**BU Publications** 

New England Female Medical College Annual Reports

1853

# Fourth Annual Report of the Female Medical Education Society, and the New England Female Medical College

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Boston University

# FOURTH

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# FEMALE MEDICAL EDUCATION SOCIETY,

AND THE

NEW ENGLAND FEMALE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

# BOSTON:

PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY,
AND TO BE HAD GRATUITOUSLY OF THE SECRETARY,
SAMUEL GREGORY, 15 CORNHILL.

1853.

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#### ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty. AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE FEMALE MEDICAL EDUCATION SOCIETY.

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

Section 1. Timothy Gilbert, William I. Bowditch, and Samuel Gregory, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation, by the name of the Female Medical Education Society, for the purpose of providing for the education of Midwives, Nurses, and Female Physicians, with all the powers and privileges, and subject to all the duties, restrictions, and liabilities set forth in the forty-fourth and thirty-eighth chapters of the Revised Statutes.

Section 2. Said corporation may hold, for the purpose aforesaid, real estate not exceeding Fifty Thousand Dollars, and personal estate not exceeding Fifty Thousand Dollars.

House of Representatives, April 29, 1850.

Passed to be enacted.

In Senate April 30, 1850.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

In Senate, April 30, 1850.

Passed to be enacted. MAR April 30, 1850. Approved. MARSHALL P. WILDER President. Oved. GEO. N. BRIGGS.

# OFFICERS.

PRESIDENT. LEMUEL SHATTUCK.

SECRETARY, SAMUEL GREGORY.

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JOHN P. JEWETT.

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MRS. PROF. THOS. C. UPHAM, MRS. REV. DR. JACOB IDE,

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[Fee of Life Membership, \$20.]

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Samuel Appleton,
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Adam W. Thaxter,
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T. O. H. P. Burnham,
Nathaniel C. Nash,
Joseph W. Clark,
John P. Rice, " -66 Mrs. James Cheever, "Timothy Gilbert,

Mrs. Josiah Quincy, Jr., Boston.
"Benj. D. Greene, " " Aaron Baldwin,
" Dr. Oliver Dean,
" Adam W. Thaxter,
" David C. Moseley,
" Nathaniel Perry,
" Rodney French, New Bedford. Aaron Baldwin, Rodney French, Mrs. Rodney French,

" James Arnold,

" Joseph C. Delano,

" Jos. S. Tillinghast " Jos. S. Tillinghast, "
" Philip Anthony, "
" Jos. Ricketson, 2d, "
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John P. Cushing, Watertown.
Mrs. John Schouler, W. Cambridge.
"Henry Y. Hill, "Samuel Philbrick, Brookline.
Mrs. Samuel Philbrick, "George R. Russell, W. Roxbury.
Mrs. Rev. Dr. Eben. Burgess, Dedham. Sarah Baxter, West Newton.
Rev. Luther Wright, Woburn.
Mrs. Luther Wright, "Timothy Bailey, Malden.
"Rev. Dr. Jacob Ide, (by a friend,) Medway.
Edward B. Bigelow, Grafton.
Lee Claffin, Hopkinton.
O. Underwood, Milford.
Alden S. Loud, Abington.
Charles Hurd, Londonderry, N. H.
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"John Patten, Bath, Me.

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Rev. Ezekiel Rich, Deep River, Conn.
Thomas Fitch, New London, Conn.
Wm. W. Billings, "
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Thos. W. Williams, 2d, "
Mrs. L. H. Sigourney, Hartford, Conn.
"Sarah J. Hale, Philadelphia, Pa.
"Almira Lincoln Phelps, Patapsco
Female Institute, Md.
"Ann Chase, wife of the U. S.
Consul, Tampico.

#### MEMBERS AND CONTRIBUTORS.

Annual membership, \$1; which sum has been contributed by about four thousand persons since the Society was formed. The sums of less than \$5 are not here printed. Those who have paid \$5, or more, can become Life Members by increasing the amount to \$20, which, it is hoped, many will be pleased to do.

BOSTON.		Samuel G. Howe, M. D.	5	Gilman S. Low & Co	5
James Cheever	\$150	Rev. Edward N. Kirk	-5	John Field	10
Jonas Chickering	50	Edward B. Child	5	James W. Converse	5 5
Charles Amory	50	William A. Brown	5	Charles H. Parker	5
Samuel Appleton	45	John P. Ober	10	John Gove	10
Jonathan Phillips	20	Samuel Gilbert	5	Thomas C. Amory	10
Timothy Gilbert	120	Samuel Curtis	10	Moses Mellen	5
Wm. H. Jameson	30	M. D. Phillips	5	Henry D. Rogers	10
Wm. I. Bowditch	20	Emery Bemis	5	Simeon P. Adams	5
Adam W. Thaxter	20	Paran Stevens	5	Alden B. Weston	5 5
Adam W. Thaxter, Jr.	20	Tucker & Parker	5	D. W. & S. H. Barnes	5
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N. C. Keep, M. D.	20	Nathaniel Hall	5	Sewall, Day & Co.	5 5 5 5
George O. Hovey	20	Elijah C. Emerson	5	Jeremiah Kittredge	5
Thomas H. Perkins	100	Elisha G. Tucker, M. D.	5	William Eaton	10
G. Howland Shaw	20	Milton A. Straw	10	Henry Hall	5
Nathan Appleton	20	William H. Wilson	5	Alpheus Hardy	5 5
J. S. Copley Greene	10	Levi B. Meriam	25	Isaiah Bangs	5
Winslow Lewis, M. D.	10	John J. May	10	Theodore Lyman	5
Willard Sears	10	Nathaniel Perry	5	Benj. Thaxter	5
Frederic Tudor	115	William T. Andrews	5	Leonard Ware	5
Peter C. Brooks	50	Francis Alger	5 5 5	George Ellis	5 5 5 5
George B. Emerson	5	Joseph Cotton	5	Edward Whitney	10
Charles Francis Adams	5	Peter Richardson	5	Charles F. Eaton	10
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George H. Kuhn		Lee Claffin		Thomas Howe	5
Rufus Choate	5	Samuel G. Damon	10	John H. Pearson	10
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Homer & Sprague	5	" William Appleton " Rev. Thos. Worcesto	er 5	" H. A. Kelley	5
George Nash	5	" Samuel Hooper	5	ROXBURY.	,Ve
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Phineas E. Gay	5	" Paran Stevens " Sarah W. Story	5	" Benj. F. Copeland	5
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George M. Cole Jerome B. Cram	10	Rodney French	20	Joseph M. Fuller	5
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Messinger & Co.	5	W. R. Rodman	5	George W. Keene	
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I. G. Kidder	5	Simpson Hart	5	Philip P. Tapley	5
Wm. P. Tenny	5	Mary Gifford	5	G. W. Mudge	5
Frederic B. Wentworth	5	Mrs. James Arnold	125	William S. Boyce	5
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Charles Griffiths	5	" Edward Motley, Jr.	5	John Nesmith	10
Iannah G. Chandler	5	" Philip Anthony	20	John A, Knowles	5
Ars. Josiah Quincy, Jr.	20	" Edward C. Jones	10	Alexander Wright	5
" B. D. Greene	20	David R. Greene	10	ANDOVER.	
" Timothy Gilbert " James Cheever	20 20	" David R. Greene " Joseph G. Grinnell	5		000
" Aaron Baldwin	20	" Wm. J. Rotch	5	Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stow	0 20
" Adam W. Thaxter	20	S. Merrihew	. 5	NEWBURYPORT.	
" David C. Mosely	20	Edward W. Howlan	d 5	Wm. B. Bannister, Esq.	5
" Dr. Oliver Dean	20	" Joseph Ricketson " W. C. N. Swift	5	William Reed	5
66 Nathaniel Perry	20	" Alanson Goodwin	5 5	H. & T. C. Pearson	5
" Charles A. White	5	" Abraham Barker	5	Charles Currier	5 5
" Frederic Tudor	5	" Edward M. Robinson		E. H. & G. J. George	5
Thomas G. Carv	5	" Sarah Howland	5	Stephen Ilsley	5
" John Parkman	5	" Rodney French		CHARLESTOWN.	
T. B. Curtis	5	" Rodney French " Joseph Ricketson, 2d	20		00
Samuel R. Putnam John H. Wilkins	5	" Wm. P. S. Caldwell	5	Charles Forster	20
John H. Wilkins	5	" Robert Tripp	5	WORCESTER.	
Geo. H. Kunn	5	" Wm. H. Swain	5		110
Daillos Davis	5 5	" Wm. P. Howland	5	Stephen Salisbury	100
"Gardner P. Drury "William Boardman	5	" B. F. Howland	5	Ichabod Washburn Alexander De Witt	30
46 Israel Lombard	5	FAIRHAVEN.		Wm. T. Merrifield	5
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Ebenezer Francis Francis C. Loring	15	Mrs. Warren Delano "E. Sawin	5	George Bowen	5

Henry Goulding	10	Mrs. Harrison Fay	5 1	BANGOR, ME.	a.A.
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" Philip Moen	10	Augustus Aspinwall	5	Charles H. Thaxter George C. Pickering Albert Emerson	55555555555555555555
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Rev. Luther Wright	20	WATERTOWN.		Robert Rice Haskins	5
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Oliver Bacon	5	The state of the s	~	Leonard March	5
Joseph Kelley	10	GRAFTON.	1	Lysander Strickland Francis Adams	5
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		Mrs. Edward B. Bigelow	5	Isaac Farrar	5
W. & T. Liversidge	5 5	L. J. Digelow	5 5	S. P. Bradbury	5
Mrs. Richard Clapp  "Ebenezer Sumner	5	" Elijah Kimball " Charles Forbush	5	Samuel Farrar	5
		" O. T. Pratt	5	C. M. Jewett	5
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Christopher Slocum Clark Partridge	5 5	Mrs. Oliver Wellington	10	Mrs. N. C. Mosman	5
Clark I attridge		"John Schouler	20	" Jeremiah Curtis	5
ABINGTON.	27	" Henry Y. Hill	20	" Seth Tisdale	5
Lucius Faxon	5	Capt. George Lee	10	FRANKFORT, ME.	
Alden S. Loud Abner Curtis	20 10	CAMBRIDGE.			
	10			Mrs. Judge Theoph. Cushing	, 0
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MALDEN.		Mrs. Andrews Norton	5 5	" Rev. C. T. Brooks	5
Wm. H. Richardson	5	" H. W. Longfellow	10	THE RESERVE AND PERSONS ASSESSED.	·
John Sprague	5	" John Farrar	5 5	PROVIDENCE, R. I.	43
Samuel Cox	5	" Jos. E. Worcester	5	Francis Wayland	10
MEDFORD.	30000	" Samuel P. Allen	5	TIVERTON, R. I.	
Daniel Swan, M. D.	5	NEWTON.	SCHOOL S	Wm. C. Chapin	5
Samuel Kidder	5	Hon. Wm. Jackson	5	The second second second second	
George W. Porter	5 5	Samuel Hyde	10	NEW YORK.	
Mrs. Joseph James "R. H. Parker	5	Mrs. Thomas A. Davis	5	Paschal B. Smith	5
	. 3	WEST NEWTON.	00	Chas. John Falconer	5
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James W. Woodward	5	HARTFORD, CT.	-	Gerritt Smith	10
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Mrs. Roanah Murdock	5	NORWICH, CT.	00	CONCORD, N. H.	
	77 -30	Joel W. White Russell Hebard	20 5	John S. Wells	5
MILTON.		Mrs. Erastus Williams	20	Matthew Harvey	555555555
Thomas Hollis, Jr.	5	" Loyd Greene	10	Levi Chamberlin	5
CANTON.		NEW LONDON, CT		George W. Plummer	5
Frederic W. Lincoln	5	Thomas Fitch	20	H. A. Bellows Stephen Smith	5
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Dr. Benjamin Tirrell	10	Mrs. Thos. W. Williams	20	" N. White	5
and the second s	10	" Thos. W. Williams,	20 20	" J. A. Gilmore	5
BRAINTREE.		" Acors Barnes " W. P. Benjamin	5 5	" B. Grover	5
Alva Morrison	5	" Wm. Brown	5	" Onslow Stearns	9
FALL RIVER.		" J. N. Harris	5	LONDONDERRY, N. H	1
William Munday	5	" Henry Plympton	5	Charles Hurd	40
MILFORD.		" L. C. B. French	5	Mrs. Charles Hurd	20
O. Underwood	20	DODULT AND Ma		Mis. Charles Hara	~
A. C. Mayhew	5	PORTLAND, ME. Neal Dow	10	NASHUA, N. H.	
A. & W. Bragg	- 5	John M. Wood	5	John H. Gage	5
Sullivan Sumner	5	John M. Wood Thomas Rogers	5 5	Josephus Baldwin	5
Lydia M. Claffin	5 5	George S. Hay	5 5		
Mrs David Brewer		Israel Richardson	5	PHILADELPHIA.	
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Elias Bullard, Esq.	5	" Edward Fox	5	Lady's Book)  "Edward Biddle	20
Timothy Fisk, M. D. George F. Daniels	5 5	" Dr. A. Ray " E. L. Greeley	5	- Edward Bludie	
D. Bucklin Fitts	5	" Charles Clapp	5	PAOLI, Pa.	**
Mrs. E. Amelia Walker	5	DATH Me	-2	Mary M. Bailey	5
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HOPKINTON.	5	Sanford Snow	5	MARYLAND.	12
Wm. Classin	3	John Lambaird	5 5	Mrs. Almira Lincoln Phelps	s 20
BROOKLINE.	Telle	John R. Houghton	5	MEXICO.	18
Samuel Philbrick	130	Freeman Clark	5		**
Mrs. Samuel Philbrick	20	John Patten, (mayor)	5 20	Mrs. Ann Chase, (wife of the U.S. Consul, Tampico	190
Harrison Fay	5	Mrs. John Patten	20	ine o.s. consui, i ampico	, 20
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# CONSTITUTION.

#### ARTICLE I.

The object of this Society is to provide for and promote the education of Midwives, Nurses, and Female Physicians, and to diffuse among women generally a knowledge of physiology, and the principles and means of preserving and restoring health.

#### ARTICLE II.

To accomplish this object, the Society shall establish and maintain, in Boston, a Female Medical College, and, in connection with it, as soon as funds permit, a Hospital for the accommodation of charity and other patients, and to afford the pupils practice in the department of midwifery, in nursing the sick, and in the treatment of the diseases of women and children.

#### ARTICLE III.

The Officers of this Society shall be a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a Board of Seven Directors, of which the three officers named shall be, ex officio, members—the President and Secretary of the Society being also President and Secretary of the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE IV.

The Officers shall be chosen annually, by ballot, at the yearly meeting of the Society; a majority of the votes cast being required to secure the election of the several candidates. The officers shall have power to fill any vacancies that may occur in their Board, and shall hold their offices till others are appointed.

#### ARTICLE V.

There shall also be Seven Directresses,—to be appointed by the Directors; whose duty it shall be to assist in conducting the internal affairs of the Hospital, the selection of females proper to be admitted to its privileges and its charities; and in all suitable ways to aid in promoting the objects of the Society.

#### ARTICLE VI.

Any person may become a member of this Society, by subscribing, or directing his or her name to be affixed to the Constitution, and paying One Dollar; and continue a member by the payment of this sum annually. Any person may become a life member by the payment of Twenty Dollars.

#### ARTICLE VII.

Members of the Society shall be entitled to copies of its Annual Reports, and any other documents designed for distribution; and, on appointed days, to free access to the Institution, to examine its Library, Anatomical and Physiological Apparatus, and any other objects of interest that are or may be accumulated.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meetings of the Society shall be held on the first Wednesday in October, and special meetings may be called by the Directors, when by them deemed necessary. All meetings shall be notified not less than seven days previous to the time of holding them, by advertising in not less than four newspapers published in Boston,—where the meetings of the Society shall be held.

#### ARTICLE IX.

This Constitution may be amended by a vote of two thirds of the members present at any meeting of the Society, provided notice of intended amendments be given in the call of the meeting.

# BY-LAWS.

#### THE PRESIDENT.

The President, and in his absence the senior Director present, shall preside at all meetings of the Society, and of the Board of Directors.

#### DIRECTORS.

It shall be the duty of the Directors to attend to the Financial Affairs of the Society, the salaries of its Officers, the appointment and salaries of the Professors in the Institution, the appointment and remuneration of all agents and employees of the Society; the approving of bills, and auditing of accounts; the certificates of applicants for admission to the College; the qualifications for admission and graduation; the appointment of a Board of Examiners; the conferring of Diplomas; the appointment of the Directresses, and the supervision of their proceedings; and, generally, to conduct all the affairs of the Society and the Institution, and present a Report of the same at the Annual Meeting of the Society.

#### SECRETARY.

The Secretary shall keep a full and faithful record of the doings of the Society, and of the Board of Directors, in separate books; and shall present a report of each respective meeting at the next meeting of the Society, or of the Directors. He shall keep a list of the names and residences of the members and donors; shall notify all meetings of the Society and of the Directors, as may be ordered by the latter; and shall perform whatever other services may be required of him by the Directors, for promoting the objects of the Association.

#### TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall give bonds in such form and in such amount as the Board shall require, and shall receive and safely keep all moneys intrusted to his care, and disburse the same as prescribed by the Directors. He shall have charge of all funds and property, of whatever nature, belonging to the Society; and shall keep a faithful record of its property, its receipts and expenditures; and shall present an audited account of the same at the Annual Meeting of the Society, or at any meeting of the Directors, when by them requested. The books kept by the Secretary and Treasurer shall at all times be open to the inspection of any of the Officers of the Society.

#### MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS.

A meeting of the Directors shall be held on the first Monday of each month, and a majority shall constitute a quorum. Special meetings may be called by the Secretary when requested thereto by the President, or by a majority of the Directors. A written notice of each meeting shall be sent to each Director by the Secretary, at least one day previous to the time of holding the meeting.

#### DIRECTRESSES.

It shall be the duty of the Directresses to assist in conducting the internal affairs of the Hospital, the selection and admission of patients, the collection of funds, and in all suitable ways to coöperate with the Directors in promoting the objects of the Society. To aid in the performance of the duties thus devolving upon them, the Directresses may appoint from their own number a President and Secretary, and hold meetings of their Board, or of the female members of the Society. They may also make arrangements to have lectures, or courses of lectures, on physiology, hygiene, &c., delivered by the Professors in the College, or by other persons, to the ladies of the Society, and any others they may admit. The proceedings of all meetings of ladies of the Society, and of the Directresses, shall be recorded by their Secretary, and a report of the same be presented to the Directors when by them requested.

#### AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be amended by a vote of two thirds of the members present at any meeting of the Society, provided notice of intended amendments be given in the call of the meeting.

# REPORT.

THE Female Medical Education Society is successfully accomplishing the object for which it was organized and incorporated. This object is of a twofold nature: first, to enlighten public sentiment, and enlist it in favor of the professional education and employment of women; and, second, to provide the means for such education, and enlist suitable females as students and candidates for the profession.

To turn the current of custom and fashion into a new channel or an old one, however desirable and natural, is always a Herculean labor; but the current once turned, every thing else follows as a matter of course. There are, however, changes and improvements so very reasonable, and desirable, and practicable, that they need only to be presented to intelligent minds, and they at once secure approval and support, and even excite surprise and regret that they had not before been carried into effect. Such is the case with the objects of this association. Considering the magnitude of the enterprise, its recent origin, and the adverse and opposing interests and influences it has had to encounter, its progress has been unparalleled in the history of educational movements. It has secured the approval and cooperation of the public throughout our own country, and is attracting attention in foreign lands.

The governments of various European countries have long provided for and required the education of females for some of the more simple mechanical duties of the profession; but the idea of making the science and practice of medicine a branch of female education and occupation was first carried into effect in this country. Rev. H. G. O. Dwight, writing from Constantinople to have female physicians sent out there, says, "Among the wise and benevolent projects

which have been started in America, of late years, that of providing the means of giving to females a medical education, for practice among their own sex, has attracted my particular attention, and from the first moment I heard of it I gave it my unqualified approbation."

Sharpe's London Magazine, in a long and able article in reference to this movement in the United States, says, "It is unquestionable that in that great country, and among a great people, reforms are in progress which, while they startle us by their magnitude, strike at the root of many social evils, and lay the foundations of improvements of which the universe will reap the benefits hereafter."

The Female Medical Education Society was organized in Boston in 1848, commencing with six members, and incorporated by the Massachusetts Legislature in 1850. About four thousand persons have made themselves annual members, at least for one year, and over seventy life members.

Advantages of Membership. Persons becoming members by paying one dollar, and continuing, if they choose, by repeating this sum annually, or constituting themselves life members by the payment of twenty dollars, have, in addition to the right of taking part in the management of the society's affairs, and the satisfaction of aiding the cause, also the privilege of visiting the institution, to examine its library, anatomical and physiological apparatus, and any other objects of interests that are or may be accumulated. can also, at any time, without fee, obtain nurses by means of the registry of names kept at the institution. Indeed, this is already becoming a frequented resort of the public. Nurses of the sick have been sent for from distant towns, and even from out of the state. Any of the donors who have paid five dollars or more can become life members by paying the balance of the fee.

The officers of the Society return their grateful acknowledgments to individuals and the public for the liberality and the generous confidence with which they have sustained their efforts during the past year. For although the donations have not been in sufficiently large sums to purchase a per-

manent establishment for the college, for which it is hoped the funds will soon be furnished, yet the Society has, during the year, provided a building and library, employed half a dozen professors, purchased apparatus, and furnished all necessary accommodations for the lecturers and pupils, and the citizens who have visited the institution. Much time and labor, and some money, have also been expended in diffusing knowledge in relation to the objects and plans of the association, by means of reports and pamphlets, and the public press and letter correspondence, as well as by introducing the claims of the institution to the Legislature, and obtaining from the joint committee on education an excellent report in favor of these claims. In accordance with the recommendation of this report, the Senate unanimously voted to the college a grant of ten thousand dollars. bill, however, failed in the House of Representatives, from the fact that it came up near the close of the session, and the gentleman who was to present the subject was absent from his seat in consequence of sickness. Notwithstanding which the vote stood ninety-nine in favor of the grant to one hundred and eighteen against it - a very encouraging vote, considering the circumstances. Though the time and attention, required to look after a measure pending before the Legislature during most of the session, did not result in immediate pecuniary aid, yet this is an economical and advantageous mode of securing both a legislative and public investigation of an object that only needs to be understood to be appreciated and liberally supported.

The managers of the institution would like to have accomplished more with the means furnished, had it been possible; but the patrons will understand that ploughing, and planting, and cultivating come before harvesting; and in rearing a great edifice, the deep foundations, which appear not to the eye, often require more time, and labor, and expense than the superstructure, which, when the foundations are completed, rises with comparative rapidity — as now, it is hoped and believed, will the New England Female Medical College.

Much, however, has already been effected in the way of results, as stated on another page. A good number of women have been instructed; and their extensive and increasing usefulness is an abundant reward for all that has been done, and sufficient encouragement for future exertions. Persons who have not aided the Society are invited to do so, and those who have will, if disposed, please to repeat their favors. The thirty thousand dollar fund, mentioned on another page, is designed for a special purpose, and to make it up will require time and labor. In the mean while, the expenses of keeping the college in operation and promoting the object generally must be sustained.

Agents are required to have written certificates signed by the president and secretary, and renewed every three months. The principal agent, besides the secretary, is Mrs. Anna Goulding, who has very much aided the society during the past two years, not simply as a solicitor of funds, but as an earnest and self-sacrificing promoter of the enterprise.

#### TREASURER'S ACCOUNT,

For the year ending October 5, 1852.

TO STREET SEED STREET THESE SHOP TO STREET STREET AND ASSESSMENT OF		
RECEIPTS Money collected, including fees of annual		
and life membership,	\$1782	18
Donations for purchasing apparatus,	550	00
Rent for part of college building,	426	04
Tuition fees,	700	00
Total,	\$3458	22
EXPENSES.—Rent of college building, including fur-		
niture and library,	\$1000	00
Expenses of the establishment,	263	55
Paid to agents for collecting funds,	372	73
Paid for apparatus,	455	13
Paid to the lecturers, being the amount of the tuition	Ros ad	
fees,	700	00-
Advertising terms, meetings, &c.,	136	87
Printing reports and circulars,	63	00
Miscellaneous expenses, travelling fees, postage, station-		Asd
ery, &c.,	89	53
The balance paid to the secretary,	377	41
Total,	\$3458	22
2 JOHN P. JEWETT, Tr	easurer	

#### NEW ENGLAND FEMALE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

This institution, as the reader will understand, is conducted and sustained by the Female Medical Education Society. It commenced in 1848, and has had eight semi-annual terms. The pupils have numbered over seventy, and have come from all of the New England and several of the other states. Above twenty attended the last term.

The larger part of the pupils, having given their attention chiefly to the department of obstetrics and other duties in which the demand for female practitioners is the most urgent, are already somewhat extensively employed, and have attended, as nearly as can be ascertained, above two thousand cases of obstetric practice, and with a degree of success unusual, not to say impossible, on the part of male attendants. One of these professional women, in this city, during the last year, superintended the nativity of one hundred and five children; whereas, according to the statistics, the average number waited upon by male physicians here, in the same period, cannot have exceeded sixteen. the preference for female physicians is constantly increasing, and to such an extent that the few who are educated are overtasked with labor, and ignorant and incompetent women are induced to assume the responsible duties; and for the want of those who are qualified they are employed. So that, to place the Female Medical College in a condition to give a thorough education to a suitable number of suitable women, has become a matter of urgent necessity, not only to promote the public good, but to prevent a public evil.

For two years past the society has hired, for the purposes of the college, the residence and extensive medical library of Dr. Winslow Lewis. The lease of that having expired, the directors have not yet taken another building, hoping that before one would be needed for the next term, some of the wealthy and benevolent friends would furnish them the means to secure a permanent establishment. Should this not be the case, they will hire temporary rooms for the lec-

tures till permanent accommodations shall be obtained.\* In the mean time, the Society has an office at No. 15 Cornhill.

It will be seen by the second article of the Society's Constitution, that it is proposed to have in connection with the college, "as soon as funds permit, a Hospital for the accommodation of charity and other patients, and to afford the pupils practice in the department of midwifery, in nursing the sick, and in the treatment of the diseases of women and children."

The education and training of nurses of the sick, by means of suitable courses of lectures in the college, and by practice in the hospital, will be a great public benefit, and a blessing to suffering humanity. The college establishment will be a general head-quarters where nurses can register their names and be conveniently found.

The department of the establishment for the treatment of female diseases, by learned and skilful female physicians, will be resorted to, for early advice and prompt relief, by thousands whose cases would be past remedy before they would apply to male physicians for consultation and familiar treatment. For the want of such an infirmary and such female physicians, multitudes of women, young and older, have been obliged to go to female infirmaries conducted wholly by male physicians, and subject themselves to treatment so trying to delicate sensibilities, and sometimes so pernicious in its moral influence, that life itself is hardly a consideration for the sacrifice.

One well-provided establishment of the kind — the college and hospital — will be sufficient for the whole of New England, and, if necessary, accommodate pupils from other sections of the country. It will be for the advantage of the whole commonwealth, and of New England, to have it located in Boston, on account of convenience of access, and because it requires a large city to furnish the hospital with patients. Hence persons out of Boston, and of the state, will of course be disposed to aid.

<sup>\*</sup> Since the first edition was printed, College Rooms have been taken in the new and elegant building, 274 Washington Street.

A THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLAR FUND. Any gentleman or lady, desirous to subscribe to the following paper, will confer a favor by making it known to the treasurer or secretary of the Society. The late president of the association, Timothy Gilbert, after rendering efficient aid in his office for two years, has generously headed the paper with a subscription of one thousand dollars. Mrs. David C. Moseley, one of the directresses, has pledged five hundred dollars; and a number of other wealthy persons have expressed their purpose to subscribe.

It is hoped that the fund may be made up in sums of an equal or larger amount, though smaller sums of any amount will be gladly received. Let each friend constitute himself or herself a solicitor, and the object will soon be accomplished. There is an abundance of wealth and of benevolence in Boston, Massachusetts, and New England, and a better opportunity to make a permanent and advantageous investment for the good of society and the race is rarely presented.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

FOR THE

#### NEW ENGLAND FEMALE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

We, the subscribers, being desirous to aid in establishing in Boston a Female Medical College, hereby agree to pay to the Treasurer of the Female Medical Education Society the sums affixed to our names, whenever Thirty Thousand Dollars shall have been subscribed for this purpose; it being expressly understood that no subscription is to be called for until the full amount is pledged by responsible persons; the whole to be appropriated in purchasing a suitable lot of land and building, and providing a library, apparatus, and other necessary furniture and fixtures.

NAMES OF SUBSCRIBERS.	RESIDENCE.	AMOUNT.

Extracts from a Report presented to the Massachusetts Legislature, in 1852, by the Committee on Education, in favor of an appropriation of \$10,000, in aid of the New England Female Medical College.

From the statement of the petitioners, it appears that the Society named has established, and now sustains, in Boston, an institution for the medical education of females; that there is an urgent and increasing public demand for professional women, and that the operations of their institution are much limited by the want of funds. They therefore ask the Legislature for a grant of ten thousand dollars to aid them in providing a building, library, apparatus, &c.

That this is an object of public interest is shown by the fact that the institution known by the name of the New England Female Medical College has been wholly sustained by voluntary assistance

since its commencement in 1848.

The enterprise having no other object than the public good, and having been sustained by individual aid and effort till its utility has been proved, and its complete success placed beyond reasonable doubt, it seems very proper that the citizens of the state generally should render some pecuniary assistance, through the medium of the Legislature.

In looking over the list of some hundred names of the donors, male and female, printed in the Society's Report, it would seem difficult to find a more intelligent, judicious, and influential set of patrons associated in any public enterprise — persons, too, representing the various political, denominational, and social features of society.

The public journals, having had occasion to allude to or discuss the subject, have with great unanimity given their influence in favor of the movement, many of them expressing their views in the strongest terms of approval. The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, the organ of the profession in New England, suggests to physicians the expediency of coöperating in carrying out the clearly-expressed wishes of the public. In an article on "Female Medical Colleges," the editor says, "There have been, and there still are, prominent medical gentlemen in the leading cities who entertain the opinion that it is the appropriate business of females to aid each other in child-birth. This has materially strengthened the hands of the few who originated and subsequently matured a plan of organization, which has resulted in no less than three, if not four, chartered institutions for the instruction of females in the science and art of medicine. These having been called into existence, and the public sympathy being with them, and the public voice resolute in its determination to sustain them, the course that physicians are to pursue is indicated."

As there are similar colleges in a prosperous condition in other sections of the Union, it becomes a question whether the institution in Boston, by the period of two years the first of the kind in the country, shall be suitably provided with permanent professors, and the

necessary facilities for instruction and practice, or the women of New England, who desire this professional education, shall be obliged to go elsewhere to obtain it. It must be for the advantage of the whole commonwealth and of New England to have the institution located in Boston, on account of convenience of access, and because it requires a large city to furnish patients for the hospital that is to be connected with the college, to afford the pupils practice in the department of midwifery, and in the treatment of the diseases of women and children. Hence individuals in other states have given their aid, and, should it be necessary, their Legislatures may perhaps assist, after our own has set an example. Such a course is not unusual in relation to other institutions.

Above seventy pupils have been connected with this Female Medical College, and they have come from all the New England States, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio; and are still more widely dis-

tributed, some being in the far West, and two in California.

The six professors connected with the college are all gentlemen of thorough medical education, and of approved standing in the profession. Having had opportunity to judge, from their own observations, as to the ability of females to learn and practise medicine, they are fully persuaded that women will become not only acceptable but eminently successful physicians, especially in those departments that relate to their own sex and children. It is obvious that they have a great advantage over males in acquiring practical knowledge, as well as in the exercise of the healing art, mingling, as they can, freely with patients of their own sex, and enjoying an unreserved frankness of communication.

The embarrassments and consequent ill success of treatment, occasioned by the present order of things, are well known and acknowl-

edged by medical authors.

Dr. John Ware, in his introductory lecture before the class of 1850-1, in the Harvard Medical School, in which he is professor,

speaks as follows: -

"The relation which the physician bears to the other sex is peculiar, and the mode in which he regards this relation and his consequent deportment make another topic connected with the subject I am

endeavoring to illustrate.

"In our intercourse with them as patients, many occasions arise in which there is great embarrassment to a diffident and delicate female. It cannot be otherwise. It ought not to be otherwise. Her feelings are, in the best sense, natural and appropriate. In such cases it will depend entirely upon the tact and delicacy of the physician whether violence is done to these feelings, or whether they are soothed; whether the information necessary to be had remains locked up in the bosom of the patient, or whether it is kindly and gently drawn from her without a wound to her sensibility. It makes an immense difference to her, whether the man she consults regard the whole matter with a hard and vulgar indifference, and as one which is to call out no particular sentiment — or whether he duly appreciate the agitated

and often agonized condition in which she is placed. It is certain that many females suffer for years, from causes which might be easily removed, for want of courage to speak of them to their medical attendant—or for want of that tact on his part which would enable him to elicit an account which they cannot bring themselves sponta-

neously to give.

"These considerations suggest, and they afford an occasion for a few remarks upon the position which becomes us towards those of the other sex who are candidates for practice in our profession. It is well known that it is now seriously proposed, not only to introduce them more fully into that b anch, which has always remained more or less in their hands, but also to prepare them, by a complete medical education, to engage in the general practice of the art.

"I trust we should be among the last to oppose the entrance of woman into any department of active life, in which she can secure to herself a useful and honorable position, and a full reward for her

talents and services."

Professor Meigs, of the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in his recent work on the diseases of females, thus speaks upon this

point: -

"The relations between the sexes are of so delicate a character, that the duties of the medical practitioner are necessarily more difficult when he comes to take charge of any one of the great host of female complaints, than when he is called to treat any of the more general disorders. So great, indeed, is the embarrassment, that I am persuaded that much of the ill success of treatment may justly be traced thereto."

The obvious remedy for these evils is the introduction of females into the medical profession; for no amount of the tact of which Dr. Ware speaks can successfully contend with those feelings which, as he says, are "in the best sense natural and appropriate." These feelings must have been implanted for wise purposes, and no custom that tends to wound or weaken them can be conducive to the social and moral well-being of society.

Influenced, perhaps, by this, among other considerations, many eminent clergymen have given the object their earnest approval.

Rev. Edward Beecher, D. D., of Boston, says, in reference to the enterprise, "I would express the conviction that the objects aimed at are of great moment, and call for the aid and coöperation of all intelligent and benevolent members of the community."

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Potter, of Pennsylvania, in a letter to Mrs.

Sarah J. Hale, speaks as follows: -

"The importance of securing for women a larger sphere of usefulness, and the especial propriety and desirableness of qualifying them to practise the healing art among children and those of their own sex, will be admitted, I should hope, by all persons. If there are those, however, who think otherwise, I certainly am not of the number; and I shall rejoice heartily in the success of every effort which is calculated to promote such object."

The highest medical authority may also be cited in favor of the object. It is well known that a lady received a medical education and a diploma at the Geneva Medical College, N. Y., the faculty thereby giving their unqualified approval of the medical education of women. We are, however, informed, that they have since declined to admit females, for the reason that there are now medical colleges expressly for them, and which it is more proper for them to attend. Upon this point, one of the professors in the Harvard Medical School, in a letter to the officers of this Society, says, "Of course, if females are to have a medical education, it should be complete, and there should be an independent college, for the idea of mixing the two sexes in the same lecture room is not to be thought of; and, further, Boston would be as good a location as you could find for such a college."

There are persons who, on a slight consideration of this subject, think that, however desirable may be the object in view, it is, nevertheless, impracticable, inasmuch as women's duties at home must prevent their success in the profession. To give this objection the greatest possible weight, let it be supposed that upon every woman are to devolve the duties of a wife and mother; the average number of children to a family may be two or three. The interruption to the exercise of their profession would therefore be but a small portion of the time between the ages of twenty and sixty or seventy years; and the personal knowledge thereby acquired would the better qualify them to resume their calling. But many women remain single, many who are married have no children, many are left to early widowhood, and in New England there are from thirty to forty thousand more females than males; so that, when the medical profession is supplied, which will not require more than one woman to a thousand inhabitants, there will still be multitudes of the more dependent sex who have no homes to take care of, and no occupation that will develop their faculties or afford them a competent support.

Others, again, suppose that women have not the self-possession and firmness requisite for the difficulties they will encounter. So long as they are ignorant and helpless, they will of course exhibit a want of these qualities; but let them have the power and skill which knowledge and practice give, together with a feeling of professional responsibility, and their firmness in scenes of danger and distress will equal their quickness of perception and their sympathy with suffering.

That this is an imaginary objection, facts and statistics, in reference to the success of professional women, abundantly prove. The important and often difficult department of practice, termed midwifery, "has," as Dr. Ware observes, "always remained more or less in their hands." Less than a century ago it was almost exclusively so in this country. The following inscription, upon a gravestone in our neighboring city of Charlestown, records the success of one of these women, and shows in what grateful esteem they were held for their usefulness:—

"Here lyes Interred the Body of Mrs. Elizabeth Phillips, wife to Mr. John Phillips, who was Born in Westminster, in Great Britain,

& Commissioned by John, Lord Bishop of London, in the year 1718, to the office of a Midwife, and came to this country in the year 1719, & by the blessing of God, has Brought into this world above 3000 children. Died May 6th, 1761, aged 76 years."

Thompson's History of Vermont says of a Mrs. Whitmore of that

state, "She lived to the advanced age of 87 years, officiated at more

than two thousand births, and never lost a patient."

This race of noble women passed away, and their knowledge died with them. No institutions were provided to raise up successors; but schools were opened exclusively for males, who thus obtained the knowledge, and, consequently, the practice. The governments of various European countries provide for the education of this class of

The following paragraph is from the Boston Medical and Surgical

Journal: -

" Instruction of Midwives in Paris. According to the new regulations regarding the instruction of midwives in Paris, it is required that they shall present testimonials of good character, be at least eighteen years of age, and able to read and write correctly the French language, before they can be admitted to the clinical lyingin hospital. It is only after having diligently attended this institution for twelve months, and taken two full courses of lectures on the Theory and Practice of Midwifery, that they can present themselves as candidates for the degree."

From this paragraph it appears that the pupils in France are merely required to read and write correctly. Female education in our country is in advance of that in Europe, and is fast improving in point of extent and thoroughness; so that females are becoming better qualified to acquire and exercise the healing art, and have more need of such intellectual occupation as will usefully employ their

increasing acquirements and mental discipline.

In Boston, where this practice has been chiefly in the hands of skilful male physicians, and the number of births for the past few years has been from four to five thousand annually, the number of infants lost has been one in fourteen. Whereas, in above twenty thousand obstetric cases in the Hospital of Maternity in Paris, exclusively under a female physician, Madame Boivin, the number of infants lost at birth was one in twenty-eight, or half the ratio in Boston. It is probable that there was a corresponding difference in the loss of mothers.

It can readily be understood, that any embarrassment and agitation of mind, occasioned by the wounding of delicate sensibilities, must divert and waste the energies of the system, and be attended with increased suffering and peril to life. And hence, too, as shown by statistics, male practitioners are not unfrequently obliged to resort to the instruments of their art, while women of extensive practice have never had occasion for such appliances.

As an example of successful female practice, we may mention that of Mrs. Alexander, educated in Edinburgh, who died in this city

a few years since, after having pursued her profession for a quarter of a century, among the most intelligent portion of the community. And the knowledge of her success is, we are informed, one of the reasons that have induced so many of the influential citizens of Boston so promptly to aid the establishment of this institution for educat-

ing professional women.

The Female Medical College, in connection with a large Hospital, will form an excellent institution for the instruction and practical training of nurses of the sick—an object of such manifest importance to individuals and the public as to need no argument in its favor. This subject is dwelt upon at length in the Sanitary Report presented to the Legislature in 1850, and institutions for educating nurses are recommended.\*

The commissioners also recommend "that persons be specially educated as preventive as well as curative advisers." Female physicians may be very useful in this respect, as they can freely communicate advice and instruction to their own sex, on whom the health of the race mainly depends.

The diffusion of sanitary knowledge among women will be the most effectual method of diminishing quackery and the patronizing of patent pills and potions, the cost of which to the commonwealth would doubtless endow a sanitary and medical college every year.

A general knowledge of the principles and means of preserving and restoring health, on the part of those on whom chiefly devolves the physical as well as the intellectual training of the young, would do much to check the progress of that physical degeneracy and imbecility that is filling our state with hospitals of various descriptions. The prevention of infirmity and suffering is much more humane and economical than the cure, where the latter is possible. Hence it may be a matter of state economy to encourage this undertaking.

The teaching of physiology and hygiene in our public schools, according to the act passed by the Legislature in 1850, is well calculated to promote these objects; and in this institution, for which your aid is asked, our female teachers could be instructed by lectures upon these subjects, illustrated by all the necessary apparatus. An annual course might be given expressly to teachers, thus making this a Nor-

mal school of the most important description.

Considered in its various features of usefulness, the institution, conducted and sustained by the Female Medical Education Society, it appears to us, must rank among the most important educational establishments in the state; and it certainly appears to be a suitable and desirable object for legislative encouragement. It being an educational institution, it is proper that an appropriation for it should be made from the Education Fund, from which source the sum of ten thousand dollars was granted by the Legislature in 1850 to the Pittsfield Medical School.

<sup>\*</sup> By the "Sanitary Commission," appointed by the Legislature, in 1849, consisting of Lemuel Shattuck, Nathaniel P. Banks, Jr., and Jehiel Abbott.

# EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE FEMALE MEDICAL EDUCATION SOCIETY.

From Ex-Governor Wm. Slade, Vermont.

Having met with your "Letter to Ladies, in favor of Female Physicians for their own Sex," I cannot refrain from giving you a word of approval and encouragement. I am much impressed with some of the reasons urged by you for the employment of female physicians in complaints peculiarly incident to women. . . . . It seems to me that no intelligent and humane physician can hesitate to approve any well-directed effort to bring female talent into this department of his profession. . . . . . I have nothing to say of "women's rights," as claimed by many; but I am most deeply convinced that the sphere of woman's usefulness may be enlarged — and that it may with very great propriety, and greatly to the alleviation of female suffering, take the direction that the Female Medical Education Society are laboring to give it. I need not add that I wish you great success in this effort to do good.

From Judge Joel W. White, Norwich, Ct.

Your "Letter to Ladies," relating to the objects of the Female Medical Education Society, of which you are Secretary, has been read by me with great interest. No institution, in my opinion, has stronger claims upon public benevolence for its support than the Medical College conducted and sustained by your association, whose object is to remove a large amount of female suffering.

remove a large amount of female suffering.

The ideas by you advanced have induced me to become a contributor to the amount of \$20, the fee of life membership of your society. Enclosed you will find a check on the Suffolk Bank for the amount, which please apply for the support of your institution.

#### From Rev. Luther Wright, Woburn, Mass.

Enclosed are \$20, the sum requisite to constitute me a life member of the Female Medical Education Society. Among the philanthropic and Christian enterprises of the day, I think the one in which you are engaged is especially entitled to favor and support; it accordingly gives me pleasure to contribute something at present, with the hope of doing more at another time. It appears to me that persons who have wealth to appropriate to benevolent objects could not make a more advantageous investment for the good of society, and of the race, than by endowing the institution that your association is engaged in establishing.

#### From Mrs. Sarah J. Hale, Philadelphia.

I am happy to enclose you the name and subscription of one life member of the Female Medical Education Society. I shall greatly rejoice if I can aid this grand and good cause in which you are engaged, heart and soul; and you may rely on my assurance of doing what I can. I have given away all the pamphlets you sent me. The "Letter to Ladies" is much esteemed, and the Report of the Massachusetts Legislature is high authority. Can you favor me with another package of these pamphlets?

#### From Mrs. L. H. Sigourney, Hartford, Ct.

Please accept my carnest thanks for the Reports of your Society, and especially for the admirable pamphlet addressed to our Sex, by your own pen, which you have had the kindness to send me. Of the latter it is impossible to speak too highly. [The note from which the above was taken enclosed \$20\$, the fee of life membership to the Female Medical Education Society. The following is from a subsequent

letter.]
I rejoice that your philanthropic design advances in public estimation, which I am sure it will continue to do, being founded on the immutable laws of nature, and also a palpable element of true patriotism. . . . Boston, in former days, took the lead of all our cities in liberally sustaining noble plans, and, I trust, still preserves that character.

From Mrs. Emma Willard, Troy, N. Y.

Having read your views on the subject of female medical education, I am ready to say that I heartily approve them. . . . . Women need instruction, and such an institution as yours to receive and educate them, and I wish to your praiseworthy efforts every encouragement.

From Mrs. Almira Lincoln Phelps, Patapsco Female Institute, Maryland.

I am happy to send you the enclosed \$20, the fee of life membership of the Female Medical Education Society.

It has long been my opinion that the science of medicine should be cultivated by women, especially in those departments in which women are peculiarly interested.

. . . It has required a great amount of moral courage to brave public prejudice on this subject; but the work is begun, and can never retrograde. Your Society is doing much to aid it, and you have my best wishes for success.

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## N. E. FEMALE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

TERMS. - The Ninth Term will commence on Wednesday, March 2, 1853, and continue four months.

The Tenth Term will commence on Wednesday, November 2, 1853. and continue four months; after which there will be but one term annually, of four months, commencing on the first Wednesday in November.

#### PROFESSORS.

[The lecturers for the next term are as follows; Drs. Harvey, Livezey, and Pancoast, being from Philadelphia.]

WM. M. CORNELL, M. D., Physiology, Hygiene, and Med. Jurisprudence. ENOCH C. ROLFE, M. D., Surgery and Materia Medica. ELWOOD HARVEY, M. D., Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children. ABRAHAM LIVEZEY, M. D., Principles and Practice of Medicine.

SETH PANCOAST, M. D., Anatomy.
SAMUEL GREGORY, A. M., Chemistry.
ALMIRA L. FOWLER, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.

- To each of the Six Professors, \$10. Demonstrator's Fee, \$5. Graduation Fee, \$20.

BOARD. — Medium price of Board, in the city, \$3 per week.

Text Books.—The pupils can select from the following: Anatomy, Wilson, Horner, Quain and Sharpey. Physiology, Carpenter, Oliver, Müller. Obstetrics, Dewees, Churchill, Meigs, Chailly, Velpeau. Diseases of Women, Meigs, Dewees, Madames Boivin and Lachapelle. Materia Medica, Perreira, Royle, U. S. Dispensatory. Surgery, Druitt, Cooper, Liston, Velpeau, Furguson. Chemistry, Silliman, Turner, Stockhardt, Christison, or Taylor on Poiscas.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION.—The candidates for Medical Diplomas must be at least twenty-one years of age; must have pursued the study of medicine three years,—two of which must have been under the supervision of a respectable Practitioner of Medicine,—and must have attended two full Courses of Lectures, one of which must have been at this Institution. The pupils can receive private instruction from the Professors during the portion of the year not included in the Term.

Obstetrics.—Suitable Women can receive a course of education for this department of practice; to obtain Certificates for which, they must have studied at least one year, including a Term in this Institution, and must pass a satisfactory examination in Anatomy and Physiology, in Midwifery, and the Diseases of Women and Children.

Nurses. — Courses of instruction will be given to Nurses of the Sick; and when the Hospital shall have been started, they will have opportunity to acquire a practical, as well as a theoretical, knowledge of their duties.

Any Lady, desirous of obtaining physiological, sanitary, and curative knowledge, can procure a Ticket to the Lectures of any one or more of the Professors. Thus the female portion of the community, and, consequently, the public generally, will receive the benefits of the Institution.

Further particulars respecting the College or Society may be learned by calling upon, or addressing, the Secretary, at No. 15 Cornhill, Boston.

To the Female Medical Education Society the foregoing Report is respectfully presented.

For the Directors,

SAMUEL GREGORY, Secretary.

Boston, January, 1853.