

United States, or which might be commenced prior to the next meeting, should be elected members of the Association. At the following meeting, the scope of this resolution was enlarged so as to include the medical superintendents of all asylums on the continent.

The officers appointed at the first meeting were Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, President; Dr. Samuel White, Vice-President; and Dr. Thomas S. Kirkbride, Secretary and Treasurer.

It will thus be seen that the American Association is but three years the junior of the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland, that body having been formed in June, 1811, and held its first annual meeting at Nottingham, in November of the same year.

Of the thirteen members present at the first meeting in Philadelphia, known among American alienists as the "Original Thirteen," all have passed to the bourne whence no traveller returns, Dr. Pliny Earle, the last, but by no means the least of that glorious band, departing this life on May 17th, 1892. But, though gone, the good work of which they laid the corner-stone stands as an everlasting monument to their greatness, benevolence, and philanthropy.

"We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths;

In feelings, not in figures on a dial.

We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives,

Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best."

Even a very brief summary of the cardinal principles laid down on all important subjects relative to the care of the insane, at the early meetings of the Association, would require more time and space than can be here accorded. They covered a vast territory, embracing the construction and organization of hospitals for the insane; the medical, moral, and hygienic treatment of mental disorders; the statistics, causes, and prevention of insanity; the legal principles which should govern in the jurisprudence of insanity, etc., etc. Suffice it to say, that so broad and comprehensive were the foundations then laid that they form, even to this day, the basis of asylum management.

In 1892, the name of the organization was changed to the American Medico-Psychological Association, which it now bears, and its object re-defined as "The study of all subjects pertaining to mental disease, including the care, treatment, and promotion of the best interests of the insane." The active membership was made to include physicians resident in the United States and British America, especially interested in the treatment of insanity.

From its birth, in 1844, up to the present date, the Association has met yearly, with one exception. In consequence of the disturbed