSE W. COOK,	“ V. SMITH,
“ B. WINWOOD,	“ E. W. STEELE,
“ ROBERT HOUSTON,	“ J. C. STODDARD,
“ C. SMITH,	“ JAS. H. CRAIN,
“ JAS. A. SKINNER,	“ E. M. BUCKINGHAM,
“ J. A. STOCKSTILL,	“ E. THORN,
“ E. S. COLLINS,	“ TOBIAS BARR.
“ H. C. FOSTER,	

An election of Officers for the ensuing year being held after the adoption of the Constitution and By-Laws, resulted as follows:

President,
ROBERT RODGERS.

Vice Presidents,
B. GILLET. *First*,—I. HENDERSHOTT, *Second*.

Secretary,
MILTON E. BUCKINGHAM.

Treasurer,
G. H. BUNYAN.

Board of Censors;
B. GILLET, J. A. STOCKSTILL,
J. W. COOK, G. H. BUNYAN,
ROBERT RODGERS,

LIST OF MEMBERS

AT THE DATE OF THIS PUBLICATION.

I. HENDERSHOTT,
C. SMITH,
R. RODGERS,
E. S. COLLINS,
V. SMITH,
G. H. BUNYAN,
J. A. STOCKSTILL,
R. J. SHACKLEFORD,
E. W. STEELE,
B. WINWOOD,
JESSE W. COOK,
H. C. FOSTER,
J. B. LINGLE,

H. H. YOUNG.
E. THORN.
B. GILLET,
R. HOUSTON,
JNO. A. SKINNER,
J. C. STODDARD,
TOBIAS BARR,
E. M. BUCKINGHAM,
J. H. GILLET,
JAS. CRAIN,
A. C. McLAUHGLIN,
ISAAC MERANDA,
JAMES SPRAGUE,

Junior Members, { MILTON HOUSTON.
WM. WARWICK.

P R E A M B L E .

The undersigned Practitioners of Medicine, believing in the importance of associated effort in promoting the cause of Science, and feeling it to be our duty to do all in our power toward elevating the character and dignity as well as extending the benefits of the Medical profession, do hereby agree to form ourselves into a Society for the purpose of concentrating our efforts on this object, and do hereby adopt the following rules and regulations for our government.

C O N S T I T U T I O N .

ART. 1. This Society shall be called the Clark County Branch of the Ohio State Medical Society.

ART. 2. This Society shall be composed of such Practitioners of Medicine within the County as are able to exhibit a diploma from some regular Medical School, or a license from some regularly constituted Medical Society; provided that such Practitioners as have studied the regular system of Medicine, but who cannot show a diploma or license, may be admitted by exhibiting evidence to the Board of Censors, either by examination or otherwise, of their being qualified to practice the profession creditably, and by presenting a communication on some medical subject, which may be approved by the Society.

ART. 3. All students engaged in the study of Medicine, under the direction of reputable Practitioners, may be admitted as Junior Members, by paying the initiatory fee.

ART. 4. Honorary members may be admitted by a vote of two thirds of the Society.

ART. 5. The officers of this Society shall be a President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board of Censors, to

consist of five members, all which officers shall be elected annually by ballot, and hold their respective offices until their successors are chosen.

ART. 6. The President shall preside at all meetings, preserve order, appoint committees (unless otherwise ordered,) fill all vacancies which may occur among officers during the recess, give the casting vote in case of a tie, and declare the decisions of the Society to the house. He may by consent of any three, call a special meeting by giving one months notice.

ART. 7. The Vice President, in the absence or inability of the President, shall perform all the duties which belong to the office of President.

ART. 8. The Secretary shall attend each meeting of the Society, call over the names of the members, keep a careful record of all the proceedings of the Society, which shall be read at the next subsequent meeting of the Society, and when corrected, copy the same into a book kept for the purpose; he shall count the votes when given, and report the same to the President; he shall also give the members at least two weeks notice of all the meetings of the Society; he shall read all communications to the Society, and preserve and record them if the Society think them worthy.

ART. 9. The Treasurer shall collect dues, take charge of and preserve for its use all property, of whatsoever kind, belonging to the Society, pay all current accounts when an order from the President is presented. make a correct report of the state of the Treasury at each annual meeting, or as often as called for, and deliver to his successor all books, papers, monies or stock belonging to the Society, when an order from the President is presented.

ART. 10. The Censors shall examine the credentials of all applicants for membership, and report on the same to the Society, and in cases of examination shall conduct the same. During the report and subsequent vote of admission, the candidate shall leave the room.

ART. 11. All applications for membership shall be made to the Board of Censors, by whom the application shall be reported to the Society, and if two thirds of the members agree, the applicant shall be admitted to membership by paying the initiatory fee.

ART. 12. Any member may be expelled from the Society either for gross immorality or for disregarding the rules of the Society — provided two thirds of the members concur.

ART. 13. Five members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum to transact business.

ART. 14. All amendments to the Constitution shall lie on the table from the meeting at which they may be proposed, till the next regular one, and then may be adopted by the concurrence of a majority of all the members present.

BY-LAWS.

ART. 1. Each member shall pay to the Treasurer at the time of subscribing the Constitution, the sum of one dollar, and such assessments as may be made from time to time by order of the Society.

ART. 2. There shall be three regular meetings in each year, to be holden on the first Tuesdays in May, November and February—the May meeting to be considered the annual meeting.

ART. 3. There shall be two members appointed by the President at each meeting, whose duty it shall be if they accept the appointment, to read papers on some medical subject at the next subsequent meeting, and in default of a valid excuse in case of failure, shall be subject to a fine of two dollars.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the President at the close of his term of office, when about to resign his seat to his successor, to deliver an address on some subject connected with Medical Science, and in case of failure shall be subject to a fine of five dollars.

ART. 5. The following shall be the regular order of business at each meeting: 1st, calling the roll; 2d, reading the minutes of the last meeting; 3d, correcting minutes; 4th, admission of members; 5th, reading of reports and essays; 6th, reading communications; 7th, unfinished business; 8th, miscellaneous business; 9th, election of officers; 10th, President's address.

CODE OF MEDICAL ETHICS,

ADOPTED BY THE

CLARK COUNTY BRANCH OF THE OHIO STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY,

AT ITS

November Meeting, 1850.

RULE 1. It is the duty of every medical practitioner to treat his patients with steadiness, tenderness and humanity, and to make due allowances for that mental weakness which usually accompanies bodily disease. Secrecy and delicacy should be strictly observed in all cases in which they may seem to be peculiarly required.

2. The strictest observance of temperance cannot be too strongly inculcated on the minds of the practitioners of medicine and surgery, a clear and vigorous intellect and a steady hand, being absolutely necessary to the successful practice of those branches of medical science.

3. Unfavorable prognostication should never be made in the presence of patients; yet, should there seem to be immediate danger, it becomes the duty of the medical attendant to apprise the patient's friends of that circumstance.

4. In every instance in which one physician has been called on to visit the patient of another, a consultation with the former medical attendant should be proposed. Consultation in difficult cases should always be recommended, and the physician called on for that purpose, should always pay the greatest degree of respect to the practitioner first employed, and allow him the privilege of delivering all the directions agreed upon.

5. Special consultations are sometimes wished for; in such cases the physician called on should carefully guard against paying another visit, unless he should be requested to continue his services by the patient, or some of his friends.

6. When one physician is called on to visit the patient of another in his absence, or during short indisposition, he should not manifest a wish to continue in attendance any longer than the physician first called on should be able to resume the charge of the case, unless a continuance of his services should be expressly wished for by the patient or his friends. Nor when cal-

led suddenly into a family who are known to have a family physician, but who cannot be had at the time, should he manifest a disposition to continue longer than until the services of the family physician can be obtained.

7. Physicians should not visit their patients too frequently, lest seeing them oftener than necessary might produce unsteadiness in the treatment.

8. Theoretical discussions should not be too freely indulged in consultations, as they frequently give rise to much perplexity, without any improvement in practice.

9. The junior physician in attendance should always deliver his opinion first, the others according to seniority, and a majority should decide; but in the event of a tie, the physician first in attendance should give the casting vote in regard to the future treatment, and to him should be entrusted the future management of the case, unless the patient or his relations should object to his being continued.

10. Although the possession of a diploma, honorably acquired, furnishes presumptive evidence of professional ability, and entitles its possessor to pre-eminence in the profession, yet the want of it should not exclude practitioners of experience and sound judgment from the fellowship and respect of the regular graduate.

11. In consultations, punctuality in meeting at the same time should be strictly observed, but the physician who first arrives should wait for a reasonable length of time for the arrival of others. A minute examination of the patient, however, should not take place, until one or more of the medical attendants are present, except in cases of emergency. All subsequent visits should, if practicable, be made by mutual agreement, and no medical discussion should take place in the presence of the patient.

12. Attendance on members of the profession, or their families, should always be gratuitous, but should not be officiously obtruded. Should the circumstances of the medical practitioner indisposed, enable him to make a recompense for medical services rendered to himself, his wife or family, it is his duty to do so, especially if he reside at a distance.

13. When one medical practitioner is called on to visit a patient whose recovery has been despaired of by the physician first in attendance, and the disease should afterward terminate fatally under his management, he should avoid insinuating to the friends of the deceased, that if he had been called on a day or a few hours sooner, he could have effected a cure. Such a course of conduct is highly reprehensible, and empirical in the extreme. And, in the event of the patient's recovery, such a person should not assume all the credit, as the cure might have been partly effected by the medicines prescribed before he took charge of the case.

14. No physician should give countenance or support to empiricism in any form: either by consultation with men who are not known or recognized as regular practitioners of medicine—or by introducing into their practice such nostrums as have found their way into popular use, by imposition or fraud on the community. Nor should any one manifest a disposition to keep secret from his professional brethren, any formula or prescription he may be in the habit of using.

15. In all cases where diversity of opinion and opposition of interest give rise to controversy or contention between two or more members of the profession, the decision should be referred to a sufficient number of physicians, as they are frequently the only persons in the community capable of properly estimating the merits of the dispute. But neither the subject litigated, nor the decision thereon, should be communicated to the public, as individual reputation might suffer, and the credit of the profession generally be injured.

16. A wealthy physician, or one retired from practice, should refuse to give gratuitous advice, unless the danger of the case (the absence of the practising physician) or the poverty of the patient should warrant him in so doing. In all cases where he may be preferred, he should recommend a consultation with some one engaged in active practice. This rule should be strictly observed, as a contrary course is gratuitously depriving active industry of its proper reward.

17. When a physician is called on suddenly to visit the patient of another, in consequence of some unexpected or alarming change in the symptoms, he should adopt a temporary plan of treatment, suited to present circumstances. He is not warranted in interfering afterward, unless requested to take charge of the case, when he should propose an immediate consultation with the physician previously employed.

18. Physicians should never neglect an opportunity of fortifying and promoting the good resolutions of patients suffering under the bad effects of intemperate lives and vicious conduct; and, in order that their counsels and remonstrances may have due weight, it will readily be seen, that they should have full claim to the blameless life and high moral character which we have stated to be a necessary pre-requisite to an honorable stand in the profession.

19. Medical men should "remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy;" and visits should, as far as consistent with professional engagements, be made either before or after public worship, or during its intervals.

20. Attendance on ministers of the Gospel and their families, should as a general rule be gratuitous. But in reference to any of this class who may be known to use their influence in promoting empiricism, this rule ought not to be adhered to.

21. The practice of attending families by the year is to be

condemned. It leads to a process of cheapening of the value of our services in the community. It is a kind of auction for medical attendance. It produces a competition not favorable to the respectability of the profession. It opens a wide door for the entrance of intrigue, underbidding and cheapening of the commodity thus advertised and made ready for the cry of the auctioneer.

FEE BILL.

“Resolved, that whatever the bill of prices may be when passed, we, the members of this Society, agree to abide by in our charges.” Carried unanimously at the February meeting, 1851.

Practice of Physic.

For first visit within corporation,	\$1.00
For subsequent visits, when 1 per diem,	75
“ “ “ “ 2 “ “	50
For visits out of town, and less than one mile,	1.00
Mileage—for the first mile,	1.00
“ “ “ “ second mile,	50
“ “ each subsequent mile,	25
Advice, Prescription and Medicine, in office,	50
Parturition—common cases,	5.00
Consultation in town (exclusive of visit,)	2.00
For night services add twenty-five per cent.	

Surgery.

For tying Brachial, Radial and Ulnar Arteries, each,	\$10.00
“ “ Femoral, Popliteal and Tibial,	20.00
“ “ Carotid, Subclavian, Axillary and Iliac,	50.00
Operations for Hernia,	20.00
“ “ Cataract,	25.00
“ “ Strabismus,	20.00
Radical operation—Hydrocele,	10.00
Operation for Harelip,	10.00
Bronchotomy,	25.00
Extirpation of the Mammary Gland,	25.00
“ “ “ Tonsils—single one or both,	5.00

Amputation at the Hip Joint,	50.00
“ “ “ Shoulder,	25.00
“ of the Thigh, leg, foot, or metatarsal bones,	25.00
“ “ “ Arm,	15.00
“ “ “ Fingers or toes—each,	5.00
Trephining,	20.00
Paracentesis Thoracis,	20.00
Paracentesis Abdominis—first operation,	10.00
“ “ each subsequent operation,	3.00
Fistula Lacrymalis,	15.00
“ in Ano,	10.00
Common Luxations reduced,	5.00
Hip Joint,	20.00
Fractures of the arm, leg and clavicle—each,	5.00
“ “ “ Femur,	10.00
“ “ “ Neck of the Femur,	20.00
Vaccination,	50

The above prices are considered exclusive of mileage and subsequent attendance, and complicated cases are to be charged *ad libitum*.

