

HOUSE....No. 234.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 29, 1856.

The Committee on Public Charitable Institutions, to whom was referred the Petition of Samuel Gregg and others, have considered the same, and report the accompanying Bill.

DAVID THAYER, *Chairman.*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-Six.

AN ACT

To incorporate the Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society.

1 *Whereas*, certain physicians represent, that within
2 the last quarter of a century has been introduced and
3 developed in this country a system of medical prac-
4 tice, known by the name of Homœopathy, which, in
5 their judgment, and in the opinion of a large number
6 of intelligent citizens of this Commonwealth, prom-
7 ises, by its safe, benign and efficient operation, to
8 supersede all other known methods of practice, and
9 to establish a new era in the medical art; that the
10 said system is based on the law expressed by the
11 Latin formula, *similia similibus curantur*; that they
12 have carefully and conscientiously submitted the
13 claims of the said law to the test of rigid experience,

14 and have, by the results obtained, satisfied themselves
15 of its verity; and whereas, in a science so intimately
16 connected with the happiness and comfort of mankind
17 as is that of medicine, free and unrestricted discussion
18 and investigation should be protected, encouraged
19 and honored; and as this department of medical sci-
20 ence remains yet to be perfected, which can be more
21 effectually done by a body corporate, organized with
22 certain privileges,

Be it, therefore, enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 SECT. 1. That Samuel Gregg, William Wessel-
2 hoeft, Luther Clark, George Russell, Milton Fuller,
3 John A. Tarbell, David Thayer, Charles Geist, Orin
4 S. Sanders, Benjamin H. West, J. Tisdale Talbot,
5 Lemuel M. Barker, Lafayette Macfarland, David
6 Swan, Charles Wild, Edward A. Wild, Henry L.
7 Chase, Charles M. Weld, George W. Swazey, H. A.
8 Collins, George Barrows, E. U. Jones, J. H. Floto,
9 Daniel Wilder, Henry B. Clarke, William F. Jackson,
10 H. Harris, J. T. Harris, Charles W. Bell, D. B. Han-
11 nan, J. G. Wood, Elam C. Knight, Thomas S. Scales,
12 J. H. Woodbury, Charles F. Adams, Joseph P. Paine,
13 Albert Lindsay, Stephen M. Gale, Daniel A. Johnson,
14 Elwell Woodbury, John L. Clarke, O. O. Johnson,
15 J. A. Burpee, Benjamin M. Round, J. M. Blaisdell,
16 Henry C. Angell, J. Brown, Horace D. Train, Thomas
17 B. Wales, J. C. Neilson and Lemuel B. Nichols, their
18 associates and successors, physicians, be, and they
19 hereby are made a corporation by the name of the

20 Massachusetts Homœopathic Medical Society, with
21 all the powers and privileges, and subject to all the
22 duties, liabilities and restrictions, set forth in the forty-
23 fourth chapter of the Revised Statutes.

1 SECT. 2. Said corporation may hold real estate
2 and personal equal to fifty thousand dollars.

1 SECT. 3. The members of said society shall not be
2 liable to be mustered or enrolled in the militia of this
3 Commonwealth.

1 SECT. 4. The members of said society, or such of
2 their officers or members as they shall appoint, shall
3 have full power and authority to examine all candi-
4 dates for membership, concerning the practice of spe-
5 cific medicine and surgery: *provided*, said candidates
6 shall sustain a good moral character, and shall pre-
7 sent letters testimonial of their qualifications, from
8 some legally authorized medical institution; and if,
9 upon such examination, the said candidates shall be
10 found qualified for membership, they shall receive
11 the approbation of the society.

1 SECT. 5. This act shall take effect from and after
2 its passage.