> *"Many of your patients have . . . often received great benefit, and sometimes when neither they nor their friends have been sensible of it, from the frequent meetings, the friendly conferences, and learned consultations of this Society, and this may be considered only as the first fruits of a plentiful harvest."*
> — Dr. William Burnet, President, 1787.

The situation prevailing in 1781 was similar in many respects to that at the end of the French and Indian War which prompted the formation of the Medical Society. There was a lessened demand for war materiel, and New Jersey in particular felt the closing of forges and furnaces. Hard cash was scarce, and paper money was of uncertain value.

Itinerant medical pretenders were multiplying once more, offering treatments and cures, turning a fast shilling where they could and moving on to new areas when exposed.

So while statesmen drew up the terms of the peace treaty, settled political apportionment and judicial procedures, the physicians of New Jersey resumed their efforts to improve their profession, to avail themselves of medical and scientific discoveries and to pursue the goal of official recognition.

In September, 1781, the *New Jersey Gazette* informed readers: "A number of the members of the late New Jersey Medical Society, desirous as well of promoting the science of medicine, as establishing some more regular system of practice in this state, propose restoring the Society to its former dignity and usefulness, and will hold their first meeting for this purpose on Wednesday the third day of October next at the house of Mr. Bateman, in Princeton. The former members, and such other gentlemen of the faculty who are desirous of becoming members of this Society, are requested to meet there at 10 o'clock in the forenoon." [1]

A subsequent notice stated that "a respectable number of members" had attended the reorganization meeting and agreed to re-establish the Society on the basis of its former principles and constitution. They set the half-yearly meeting for the first Tuesday in November at Princeton.

On November 6, five members of the Society appeared. One of these was Dr. James Newell. He had joined in 1767, was its president in 1773 and served in the war as Surgeon of the 2nd Regiment of Militia in Monmouth County. The considerable distance from his home in Freehold to Princeton was of little consequence to Dr. Newell, who regularly rode on horseback to attend patients in a twenty-five mile area over rough country. Besides, he was anxious to compare medical experiences with his colleagues. A good president before the Revolution, he was an obvious choice for re-election.

Dr. Thomas Wiggins, one of three Princeton residents at the meeting (Dr. Isaac Smith and Dr. John Beatty were the others), was elected secretary. His attention was divided, however, by simultaneously having to extend hospitality to the important leaders of the fledgling nation who were gathered in Princeton. He was also interested in the welfare of the College of New Jersey, of which he was shortly to become treasurer.

Dr. Smith, who had joined the Society within a year of its founding, had become first president of the Trenton Banking Company. As noted earlier, he had resigned from the Army to become a Justice of the Supreme Court.

Dr. Beatty's health had been impaired by his treatment while a prisoner of the British. He improved following his release, and was named successor to Elias Boudinot in the office of Commissary General of Prisoners. The duties of the office were described by General Washington in a letter to Boudinot. They included looking after prisoners to see that they received what was allowed, keeping an account of expenses and, in leisure time, procuring intelligence from the prisoners about the enemy positions.[2]

Dr. Thomas Barber journeyed from Matawan to resume acquaintance with his professional colleagues. Holding degrees from both Yale and Princeton, he was esteemed for his culture as well as his medical competence.

Two applicants were present and admitted to membership after examination. One was Dr. Elisha Newell of Shrewsbury, son of the president; the other, Dr. Benjamin Stockton of Princeton.

Dr. Thomas Henderson of Freehold, who had joined the Society at its second meeting and later been dropped for non-attendance, was reinstated. Recognized both for his military service and his civic endeavors, Dr. Henderson had the distinction of being the man who informed General Washington of General Lee's retreat at the Battle of Monmouth. It was probably Dr. Henderson who later wrote details of the British depredations in that area.[3]

At the next meeting of the Society, in May, 1782, the president's dissertations were resumed with Dr. Newell's report on nephritis or inflammation of the kidneys. In November, he discussed malnutrition. Dr. Beatty, who succeeded him as president, talked on the blood and the changes it is capable of undergoing in disease.

Society seeks charter

During his term, Dr. Beatty also continued efforts to obtain a charter of incorporation for the Society. He appointed Drs. Burnet, Smith, and James Newell to apply to the legislature for the charter or "such other act as to them may seem proper to regulate and restrain the practice of physic and surgery in this State."

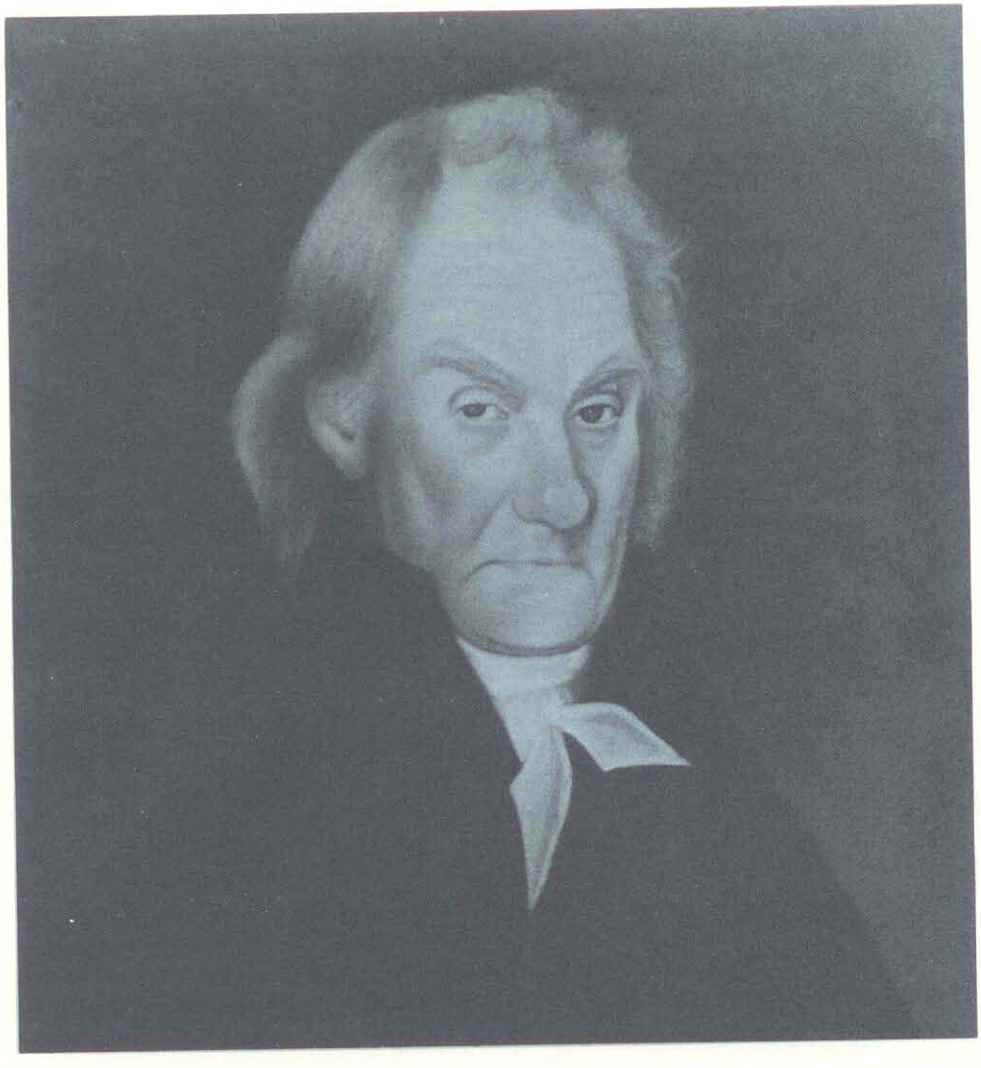
The Society grew. Candidates for membership presented themselves at almost every meeting and were admitted in various ways: by examination, by satisfactory credentials and testimonials and, occasionally, by being "known to all present." In 1785, Dr. Thomas Griffith Haight of Shrewsbury was admitted on his presentation of a license from two of the justices of the Supreme Court, one of whom was Dr. Smith.

Every candidate had to give notice at a preceding meeting of his intention to join. Before the balloting, he was required to write a dissertation on some medical or medically-related philosophic subject, to read it before the Society, and to submit to such examination as the Society thought proper. A certificate in Latin, signed by the president was given the accepted candidates.

Dues were set at 10 shillings a year, and a fine of up to 2½ shillings could be levied upon delinquents.

In his address in 1787, President Burnet noted the respect with which the Society was already regarded, and added his hope, trust and belief that "you will as a Society, and individually, merit more and more the patronage and esteem of the public, and by a constant uniform attention to the great objects of this institution, forever silence all opposition."

He was convinced the Society already had proved its worth, adding, "Many of your patients have, I am persuaded, often received great benefit, and sometimes when neither they nor their friends have been sensible of it, from the frequent meetings, the friendly conferences, and learned consultations of this Society, and this may be considered only as the first fruits of a plentiful harvest."



The original portrait of Dr. Lawrence VanDerveer (1740-1815) of Somerset County hangs in the headquarters of The Medical Society of New Jersey, Trenton. He was a founder of the Society in 1766 and president in 1784. The portrait came to the Society as a bequest from A. May VanDerveer, M.D.

"You are to put forth your helping hand to the great work of promoting medical knowledge," he said. "You are to discover something new in the theory or practice of physic and surgery. You are to assist in raising the noble, God-like art of healing to the highest pitch of possible perfection."

Dr. Burnet took up the matter of two patients with the same symptoms reacting to treatment in opposite ways. He recommended the practice of writing out carefully the histories of diseases as they occurred in practice, describing accurately their various symptoms, the order in which they arise, observing the age and constitution of the patient, the place of treatment, and their effects.

To extend its knowledge still further, the Society in 1787, voted that President Burnet should write to the Medical Society of the "State of Massachusetts Bay" to propose an exchange of correspondence.

Society clinics

There was an air of expectancy in the meeting room at James Drake's Inn in New Brunswick as seventeen doctors met there on November 1, 1785. President Lawrence VanDerveer had sent personal letters urging attendance, and the response was more than double the usual number. Definite innovations were promised for this two-day session.

Knowing of Dr. VanDerveer's conviction that hydrophobia could be cured, some members expected that his dissertation would dwell on the virtue of the plant *Scutellaria Lateriflora* in prevention and treatment. He claimed to have administered this remedy successfully to about 400 persons said to have been exposed to the disease.[4] But instead of this subject, Dr. VanDerveer discussed the intestines and their function.

However, the session was historic. At earlier meetings, one physician after another described cases on which he wanted advice or a comparison of experiences. But the members found it difficult to make a diagnosis without seeing the patient. At the New Brunswick meeting, for the first time, a patient was introduced for all to study.

He was Jacob Probasco, seventeen years old, who had a tumor in the forearm. He was examined by the various members. After due deliberation, it was recorded, "the Society were of the opinion that whether it was a tumor of the encysted kind, or an aneurism, [a dilated blood vessel] incision ought to be made with a view, if possible, to save the limb; at the same time making every preparation for an amputation in case it should be necessary." On the following day, the boy returned, and Dr. Beatty was appointed to perform the surgery.

The secretary recorded, "Incision being made, a considerable hemorrhage took place (although there was no appearance of an aneurism), and the tumor was extirpated, consisting partly of carnous, ligamentous, ossein and cheese-like substances, not encysted, but lying within the common covering integuments of the arm, and occupying the whole space from the cubit to the wrist."

Drs. Moses Scott and Lewis Dunham, both local practitioners, were assigned to attend to the treatment of young Probasco and report to the Society at the next meeting.

Dr. Scott reported six months later that four days after the operation it had been necessary to amputate the arm. He had done so in the presence

of Drs. Dunham and Abram Howard. A week later, Dr. Scott continued, a stiffness in the boy's neck and other symptoms appeared, indicating lockjaw, and, "notwithstanding warm applications to the part and a free exhibition of opium internally, the symptoms continued increasing, the mouth was obliged to be kept open by force, and a great rigidity of the whole body and limbs took place. In this state he continued with very little remission, for six weeks; the wound at the same time (dressed in the common manner) had a good appearance; the symptoms then began to wear away and the cure was performed in eleven weeks." Dr. Scott concluded triumphantly, "The patient now enjoys good health."

More outpatients

While the Probasco case was indeed dramatic, it was not the only one introduced at that November session. Dr. Scott sought recommendations on a child under his care who had a tumor and ulcer in the thigh. Drs. Burnet, Griffith, and Morris were named to accompany Dr. Scott to the child's house, examine the patient, and report back to the Society. Before the day ended, the doctors declared that in their opinion the child had a "spina ventosa and abscesses in Medulla of the os femoris; and that a large dilation of the wound ought to be made, so as to give a free discharge to the sanies." ("Sanies" is a Latin word meaning a thin purulent discharge, often tinged with blood, which seeps from a wound or ulcer.)

Dr. Scott again was assigned to record the history of the case, together with his treatment, and to report at the meeting six months later. There was almost no change in the child to report, however, except that he was "more emaciated, his abdomen tumefied and the discharge more adhesive and tenacious, accompanied with a greenish appearance."

Nothing further appears in the minutes of the Society concerning the case until a final item in November, 1790, when the secretary noted, "The Society, reflecting that several years had elapsed since the injury was received, that the patient is much emaciated and a hectic fever present, are of opinion that a speedy amputation affords the most probable chance of relief."

In 1785, the members also examined a five-month-old child with a compound hare lip. It was decided that the patient was too young for an operation and that for the present there should be application of bandages and adhesive plasters in the hope of causing "the integuments or labia of the fissure to elongate so as to become more proper for operation" in the future.

Dr. Scott had still another case for consultation. Drs. Ebenezer Blachly, Thomas Wiggins, Jacob Jennings, and William Burnet rode out to examine the patient and diagnosed the ailment as a species of St. Vitus' Dance with the spasms extending over the whole system. They were evidently correct, for a year later Dr. Scott reported the case had been treated with tonics as the four doctors had prescribed and that these "had the desired effect."

Word of the clinic spread throughout New Jersey and helped attract Dr. James Stratton from Gloucester County. He was admitted to membership at the Princeton meeting in November, 1786, and two years later was elected president. Traveling the long distance to meetings was only a slight extension of Dr. Stratton's thirty-mile circuit of patients. It was his habit to rise

early, do his writing and preparations for the day, breakfast by candlelight and then to start off in a topless sulky, sometimes requiring a change of horses if he was delayed into the night. His commanding figure and genial, kindly manner, plus his medical reputation and civic and political prominence, made him a notable addition to the Society.[5]

Like others, he sought advice on unusual cases. One of these was a person "who had labored under an intermittent fever, after which he was affected with a pain in the right lobe of the lungs, in consequence of which he expectorated large quantities of a matter resembling trunks and branches of vessels." Dr. Stratton supplied a sample, and, after due examination, the Society agreed that the discharge was "an inspissated lymph, and that the form was owing to the peculiar organization of the parts." The members asserted that emetics were particularly indicated.

In 1790, Dr. William Stillwell brought a case to the Society. This physician had begun studies under Dr. Thomas Barber when he was fifteen and had celebrated his twentieth birthday, two years before, with a license to practice and admission to the Society. The case he presented was a "nervous affection occasioned by a wound in the internal ankle. Musk, camphor, asafetida, bark, opium, and the cold bath had been applied to the limb with advantage, but the patient remained debilitated." The Society thought Madeira wine and exercise were indicated, along with the cold bath applied to the whole surface of the body. Within six months, the patient was restored to his former health and vigor.

Venereal disease

The first recorded discussion of venereal disease took place at the meeting in May, 1788. Dr. Francis Bowes Sayre, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and living in Trenton, had just been admitted to membership. Although his thesis was a noteworthy early paper on "Phthisis Pulmonalis" (tuberculosis), Dr. Sayre on this May day was eager to report an extraordinary case of syphilis and the powerful effects of the herb perfolium or thoroughwort with which he had effected a cure.

By November, 1790, the free clinics had become so popular that the Society was forced to take precautions against those seeking unfair advantage of them. A resolution was passed: "That all such patients as may offer themselves for the opinion of this Society, do bring with them an accurate statement of their case drawn up by their attending physician."

The organization had gained recognition in other ways. Jedidiah Morse of Elizabeth, whose book, *A History of America,* was published in 1789, included in his description of New Jersey: "There is a Medical Society in the State consisting of about thirty of the most respectable physicians, who meet twice a year. No person [is] admitted to the practice of physic without a license from the Supreme Court, founded on a certificate from the Society, or at least two of its members, testifying his skill and abilities."

So many matters called for attention that in the 1780's, as the two-day session was introduced, members convened at 6 a.m. on the second day. Only after several years did they indulge themselves by starting as late as 7:30 a.m.

The controversial Table of Rates and Fees came under discussion again in May, 1786. The secretary, Dr. John Beatty, noted that the Table "shall be deemed the general rule of charging by the members of this Society and so far binding that in no instance they exceed it; and further . . . the Society will deem it highly dishonorable in any member to make a different charge with a view to injure a neighboring practitioner who is also a member."

Again, every member was at liberty to abate "what part of said bills" might seem proper on account of poverty, friendship or other motives. To facilitate observance of the rates, the Society ordered Secretary Dr. Thomas G. Haight to draw thirty copies, so that each member would have one.

From the start, there had been efforts to attract members from the western and southern counties of the state. For the November, 1786, meeting in Princeton, a special invitation had been extended by President Dr. Moses Bloomfield to Dr. Isaac Harris of Salem County who had helped found the Society twenty years before. Dr. Bloomfield sent another invitation to his wartime associate, Dr. Ebenezer Elmer of Bridgeton.

The official seal of The Medical Society of New Jersey has been in use since 1790.

Dr. Elmer had been an Army surgeon in the thick of the action at Chadd's Ford, Germantown, and the Battle of Monmouth. He survived winters at Valley Forge, Morristown, Pompton, and the siege of Yorktown. Along the way, he had suffered a partial dislocation of the hip and was quite lame but remained active until his death at ninety-one.

Both doctors accepted the invitation, and the Society deliberated on establishing a similar society in the western part of the state. Finally, it was decided that it was not expedient at the time. As an encouragement to active participation from the section, however, future meetings were to alternate between Burlington and New Brunswick.

At this same November, 1786, meeting, the Society ordered a seal for its use, naming Drs. Smith, Wiggins and Beatty to procure it and affix to it whatever device they thought proper. Due to the unexpectedly high cost of the device, it was not until November, 1789, that Dr. Beatty finally presented it to Secretary Sayre. It was then found that a press was needed in order to emboss it. One was provided a year later.

Help-bringers

The seal depicts the oracle in the Temple of Apollo, chief god of healing in antiquity. The high priest at Delphi is shown delivering a prophecy as he stands beside the altar. Above him shines the light of inspiration — rays from Apollo, who also was the legendary god of the sun. The Latin inscription above the temple columns is a quotation from the words ascribed to Apollo by Ovid in his long poem *Metamorphoses* (1, 521-2) :

> *Inventum Medicina meum est,*
> *Opiferque per orbem dicor.*
>
> The art of medicine is my discovery,
> and I am called Help-bringer throughout the world.

A spirit of professional idealism appears in the inscription on the altar of Apollo's shrine. This is an abbreviation for the Latin: *cortina merces anti,* which may be translated "The oracle of Apollo is opposed to commercialism." [6]

In the same year that the seal was finally available, the Society also won its charter from the legislature. One committee after another had importuned the legislature until in 1790 it passed *An Act Incorporating a Certain Number of the Physicians and Surgeons of this State, by the Style and Title of The Medical Society of New Jersey.*

The preamble noted that the group had "long since formed" and that the object of the association had been "to maintain an uninterrupted intercourse and communication of sentiments with one another, to cultivate liberality and harmony among themselves, to promote systems, to correspond with and receive intelligence from the like societies abroad, and generally to improve the science of medicine and to alleviate human misery."

The Act provided for the purchase of houses and other property to the amount of £500. Officers were listed as the president "who shall be the keeper of the common seal"; vice president, treasurer, recording secretary,

and corresponding secretary. Any fifteen members, with the president or vice president and one of the secretaries, constituted a quorum. But a measure would be binding, if entered into with as few as seventeen present, only if at least nine consented. If more than seventeen were present, a majority of them should decide.

A final section of the Act gave the Society authority to make laws, ordinances, and constitutions for governing the Society or tending to promote the benevolent objects and principles of the institution. These were to be obligatory on the members, provided of course the Society's laws were not "repugnant" to the laws of the state.

Promptly following this, the Committee of the Whole, at Princeton, December 6, 1791, drew up the laws for the government of The Medical Society of New Jersey. These provided for an annual meeting in November, a subdivision into four smaller societies which would meet annually in May and be considered as branches, and the officers previously listed in the Act.

Provision was made for the election of honorary members, not to exceed one-fourth of the members, and actually resident in the state.

Dr. Paul Micheau

Ironically, the prolonged efforts to acquire an official seal, and a charter from the legislature, were accomplished almost on the eve of the Society's twelve-year suspension of activities. Several circumstances probably contributed to this, including the clique of strong-willed and conservative "elder statesmen" who controlled the meetings while asking for suggestions on how to make the sessions more interesting and better attended.

Another explanation, offered years later, was that members died or moved away and were not replaced. Privately, the Society blamed a newcomer — Dr. Paul Micheau of Elizabeth — for the unpardonable sin of starting a separate organization conveniently located for many and so much livelier that for a few years it drew most of the young and forward-looking physicians of the Newark-Elizabeth area away from the older Society.

It is impossible to determine today whether Dr. Micheau was indeed the self-centered person referred to by implication in the minutes of the Society; or the man that Essex County's Dr. J. Henry Clark would describe, half-a-century later, as "a thinker in advance of his time" and a victim of lesser minds "who would rather cramp and retard than grapple with new methods."

Dr. Micheau had come from Staten Island and established himself in Elizabeth in April, 1789. A month later he applied for admission to the Medical Society. He had been educated in European schools and knew the methods and techniques of the famed Percival Pott, surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London from 1744 to 1787. Dr. Micheau's recommendation for a license to practice in New Jersey was signed by four of the leading members of the Society: Drs. Moses Scott, John Beatty, Jonathan Ford Morris, and the Society president, James Stratton.

In some ways Dr. Micheau was more enterprising than his colleagues. Instead of taking an apprentice or two, he offered a course of medical lectures in Elizabeth from May 10 to July 25, 1790, at a price of five pounds.[7]

But it was his further activity that year that most incensed members of the Medical Society. The minutes of the meeting in November, 1790, state:

"Dr. Micheau has taken an active part in originating and establishing a Society in the County of Essex, new and independent of this corporation, and the board deeming his conduct as a member of this Society very reprehensible . . . require his attendance at the next stated meeting to answer in the premises."

The unauthorized Essex County organization shook the state group. But the aging founders of the Medical Society were unable to assemble a quorum to take appropriate action.

Dr. Micheau did not attend the next session to "answer in the premises." Married only two months before, he may simply have been reluctant to absent himself from the young wife, who, he wrote had "sense and soft persuasion . . . to captivate the soul." Or perhaps he felt no need to bow to the orders of a Society he and his colleagues considered to be dying.

The Society minutes indicate such a conviction was well founded. Repeatedly, there were too few at the meetings to provide a quorum. No one at all attended the meeting called for the first Tuesday in November, 1791. A month later, fifteen of the faithful gathered in Princeton, still without a quorum and with President Griffith absent.

Continue or dissolve?

In succeeding years, there were fewer in attendance and fewer applicants for membership. Finally, in June, 1795, Secretary Dr. James Anderson was directed to write each member of the Society, concerning "the declining state of the institution, which in point of usefulness is second to none, and with respect to antiquity the oldest in the United States." The secretary urged attendance at the next meeting, warning the members "it must rest with them alone by their compliance, whether to continue or dissolve the corporation, as it can no longer subsist in its present neglected state."

As a result, sixteen members appeared for the meeting in November, 1795. This final gathering until 1807 was a typical session — Dr. Elisha Newell read his paper on dropsy; the secretary was absent and Dr. Abraham Canfield was named secretary pro tem; Dr. William M. McKissack applied for admission and was examined and accepted.

Then came an unusual motion. Although it must have been a bitter pill to swallow, the few active members of the Society put the state organization above their personal pride and appointed a committee of their most respected members — Drs. Jacob Dunham, John Beatty, Jabez Campfield, John Wall and James Newell — to confer with the splinter group in an effort to unite it with the original Society.

There is no record that the conference was held. If it was, it came at an inopportune time. Dr. Micheau, grief-stricken upon the death of his adored wife, was not amenable to compromise. Without his energetic leadership, however, the Essex group disbanded. The state Medical Society was near the verge of dissolution. The next twelve years passed without minutes or meetings.

The men who, five years before, had adopted the noble Latin designation of "help-bringers," went their separate ways, tending the sick as always, but forsaking the Society. The organization would lie dormant until the physicians, public and legislature appreciated its value.

The aging founders of the state Society were not the only ones to find their world in transition. The country was growing, and New Jersey with it. By 1790, the state population was 184,139; it increased by 15 per cent in the ensuing decade, and by 1810, had grown another 16 per cent. English and Welsh comprised slightly more than half the population; the Dutch, 12 per cent, and the Germans somewhat less.

In 1789, Elias Boudinot made his last attempt to establish the federal capital at Trenton, but he was overruled by the desire of prominent Virginians to see it farther south.

Transportation, though still hampered by wretched roads, bridgeless rivers and undependable stage lines, gave hint of improvement. François Blanchard caused great excitement with his fantastic balloon flight from Philadelphia to Woodbury in 1793. A year later, the first steam engine built entirely in America was constructed at Belleville. Along the Delaware River, John Fitch puttered with a new invention, the steamboat.

The recent Revolution had produced new texts for the medical profession. There were Dr. Benjamin Rush's manual on hygiene, written from his experience in the war; Dr. James Tilton's work on Army hospitals, and Dr. John Jones' book on the treatment of wounds.

There was talk of a medical school to be established at the College of New Jersey in Princeton. The trustees had appointed a Scottish physician, Dr. John MacLean, to be the professor of chemistry. (His son, John MacLean, Jr., was to become president of Princeton College from 1854-1868.)

In one of its final acts before its twelve-year hiatus, the Medical Society recorded its pleasure at the news of the medical school. It promised "all countenance and aid to such an institution as far as is consistent with their act of incorporation and the constitution of the Society."

The plan for the school was never carried out.

CIRCULAR.

THE SUBSCRIBERS regretting the present neglected state of the medical society of New Jersey, and being sensible that the charter of incorporation must ere long be lost, thro' a failure of members, have thought it a duty to make an effort to rescue from oblivion and restore to its former estimation an institution so reputable to its founders and supporters, and so well calculated to be useful to the publick at large.

In order to effect this desirable object, they earnestly solicit your co-operation and attendance at Mr Degraw's Tavern, in this city, on the 4th Tuesday of June, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

It is intended to invite not only the members of the medical society, but such other gentlemen of respectable character, and standing in the profession as may be known to us; and we will thank you to extend invitations to gentlemen of the above description, in your vicinity. Should a sufficient number of the society convene to form a board, such measures may probably be taken as will in future relieve us from our present unhappy dilemma; and on this account we are more anxious that every member should duly consider how important and necessary his attendance on that occasion will be.

Should the present attempt fail, there will remain no hope of continuing an institution which in utility is inferior to none of the kind, and in point of time the oldest in the United States, the only alternative left us, will be to give it up altogether, or endeavour to devise some plan which may be more likely to succeed in future.

New-Brunswick, May 27, 1807.

We are Sir,

Respectfully yours, &c.

MOSES SCOTT,
LEWIS DUNHAM,
JACOB DUNHAM, } *Members of the Medical Society.*

PETER STRYKER,
CHARLES SMITH.

Dr. Stratton

Sir,

We hope the purport of the above letter, which has been sent to the respective members of the medical society of New-Jersey, will meet your approbation; and we invite you to attend at the time and place above mentioned, if you have a wish to become a member of the said society, or are willing to deliberate on measures for instituting a medical society on other grounds, should it appear necessary and adviseable so to do.

Yours, &c.

MOSES SCOTT,
LEWIS DUNHAM,
JACOB DUNHAM,
PETER STRYKER,
CHARLES SMITH.

A circular letter of 1807 called a meeting to revive The Medical Society of New Jersey which had suspended sessions from November 3, 1795 to June 22, 1807.