

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MEDICAL PROFESSION OF DETROIT
ON THE
MORTON TESTIMONIAL.

At a Meeting of the MEDICAL PROFESSION OF DETROIT, held at the house of Dr. Cobb, Saturday Evening, May 12, 1865, Dr. Kane was called to the Chair, and Dr. Noyes was appointed Secretary. The Chairman, after calling the Meeting to order, announced, that the profession had been convened for the purpose of meeting Dr. Morton, of Boston, who would address them on the origin and progress of Anæsthetic Agents.

Dr. Morton then proceeded to address the meeting. After the remarks of Dr. Morton, it was moved that the undersigned be appointed a committee to express the views of the profession to Dr. Morton, and also to arrange a plan for soliciting subscriptions for the Morton Testimonial, which is being raised by a society of eminent men, for the purpose of thus substantially proving the high appreciation which Dr. Morton's countrymen have of the great boon which he has conferred upon humanity in the discovery of practical Anæsthesia.

The undersigned, a committee, appointed at a special meeting of the Medical Profession of Detroit, referred to above, have the honor to enclose to you a copy of the proceedings on the Morton Testimonial, and to address you on this subject.

This discovery is in daily requisition throughout the civilized world. Every man in or out of the army is *liable to the misfortunes that would make the use of it invaluable to him*. Every day the persons who use this discovery must be counted by the thousands. Our whole country, in its vast military and naval service, in its extensive hospital and naval practice, is constantly receiving the immense benefits of this discovery. These have been conferred through Dr. Morton's labor and anxiety, at a heavy ruinous expense and loss. The Senate Report, No. 89, 8d Session, 37th Congress, on this subject says: "An account stated, supported by satisfactory evidence, shows that Dr. Morton has expended in money, time and sacrifice of professional business, more than two hundred thousand dollars in discovering, defending his discovery and his rights thereto, and perfecting and giving the nation his pain-destroying agent."

By reference to the report already referred to, it will be seen that Dr. Morton's claims for remuneration have been examined by various committees of Congress, who have made several reports, fully sustaining his right over all others to the honors and emoluments resulting from this discovery; and that his claim has passed through the various legislative, executive and administrative departments of the government, and during the last 18 years has been repeatedly urged upon Congress by petitions and resolutions from the great bulk of the medical profession, scientific societies, professors and surgeons of the principal Colleges and Hospitals, surgeons and officers of the Federal army; and that all of these means have failed to secure him the slightest remuneration from the Government, though several applications have been made since the war commenced.

Under these circumstances, the public are under the greatest obligations to do what the government has failed or been unable to accomplish; and more especially at a time when his discovery is brought into general use, and its great value in lessening pain and saving life is so apparent. We trust the citizens of Detroit will evince the same readiness that other cities have shown in contributing their share of the proposed fund. This is due to one of the most praiseworthy objects ever presented to our enlightened and patriotic citizens. Such contributions as any may be disposed to make, will be received by the following members of the Committee.

S. G. ARMOR,	M. D.	} <i>Executive Committee.</i>
E. M. CLARK,	"	
N. D. STEBBINS,	"	
MORSE STEWART,	"	
EDWARD KANE,	"	
LOUIS DAVENPORT,	"	
J. F. NOYES,	"	
Z. FITCHER,	"	
L. H. COBB,	"	
WILLIAM BRODIE,	"	

The committee also invited the influential citizens out of the profession to confer with them as to the most efficient means of accomplishing the end in view, when it was declared that Dr. Morton should address the Board of Trade, and the citizens generally. In accordance with this view, a public meeting was called, when Moses W. Field was chosen President, and Dr. Geo. Frelder Secretary. At an adjourned meeting in the City Hall, Dr. Morton addressed a highly respectable audience, after which, on motion of N. W. Brooks, the following gentlemen were appointed a committee to act on the part of the citizens, in conjunction with the Medical Committee, in soliciting subscriptions to the proposed fund.

H. P. BRIDGE,	JOHN HOSMER,
R. W. KING,	ALANSON SHELEY
MOSES W. FIELD,	GEO. F. BAGLEY,

The result of these joint applications has been most satisfactory—over three thousand dollars has already been subscribed.

EDWARD KANE, M. D.,

Chairman of the Medical Committee