

A
HISTORY
of the
**WORCESTER DISTRICT
MEDICAL
SOCIETY**
and the
**WORCESTER MEDICAL
SOCIETY**
1794 - 1954

PAUL F. BERGIN, M.D.
Secretary
Worcester District Medical Society
1952-1954

WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS
WORCESTER DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

DEDICATED TO
PHILIP H. COOK. M.D.
THE INSPIRATION AND GUIDANCE OF THIS WORK

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FOREWORD

The Worcester Medical Society was founded in 1794, when the United States of America was five years old.

Seventeen ninety-four was clearly an important year in the federal experiment. During that year the new country endured important tests of its checks and balances system, and successfully exercised both military and diplomatic options to implement foreign policy. The 11th amendment to the Constitution was passed, diminishing the power of the Supreme Court, by removing from its jurisdiction suits against a state by an individual from another state. President Washington established the power of his position when he called up the militia and led troops from four states against the Whiskey Rebellion in western Pennsylvania. The U.S. Navy was re-established to put down the Barbary pirates. The U.S. Army under "Mad Anthony" Wayne defeated several Indian tribes which were supplied and partly staffed by Canada, thereby, avoiding the loss of a portion of the Northwest Territory, and opening it to expansion. Impending war with England over freedom of the high seas was averted through the Jay treaty.

The leading citizen of Massachusetts was the Vice-President of the United States, John Adams. Coastal Massachusetts was then enjoying the fruits of the already fabulous new China trade. The farmers of the central and western parts of the commonwealth shared only to a small extent in this prosperity, and the long-standing resentments which had led to Shay's Rebellion a few years earlier continued to smoulder.

When the county in the heart of the commonwealth had been formed in 1731, Worcester was chosen as county seat, although several nearby towns were larger. The various sessions of court held annually attracted multitudes to Worcester in search of justice, business, and entertainment, and, inevitably, the permanent population grew. There were 2,000 residents by 1794.

On December 18 of that year, forty-one physicians met at Daniel Heywood's tavern in Worcester, and agreed to form themselves "into a fraternity by the title of the Worcester Medical Society". They came from 24 towns, from as far west as Amherst, and even from Greenwich, R.I.

A history of that society, which continues to the present as the Worcester District Medical Society, was completed in May, 1954 by Dr. Paul Bergin. His book has never been published and only three typewritten copies were known to exist in early 1993.

Dr. Bergin (1908-1970) had a large obstetrics practice (he delivered all five of my children who were born in Worcester), was Chief of Obstetrics

FOREWORD

at the St. Vincent Hospital and the Worcester City Hospital, was active in the Worcester District Medical Society (Secretary for two years and President in 1957), and was a devoted family man. All the members of the Society are indebted to him for finding time to write this excellent, well-researched work.

The Massachusetts Medical Society had come into being in 1781; it claims to be the oldest American medical society in continuous existence. (The Medical Society of New Jersey had been founded in 1766 but, apparently, held no meetings during two periods of six and twelve years respectively, before 1808.) The Worcester Medical Society, as we have seen, began in 1794 and is one of the oldest medical societies in this country.

We will read in Dr. Bergin's work how the original Worcester Medical Society became the Worcester District Medical Society in 1804 when it became affiliated with the Massachusetts Medical Society. The Worcester Medical Library came into being and at times seemed to be the mortar which held together the bricks of the Medical Society. The Society and Library flourished through the years. Fitchburg, Leominster, and neighboring towns spun off into the Worcester North District Medical Society in 1858. The city of Worcester matured into the second largest city in New England with parallel growth in the medical profession and the Medical Society.

This book is as written by Dr. Bergin with only minor editing, the division into chapters, and the correction of typographical errors. In the appendices there are a few additions made after 1954, presumably, by Dr. Bergin himself. The book retains Dr. Bergin's classical, often orotund, style, his fondness for the semicolon, his interminable quotations of documents, his fear of socialized medicine, and his admittedly biased attitude toward doctors who did not serve in the Armed Forces during World War II.

Let us now go back to the beginning with Dr. Bergin.

John J. Massarelli, M.D.

Worcester, Massachusetts
October, 1993



PREFACE

The Worcester District Medical Society and its predecessor, the Worcester Medical Society, have had a continued existence for one hundred and sixty years. From the time that forty-one physicians of Worcester County met and formed themselves into a fraternity on December 18, 1794, we have grown into a robust and active Medical Society with many famous figures through the long years. The history through the periods of development always revolves around the Medical Library, which dates its origin to 1798, making it one of the three oldest medical libraries in the country.

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to fulfill it." It is the author's earnest desire that, by the perusal of the basis of our organization and reading through its growing pains, we can avoid the errors of the past and be stimulated to make the future more glorious. Today our democratic form of government has definite socialistic tendencies and it is only by demonstrating a solid medical front and alerting ourselves to take the initiative, that we can avert and direct the changes that are on the way. We must preserve for our country and its people the best in medical practice.

Worcester County has made many notable direct or indirect contributions to the field of medicine. It was here that Dorothea Dix taught the world compassion for the insane, and it was here that the first state controlled hospital in the country was established for the mentally ill. The first state sanatorium for tuberculosis was erected in Rutland. Dr. William T.G. Morton, a dentist, who was born in Charlton, was the discoverer of surgical anesthesia and gave the first public demonstration in the amphitheatre of the Massachusetts General Hospital. From Oxford came Clara Barton, the founder of the American Red Cross, and Dr. Elliott P. Joslin with his contributions to the treatment of diabetes.

Our Society was among the first to raise the standards of medical education; it forced the Massachusetts Medical Society from restricted membership to state-wide eligibility with the formation of District Societies; it was the first in the state to publish a medical bulletin; it established a blood bank during World War II to supply the needs of both civilians and the Armed Forces. Worcester was one of the first municipalities to establish a laboratory for the diagnosis of diphtheria and tuberculosis. Our Society aided in organizing a medical milk commission to combat that terrible scourge of infants during the hot summer months; it furnished a clean milk supply with rigid inspection which later became a nationwide policy.

This is our heritage, and we should be proud of those who trod the same road ahead of us, laying the firm foundation on which we now stand: men with vision and courage through the dark ages of medical practice, armed

PREFACE

with little knowledge and a limited armamentarium of therapy, applying their skill to the utmost. Medicine has come of age in our era, but only by the efforts of our ancestors.

Eighteen long and interesting months have been spent in gathering the material and photographs for this story of our Society. Of necessity, tangential work appeared which could not be ignored. Hence, the history of the Worcester District Hospitals and Allied Medical Societies together with a complete directory of our members since the founding, came into being.

Frequent repetition will be found through the pages. This was deemed essential to the narrative, with the risk of being monotonous, for the sake of completeness. Many diverse sources were investigated. The Secretaries' records were minutely scanned. Orations gave much historical data, particularly those of Thomas H. Gage, Leonard Wheeler, and Michael J. Halloran. Albert C. Getchell wrote a highly accurate account of the Medical Library. The Worcester Medical News was replete with information. The pens of Samuel B. Woodward, Roy J. Ward, John M. Fallon, and Philip H. Cook were responsible for much of the background incorporated into this volume.

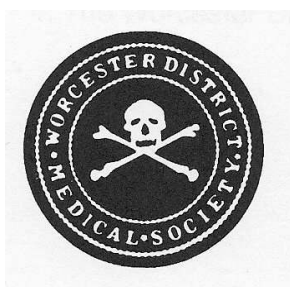
The many various histories of Worcester and Worcester County were scrutinized carefully and unearthed a mass of factual evidence. Scrapbooks compiled by Samuel B. Woodward, Gordon Berry, and Roy J. Ward, were abundant in data.

Grateful assistance was given by the staff of the American Antiquarian Society. Philip H. Cook was spared sufficiently long enough to proofread most of this volume.

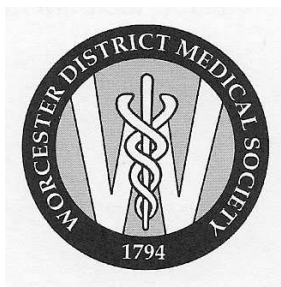
This self-imposed task was undertaken to coordinate the writings of our past members into a single book of reference, before their memories vanish from the face of the earth. Errors have crept into this compilation and, if incorrect statements are made, the author craves your indulgence.

A small band of active, interested members have made this history through the years, while the majority were satisfied with fringe benefits. It is the earnest hope that the future will be as brilliant as the past and that, within the Society, sufficient workers will be found to uphold the tradition.

Paul F. Bergin, M.D
Worcester, Massachusetts
May 6, 1954



Old Seal, ca. 1820



New Logo 1991-

IN THE BEGINNING

1. The Worcester Medical Society, 1794
2. The Founders
3. The Worcester Medical Society and
The Massachusetts Medical Society
4. The Worcester District Medical Society

ONE

THE WORCESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY, 1794

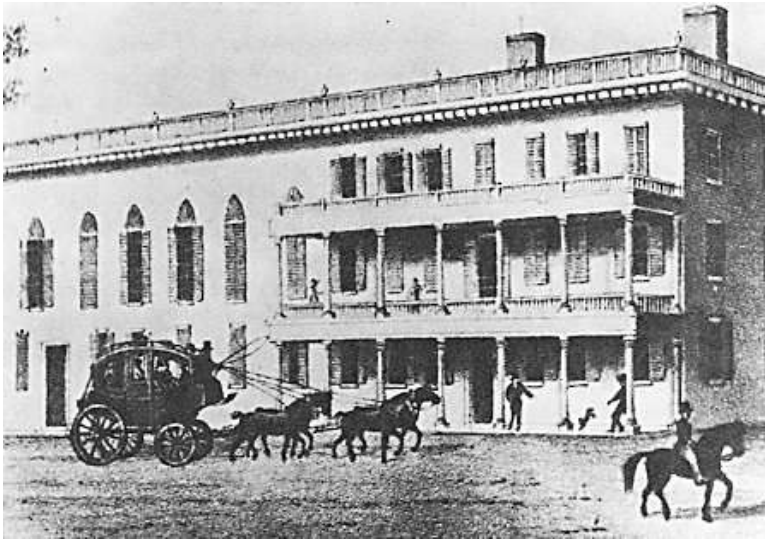
The first medical society formed in the County of Worcester was in August 1784, with Dr. Samuel Prentice as secretary, but its life was short. Ten years later, Dr. Oliver Fiske was the prime mover in organizing the Worcester Medical Society. On December 18, 1794, forty-one physicians of Worcester County, impressed with the advantages and great necessity of harmonious and associated action in improving the scientific and moral position of the profession, met and voted to form themselves into a Fraternity, with the title of the Worcester Medical Society.

Worcester was the place of the meeting on account of accessibility, not on account of its size, for Sutton, Brookfield, Shrewsbury, Charlton, Barre and Leominster were larger; Lancaster and Sturbridge were but little smaller. Worcester, in addition, was the county seat. Lancaster had been the only other shire town and had been the choice (for county seat) of many people and representatives but refused the honor, due to the reported objection of Joseph Willard of that place, who feared that the administration of justice in Lancaster would corrupt the morals of the people, thinking evidently of the county fair-like assemblages that at the time attended the sittings of the court. The county seat or shire town was established in Worcester by an Act of the General court passed on April 2, 1731.

That the meeting of the physicians was regarded as important is evident, for doctors were present not only from towns in the immediate vicinity but from Fitchburg, Templeton, Uxbridge, Brookfield, Brimfield, Gardner, Pelham, Winchendon, Ashby, Amherst and Belchertown. The accessibility of Worcester itself, however, was but relative. Roads were bad, the majority mere bridle paths, and carriages, public or private, almost unknown. Everyone who wished to move from place to place depended on the saddled horse as the best aid for travellers yet devised.

Worcester, a town of two thousand inhabitants, was on the recently opened stage route from Boston to New York, over which Levi Pease of Shrewsbury in 1795 drove the first four-horse stage in the United States, by which, twice a week, passengers were whirled over the roads in three days, barring accidents. The United States Arms Hotel in Worcester was the best hotel in the county. In all probability the medical meeting added thirty-six horses to the equine population of the town, with corresponding joy to the stable keepers of the period, and at an expense to the doctors in attendance of one shilling per day for feeding on English hay and keeping a night.

IN THE BEGINNING



U.S. Arms Hotel, later the Exchange Hotel

The physicians met in some place unascertained, probably Daniel Heywood's Tavern, the old Exchange Hotel, electing Dr. Ebenezer Morse of Boylston, Chairman, and Dr. Oliver Fiske of Worcester, Secretary. They agreed to join themselves together for the furtherance of the advance of medicine, and thus formed, under the title of the Worcester Medical Society, the third society of medical men in the state of Massachusetts. The Massachusetts Medical Society, formed in 1781, and the Middlesex Society antedated the Worcester organization by a few years.

In a manner very different from the free and easy way in which we of the present time form new societies, they made a record of their views and aims, most interesting to reread as showing the frame of mind of the signers, the needs of the profession at that time, and in one or two paragraphs, their grasp of necessities only attained after long delay. The language in which they disclosed the objects of the fraternity is the best evidence of the estimate which they placed upon the magnitude and importance of the subject and is in the following words:

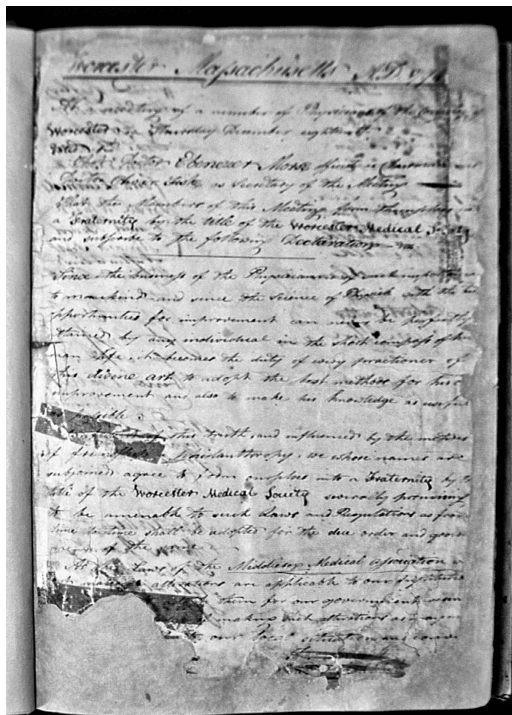
"Since the business of the Physician is of such importance to mankind and since the science of Physick with the best opportunities for improvement can never be perfectly attained by any individual in the short compass of human life, it becomes the duty of every practitioner of this Divine Art to adopt the best methods for his own improvement and also to make his knowledge as useful as possible. Confident of this truth and influenced by motives of friendship and philanthropy, we, whose names are subjoined, agree to form ourselves into a fraternity by the title of the Worcester Medical Society, severally promising to be amenable to such laws and regulations as from time to time shall be adopted for the due order and government of the same."

1794

Signed:

Elijah Dix - Worcester
John Frink - Rutland
Ebenezer H. Phillips - Charlton
John Green - Worcester
Oliver Fiske - Worcester
Abraham Lowe - Ashburnham
John Green, Jr., - Worcester
Spencer Field - Brookfield
Erasmus Babbitt - Sturbridge
Daniel Fiske - Brookfield
Jonathan Learned - Oxford
Israel Whiton - Winchendon
Daniel Beard - Worcester
Amasa Scott
Austin Flint - Leicester
William Lamb - Grafton
Peter Snow - Fitchburg
Tilly Rice, Jr. - Brookfield
John Frink, Jr. - Rutland
Asa Miles - Westminster
Thomas Babbitt - Brookfield

Seth Field - Brookfield
Jonathan Shearer - Palmer
Estes Howe - Belchertown
Robert Cutler - Amherst
Silas Allen - Leominster
William Cutler - Hardwick
Abraham Haskell - Ashby
Francis Foxcroft - Brookfield
Amasa Braman - Millbury
Richard S. Bridge
Hezh Eldridge
Josiah Howe - Templeton
William Stone - Greenwich, RI
Mattathias Rice
Jonathan Osgood - Gardner
John Field - Rutland
Mason Spooner - Templeton
Moses Phelps - Hubbardston
Nehemiah Hinds - Pelham
Israel Trask - Greenwich, RI



Minutes of First Meeting

IN THE BEGINNING

5 Worcester, Massachusetts A.D. 1794.

At a meeting of a number of Physicians of the County of Worcester on Thursday, December eighteenth Voted - 1794

That Doctor Ebenezer Morse officiate as chairman, Doctor Oliver Fiske as Secretary of the meeting. -

That the members of this meeting form themselves into a Fraternity by the title of the Worcester Medical Society, & subscribe the following Declaration - viz: -

Since the business of the Physician is of such importance to mankind, & since the science of Physick, with the best opportunities for improvement, can never be perfectly attained by any individual in the short compass of human life, it becomes the duty of every practitioner of this divine art, to adopt the best methods for his own improvement & also to make his knowledge as useful as possible to his friends of this truth, & influenced by the motives of friendship & philanthropy, we whose names are subscribed, agree to form ourselves into a Fraternity by the title of the Worcester Medical Society, severally promising to be amenable to such laws & regulations as from time to time shall be adopted for the due order & government of the same.

As the laws of Middlesex Medical Association without material alterations are applicable to our situation, we agree to adopt them for our government, reserving to ourselves the privilege of making such alterations as may more particularly apply to our local situation & convenience.

Signes

Elijah Dix	Seth Field
John Frink	Jonathan Treaser
Eben' H. Phillips	Esd' Hoove
John Green	Robert Cutler
Oliver Fiske	Silas Allen
Abraham Lowe	Wm Cutler
John Green Jr	Ab' Haskell
Spencer Field	J. Foxcroft.

Manuscript Copy of Original Minutes of the First Meeting

A month later, the following document was produced.

LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE
WORCESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY.

So Voted on January 20, 1795

First: There shall be annually chosen by ballot at the stated meeting in June, A President, Vice President, Secretary, Three Counsellors, Three Censors and a Treasurer.

Second: The election of the aforesaid officers shall be determined by a majority of written votes. When ten members only are present, it shall require two thirds of the votes to make a choice.

Third: The duty of the office of the President or Vice President shall be to preside in all meetings of the Society, to maintain order and due observance of the rules of the Society when assembled, to state motions when seconded, and to direct the Secretary to call meetings agreeable to the rules of the Society.

Fourth: In the absence of the President and Vice President, the eldest Counsellor shall preside and have similar powers with the President and Vice President.

Fifth: The Duty of the Counsellors shall be to prepare the business of future meetings, consult and propose the best method of advancing and bringing forward the designs of the Society and to examine all communications. Nevertheless any member may lay before the Society any business, or propose any regulations, that he shall think may conduce to its benefit. During the recess of the Society, the Council may direct the Secretary in such medical correspondence as they shall judge necessary to the good of the Society.

Sixth: The Secretary shall summon all meetings of the Society. He shall take minutes of and record the doings of all meetings. He shall read the transactions of the meetings, together with such communications as may from time to time be made, and shall moreover put on file all such papers belonging to the Society.

Seventh: The business of the censors shall be, to judge of the qualifications of such candidates for the practice of Physick as may offer themselves for examination. Each candidate on his approbation shall receive a certificate of the same from the Censors which shall be attested by the Secretary.

Eighth: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies raised and all donations, and to pay out the Sums as the Society may direct.

Ninth: Whenever votes are taken, the majority of the votes of such members present shall be considered as decisive, unless where provision is made to the contrary by some articles of the regulations.

Tenth: Previously to the admission of any new member, a proposal of admission shall be made to one of the council, and if by them approved, the Secretary shall publish it at the next meeting of the Society, and at that or any subsequent meeting such applicant may be voted for. This is to be done by written votes. A majority of two thirds shall admit him, provided there be only ten present. No one shall reveal the names of the person proposed to be admitted to any one not a member of this Society.

Eleventh: There shall be two stated meetings of this Society, one on the second Tuesday of June and the other on the third Tuesday of September, at such place as may from time to time be agreed on.

IN THE BEGINNING

Preceding which there shall be a meeting of the Council, if necessary. The President shall have power, with advice of Council, to call occasional meetings, whenever the good of the Society in their opinion requires it, or when it be requested in writing by any seven members. The time and place of all meetings shall be signified by the Secretary, that he may give at least seven days notice to the members.

Twelfth: Each member shall endeavor to give punctual attendance, and after the meeting is open shall observe due order, and shall by no means interrupt a member when speaking. Whenever a member speaks he shall address the President.

Thirteenth: Should any member notoriously disgrace himself by flagrant abuses of his moral powers, or should he retard the cure of his patients for gain he shall be expelled.

Fourteenth: Each member shall make a free communication to the Society of any successful experiment he shall have made of the virtues of any medicine, or of its application in any particular disorder, and it shall be deemed disgraceful to be in possession of any Nostrum, or Secret, when it may be beneficial to have communicated.

Fifteenth: It shall be the duty of each member to promote the interest of this association, to advance its honor and reputation. He shall vindicate and support the character of each associate, as far as justice and propriety will admit; ever esteeming it dishonorable to advance his own reputation upon the ruins of another.

Sixteenth: Whereas manifold inconveniences have arisen from the want of a regular and uniform method of education of pupils in Physick, especially in the country, whereby candidates for practice when offered to the regularly appointed examiners, have been embarrassed and obstructed, though otherwise not ill informed. It is earnestly recommended to each and every member of this Society to direct his pupils to as regular and uniform course of study as may be, and to imitate as nearly as possible the order now established in the most eminent medical schools.

Seventeenth: In order that the education of pupils should be more uniform and reputable, it is the sense of this association that before a person be qualified to enter upon the study of Physick, it is necessary that he have not only an accurate knowledge of his native tongue, but so much of Latin and Greek as to translate them by the help of a dictionary; together with a knowledge of at least the elementary parts of Mathematics, of Natural History and Natural Philosophy.

Eighteenth: Before any pupil offers himself for examination the physician who recommends him shall be certain that he has such a knowledge of Anatomy as is necessary to understand the animal economy, its sound and morbid state, likewise an acquaintance with diseases, and the usual method of treating them, also a knowledge of the principles of Chemistry, Materia Medica, and the operation of medicine.

Nineteenth: As the art of Physick is a mystery concerning which those who are not medically educated have not the means of judging, so as readily to distinguish between the real Physicians and the imposing pretender, it appears highly reasonable that some criterion should be established by those who are qualified for practice may be known. And in order, therefore, to prevent impositions, whose consequences may prove to be fatal and to assist mankind in forming a judgement in a matter to them so important, this association declares it as their decided opinion, that no Physician ought to be encouraged in

his profession unless he has passed an examination before some regularly appointed judges.

Twentieth: The advantages of teaching Physick by lectures is confessed by the usage of all Europe, but has never been enjoyed among us until within a few years. We, being persuaded that great advantages will result from such systematical mode of teaching all the branches of the medical art, do hereby recommend to all such as are, or may become our pupils, to attend the medical lectures which are annually given at the University at Cambridge.

Twenty-first: By such procedure the pupils will be fitted for examination by the Censors of this Society, by the Medical Professors in the University or by the Censors of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

TWO

THE FOUNDERS

This Society, thus formed, held meetings in June and September, usually in Worcester, but occasionally at Reed's Tavern in Rutland, the meetings lasting generally at least two days. This organization has substantially, with a single change which involved a simple alteration of name, an abridgement of some original ambitions, and a wider connection with the profession throughout the state, come down to our time.

At the June meeting an oration or dissertation was delivered and at at least the first of these, June 7, 1795, when Dr. Thomas Babbitt of Brookfield was orator, the clergy and musicians were invited to be present, and to take part in the celebration of "the day of adjournment". Dr. Babbitt, doubtless, considered the orator par excellence among his brethren, apparently neglected to deliver a copy of his oration to the Secretary, thereby setting a woeful though well followed example, and we are unable to trace his eloquence or even cite the subject of his discourse.

It is comparatively easy to learn something of the story of the lawyer or clergyman, be he even of mediocre attainments. His work done on the stage attracts attention and is preserved; that of the physician, largely done behind the scenes, is quickly forgotten by the community in which he lived; and yet some scraps of information can be obtained about these physicians, though the labor is rendered even more difficult by the fact that our records contain no register of residence, giving simply the bald list of names.

Among the forty-nine signers of the laws and regulations were:

From Brookfield, Drs. Thomas Babbitt, Seth Field, Francis Foxcroft and Tilly Rice.

From Templeton, Drs. Josiah Howe, Jonas Prescott and Mason Spooner.

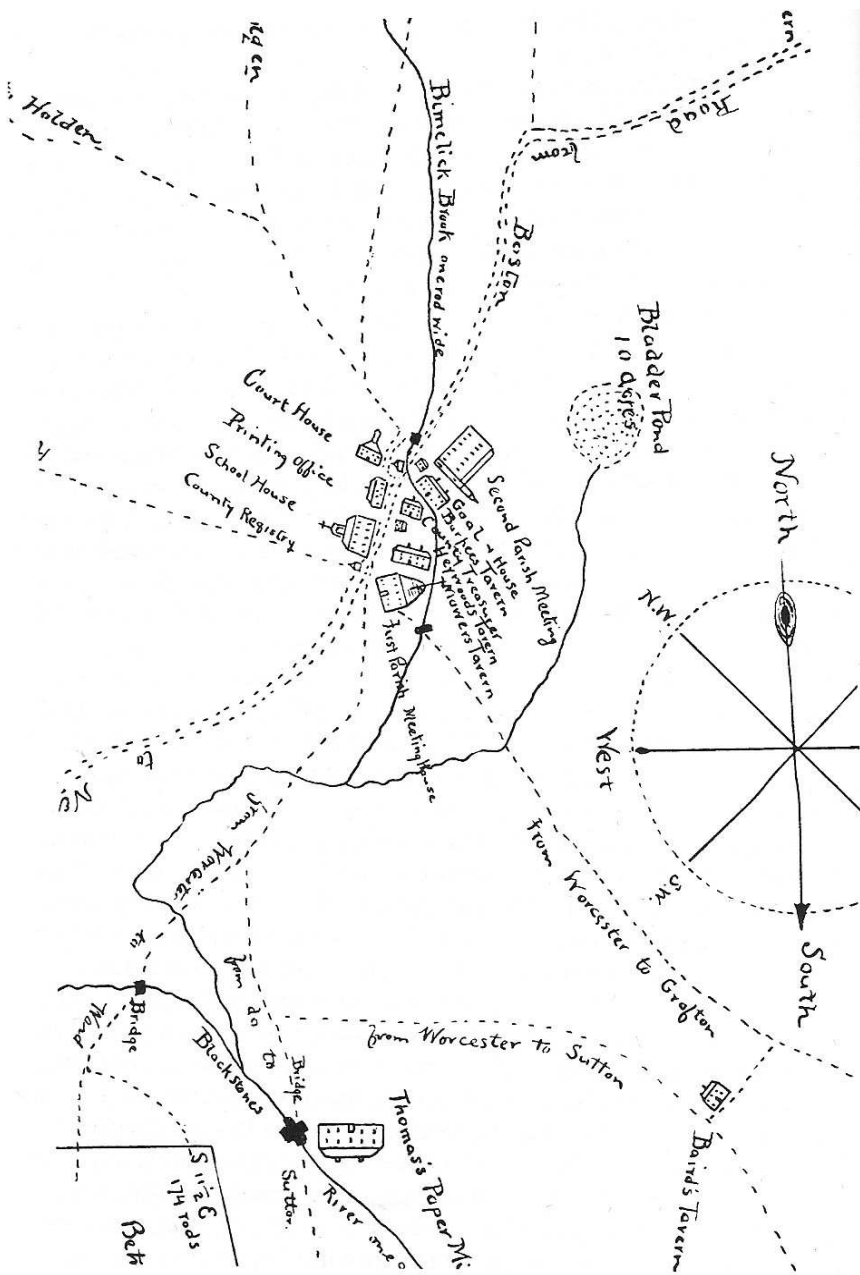
From Ashburnham, Drs. Abraham Lowe, son of Jonathan Lowe of Ipswich, and student of Abraham Haskell of Leominster, noted for having been three times requested to read papers before the Massachusetts Medical Society, as may be seen in their transactions.

From Gardner, Rev. Jonathan Osgood, uniting, as was then not uncommon, the offices of minister and physician and following both professions for more than thirty years.

From Fitchburg, Dr. Peter Snow, who succeeded Dr. Thaddeus McCarthy, the first physician in that place, and who was from 1781 to 1820 solitary and alone in practice there.

From Hubbardston came Dr. Moses Phelps, the first practicing physician there, visiting for fifty years on horseback, with huge saddle bags filled with medicine; father of Dr. Phelps who succeeded him and died in 1873; father and son thus being, for one hundred years, responsible for the health of the town.

THE FOUNDERS



Map of Worcester 1795

IN THE BEGINNING

From Boylston came Rev. Ebenezer Morse A.M., minister, lawyer and physician, graduate of Harvard in 1737, who had studied law, but on the first gathering of a church in Boylston in 1743 was settled over it, and then, studying medicine, exercised the functions pertaining to his three-fold profession until 1771, when, as a loyalist and a Tory, he was dismissed from his ministerial charge and reduced to the simple care of bodies and estates.

From Rutland we have Dr. John Frink, son of Rev. Thomas Frink of that place, one of the thirty-one incorporators of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and the only one from Worcester County. He and his son, John Frink, Jr., also a member of the Society, were together and in succession the doctors of Rutland for over eighty years.

From Uxbridge came Dr. Samuel Willard of the Lancaster family, son of that Dr. Nahum Willard with whom boarded John Adams while teaching school in Worcester, and whose example came near depriving the country of its second President, for Adams in his leisure hours read much in Dr. Willard's pretty library and became so enamored of the works of Cheyne, Sydenham and Van Swieten that he, in his own words, "entertained many thoughts of becoming physician and surgeon".

From Leicester was Dr. Austin Flint, son of Dr. Edward Flint of Shrewsbury, and great uncle of the renowned Austin Flint of New York. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary Army at the age of seventeen, later surgeon and again in the ranks against Shays; he became prominent as a physician, an intelligent, well informed man of strong will and indomitable courage, of affable manners, with a rich fund of anecdote and good sense. For twenty years he was moderator of the town meeting; for fifteen years, town clerk; for thirty years, magistrate; and for five years a Representative in the legislature. He attended 1,750 cases of confinement during his practice of sixty-seven years. He conducted a hospital in Worcester County for the inoculation of smallpox and later was the first physician in the district to use the new method of vaccination with cowpox.

From Lancaster came the only completely educated physician among the signers, Israel Atherton, native of Harvard, graduate of Harvard College in 1762, student of the famous Dr. Holyoke of Salem, the only Worcester County man considered worthy of membership in that exclusive body, the Massachusetts Medical Society, and the only one elected during a period of twenty-three years. John Frink, incorporator, had been added by the legislature, and not by the physicians petitioning.

The Worcester members included Drs. John Green and John Green, Jr., respectively father and grandfather of that Dr. John Green to whose munificence Worcester owes the Green Library in the Public Library Building. Dr. Elijah Dix, noted no less as a horticulturist than as a physician, whose name remains to us in the Dix pear, who was instrumental in planting the double row of elms which so long shaded the main street of the town, the grandfather of Dorothea L. Dix, "the American Florence Nightingale" was a member. Also Dr. Oliver Fiske, a versatile man, native of Brookfield, student with Nathan Atherton of Lancaster, practicing physician, deliverer of the Annual Oration before the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1811, soldier of the Revolution.

Other signatures can be identified as Drs. William Stone and Israel Trask of Greenwich, R.I.; Samuel Guthrie of Brimfield, Nehemiah Hinds of Phelham, Ebenezer H. Phillips of Charlton, Israel Whitton of Winchendon, William Lamb of Grafton, Eddy Whittaker of Monson, Erasmus Babbitt of Sturbridge, Asa Miles of Westminster, Abraham Haskell of Ashby, Silas

THE FOUNDERS

Allen of Leominster, Estes Howe of Belchertown, Robert Cutler of Amherst, and Jonathan Shearer of Palmer Spencer Field of Brookfield, William Cutler of Hardwick, Daniel Fiske of Brookfield, Jonathan Learned of Oxford, Daniel Beard of Worcester; while the residences of Amasa Scott and several others have not been determined.

The life and life work of the Worcester physician of that time is difficult to picture at present as the documents necessary are not easily accessible. The Worcester of that day was little better than a village and of so little relative importance in the county that the semi-annual meetings were held alternately at Reed's Tavern in Rutland and at Daniel Heywood's Hostelry in Worcester. When the first Dr. John Green began practice in Worcester in 1757, there were but seven houses on Main Street between Lincoln Square and the Old South Church on the Common. His pupil, Dr. Elijah Dix, born in Waltham, son of James Dix, who began practice in 1770, was both physician and druggist. He resided during the greater part of his years of practice on Court Hill with his office and drug store in a two story wooden building nearby. To him Dix Street owes its name. As showing the size and importance of Worcester town at that day, it may be mentioned that Dr. Dix was fire warden in 1790 and his garden fence was decorated with one of the six fire ladders belonging to the town.

The learned royalist physician, Dr. William Paine, second in his class at Harvard in 1768, Surgeon General of the King's forces in America in 1782, elected member of the College of Physicians of London in 1781, was of this later period (about 1790) in Worcester. He lived forty years in his ancestral home on Lincoln Street, practicing medicine to some extent but distinguished rather as a man of letters than as a physician.

Probably the most prominent physician of that day in Worcester was the second Dr. John Green. He began practice at the age of eighteen and for a period of twenty-seven years devoted himself exclusively to the duties of his profession. Charles Tappan thus pleasantly speaks of him: "While daily could be seen Dr. Green and his half dozen students mounted on horseback and galloping through the streets as if someone or more were in peril." And again, Hon. Levi Lincoln says: "Dr. Green would often be followed in his queer looking two-wheeled vehicle by a pack of dogs or, superb horseman as he was, be seen on the backs of all manner of ungainly half broken colts at full gallop, accompanied by a pack of hounds giving mouth as if a half score of huntsmen were at their heels, to the infinite delight of all the urchins of the village."

Another very prominent physician and public figure of that day, Dr. Oliver Fiske, was the first Secretary of the Society from 1794 to 1802. He was also the second President of the Society after it became affiliated with the Massachusetts Medical Society. In 1811 he delivered an annual address in Boston on "Certain Epidemics which Prevail in the County of Worcester", describing the epidemic of small pox of 1796 and that of spotted fever of 1810. Dr. Fiske was later town Treasurer, town Clerk and Justice of the Court of Common Pleas; in 1813-15 he was a member of the Executive Council of the Commonwealth. Had he devoted himself to his profession he would undoubtedly have shown signal ability both as a practitioner and as a medical writer.

We cannot pass from this era without mentioning the prominent and eccentric Dr. Samuel Stearns of Paxton, whose devotion was in truth rather to travel than to practice, though he had settled down after his thousand mile ride from Georgia to Paxton, and his four years residence in Europe, then an event to stir the whole surrounding country. He was in 1784 at the Hague, for a long time the guest of John Adams, at that time Minister to Holland,

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whose acquaintance he had doubtless made during Adams's teaching days in the Worcester schools, and on his return wrote a book entitled "A Tour in Holland", published by Isaiah Thomas and prefaced by John Trumbull, the celebrated author of "McFingal".

The study of medicine at the time of the founding of this society was almost entirely by the preceptor system. Harvard Medical School had been in operation for twelve years, but by 1793 had graduated only ten students, so that the preceptor system was the only one available to the majority of students. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward in his oration before this Society in May 1898, gave an interesting story of the mechanics of that system that is worth quoting in its entirety.

"Each (student) had studied with a preceptor, a plan not yet entirely given up as a part of medical education, and at that time the only plan practicable.

"A cynical description alleges that studying with a country doctor in 1790 meant chiefly the care of the doctor's horse, doing chores about the house, assisting the instructor in gathering and drying the herbs and simples, preparing the powders and the pills and, on rare occasions, helping in some minor surgical operation."

An indenture of 1760, quoted by Norwood, sheds such light upon the position of the apprentice, showing that the student's relations with his instructor were not in truth always and entirely one sided. The indenture of William Clark reads:

"...during all which Term (four years and six months) the said Apprentice his said Master well and faithfully shall serve, his secrets keep, his lawful commands everywhere obey. He shall do no damage to his said master, nor see it to be done by others, without letting or giving notice to his said Master. He shall not contract matrimony within said term. At cards, dice or any other unlawful game he shall not play, whereby his said Master may have Damage. He shall not absent himself day or night from his said Master's Service without his leave, nor hant Ale houses, Taverns, or playhouses, but in all things, as a faithful Apprentice he shall behave himself toward his Master all during his said term. And the said Master, during the s'd term, shall by the best of his Means or Methods, Art and Mysteries of a Physician and Surgeon, as he now Professes, Teach or cause the said Apprentice to be taught to perfection in consideration of the sum of One Hundred Pounds Lawful money of New York to him in hand paid. . . .

"And the said William Clark acknowledges himself herewith contented and the Receipt thereof. And the said Master is to provide his said apprentice with sufficient Meat, Drink, Washing and Lodging and Mending his said clothes, within the said term, and the said James Hubbard is to find him in wearing apparel during said term aforesaid. . . At the end of Said term the Said Master shall and will give unto the Apprentice a new set of surgeons pocket instruments, Solomon's Dispensatory, Quences' Dispensatory, and Fuller on Fevers, and for the true performance of all and every of the said covenants:. . ."

It was also customary to furnish the embryonic doctor with a certificate setting forth . . . "Mr. John Smith hath served as an apprentice to me for nearly four years, during which time he was constantly employed in the practice of Physick and Surgery, under my care, in which character healways behaved with great fidelity and industry."

Fortified with a life testimonial each man did set himself to work.

THREE

THE WORCESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY and THE MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY

The first memorable accomplishment of the Worcester Medical Society was its influence in bringing about the change in the Massachusetts Medical Society, which occurred by legislative enactment in the year 1803. Few are aware that the Massachusetts Medical Society was in its commencement an exclusive association founded upon an aristocratic basis. By the terms of its charter the number of its members was limited: they could not be more than seventy or fewer than ten. Members were elected by the Fellows, and a larger proportion was taken from the vicinity of Boston. One or two of those considered the more prominent, were taken from each of the counties in the state. The effect of this was, as might have been supposed, to cause hostility to the Society among the profession, and to breed jealousies and ill will among individuals, on account of the unequally and often times undeservedly bestowed honors.

The Worcester Medical Society endeavored to break in on this system and effect an association of equal rights and privileges, with a simpler and more republican form of organization and administration, gathering into its fold as many members of the profession as chose to avail themselves of the opportunity. It spent nearly the whole first ten years of its existence in fruitless efforts to obtain a charter from the General Court. Opposed year after year by the Massachusetts Medical Society, it still persisted, and at last succeeded, not in accomplishing its original ambitious design, but in procuring such a modification in the charter of the State Society as would admit to its privileges all resident physicians and surgeons of the state, upon election, and give to it the power of establishing auxiliary subordinate District Societies.

In that day and age this was an important triumph, and this change was brought about by the persistent efforts of our professional ancestry. The Massachusetts Medical Society has since been a promoter of harmony and good will among its members, and has afforded a means of intercommunication on scientific subjects and of social intercourse, and personal introduction, the good effects of which cannot be too highly estimated. Its mission has been one of beneficence from the beginning until now.

Our Society was one more rebel. We did not slide into existence as a tame offshoot of the Massachusetts Medical Society, although you might think so from the wording of our charter. Instead, we were born of rebellion against that Society, or, more accurately, against a different society which bore its name. We grew to be the serious rival of that society, then made peace and united with it. The new composite body, we modestly confess, used our rival's name and our ideas. So, historically speaking, the Massachusetts Medical Society is not our "parent" society. We and the old

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Massachusetts Medical Society are its parents.

The aims of that first Massachusetts Medical Society, chartered in 1781, were to found and supervise a "Medical Department of the College in Cambridge", to steer medical legislation, to examine neophytes, and to regulate practice. Massachusetts doctors approved the goal but not the approach. The state society was exclusive (limited to 70), political and oligarchic. Saddlebag doctors thought an unspecialized society should be inclusive and democratic. The Society accepted only token numbers from west of the Charles, and the counties believed a "Massachusetts" Society should be Massachusetts-wide. Also they would have preferred more education and less politics.

So various out-of-Boston organizations, educational in purpose and liberal of complexion, were born. All of them before the coming of the Worcester group, however, died aborning.

On December 18, 1794, Worcester county doctors founded their own society, to "improve themselves", because it had become evident that the state society wouldn't improve them. This Worcester Medical Society was hardy. It thrived from the start, protected, no doubt, by the Worcester hills and distances that just before had sheltered Shays' Rebellion. It may be significant in our thriving that we set out to be a "fraternity". Significant, certainly, were the Hippocratic ideals of our *apologia pro vita*, the "Declaration" above.

Whatever the reasons, thrive we did. The semiannual meetings, at Worcester or Rutland, were well attended. There is evidence of doctors coming from the western counties. Essex County formed a society on our pattern. One of our members, Elijah Dix, gave us "fifty pounds in books" of our own choice, a ponderable sum in 1798. We tried, apparently several times, for a charter from the Great and General Court. The rival Massachusetts Medical Society was able to block the charter. But we did nicely enough, without benefit of charter. Better, in fact, than the Massachusetts Society itself, which had begun to peter out. The cause of their malnutrition probably was a series of internal feuds, plus a plethora of uninterested or physically unable men filling the places. A less reverent historian might suggest that the place of meeting had something to do with it. The Massachusetts Society met in such august environs as the Court House and State House. We met in taverns.

New blood came to the state society in time. They admitted John Treadwell of the Essex group in 1801 at the age of 33, and James Jackson in 1802 at 25. Next year, with Jackson blocking and Treadwell carrying, a radical reorganization went across.

Just what was the weight of Worcester's hand in this reorganization is a matter of guess. For some years before, committees of the two societies had been dickering peace terms. And when Treadwell and Jackson began their work we were about to go again before the legislature for a charter. This time, our taciturn minutes show, we proposed to get tough. And the other fellows knew it. Finally, there is considerable evidence that their plan of reorganization was drawn up with the help of emissaries from Worcester and Essex.

Certainly the "renovation", as they called it, swallowed Worcester's prescription in toto. It admitted any "respectable practitioner" who received the council's approval, and to unlimited number; it took them from all over

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the state and it provided for district societies and local censors. In other words, the society became state-wide, educational, and democratic.

So In 1803-04 the old Massachusetts Medical Society, the Worcester and the Essex Societies, and individual doctors scattered throughout the state joined hands to make today's Massachusetts Medical Society.

At first we were the "Western District". Although the charter specifies Worcester County, actually we included all members west of Framingham. These were, in our first year as a District, 348 doctors from Worcester County and a single hardy pioneer from some remoter outpost, possibly Springfield.

The original act of incorporation of the Massachusetts Medical Society follows:

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,
In the Year of Our Lord, 1781

An Act

To incorporate certain PHYSICIANS, by the Name of The
Massachusetts Medical Society.

As health is essentially necessary to the Happiness of Society; and as its Preservation or Recovery is closely connected with the Knowledge of the Animal Economy, and of the Properties and Effects of Medicines; and as the Benefit of Medical Institutions, formed on liberal Principles, and encouraged by the Patronage of the Law, is universally acknowledged:

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN GENERAL COURT ASSEMBLED, AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE SAME, That Nathaniel Walker Appleton, William Baylies, Benjamin Curtis, Samuel Danforth, Aaron Dexter, Shirley Erving, John Frink, Joseph Gardner, Samuel Holten, Edward Augustus Holyoke, Ebenezer Hunt, Charles Jarvis, Thomas Kast, Giles Crouch Kellogg, John Linn, James Lloyd, Joseph Orne, James Pecker, Oliver Prescott, Charles Pynchon, Isaac Rand, Isaac Rand Junior, Micajah Sawyer, John Sprague, Charles Stockbridge, John Barnard Swett, Cotton Tufts, John Warren, Thomas Welsh, Joseph Whipple, William Whiting, be, and they hereby are formed into, constituted and make a Body Politic and Corporate, by the name of THE MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY; and that they and their Successors, and such other Persons as shall be elected in the Manner hereafter mentioned, shall be and continue a Body Politic and Corporate by the same Name forever.

AND BE IT ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY AFORESAID, That the Fellows of said Society may from Time to Time elect a President, Vice President and Secretary, with other Officers as they shall judge necessary and convenient; and they the Fellows of said Society, shall have full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, to determine and establish the Names, Number and Duty of their several Officers, and the Tenure or Estate they shall respectively have in their Offices; and also to authorize and empower their President or some other Officer to administer such Oaths to such Officers, as they, the Fellows of said Society shall appoint and determine for the well-ordering and good Government of said Society, provided the same be not repugnant to the Laws of this Commonwealth.

IN THE BEGINNING

AND BE IT ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY AFORESAID, That the Fellows of said Society shall have one commone Seal, and Power to break, change and renew the same of their Pleasure.

AND BE IT ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY AFORESAID, That they the Fellows of said Society may sue and be sued in all Actions, real, personal or mixed, and prosecute and defend the same unto final Judgement and Execution, by the Name of The Massachusetts Medical Society.

AND BE IT ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY AFORESAID, That the Fellows of said Society may from Time to Time elect such Persons to be Fellows thereof, as they shall judge proper; and that they, the Fellows of said Society, shall have Power to suspend, expel or disfranchise any Fellows of said Society.

AND BE ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY AFORESAID, That the Fellows of said Society shall have full Power and Authority to Make and enact such Rules and Bye-Laws for the better Government of said Society, as are not repugnant to the Laws of this Commonwealth; and to annex reasonable Fines and Penalties to the Breach of them, not exceeding the Sum of TWENTY POUNDS, to be sued for and recovered by said Society, and to their own use, in any Court of Record within this Commonwealth, proper to try the same; and also to establish the Time and Manner of convening the Fellows of said Society; and also to determine the Number of Fellows that shall be present to constitute a Meeting of said Society; and also, that the Number of said Society, who are Inhabitants of this Commonwealth, shall not at any one Time be more than Seventy, nor less than Ten; and that their Meetings shall be held in the Town of BOSTON or such other Place within this Commonwealth, as a Majority of the Members present in a legal Meeting, shall judge most fit and convenient.

AND WHEREAS IT IS CLEARLY OF IMPORTANCE, THAT A JUST DISCRIMINATION SHOULD BE MADE BETWEEN SUCH AS ARE DULY EDUCATED AND PROPERLY QUALIFIED FOR THE DUTIES OF THEIR PROFESSION, AND THOSE WHO MAY IGNORANTLY AND WICKEDLY ADMINISTER MEDICINE, WHEREBY THE HEALTH AND LIVES OF MANY VALUABLE INDIVIDUALS MAY BE ENDANGERED, OR PERHAPS LOST TO THE COMMUNITY.

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY AFORESAID, That the President and Fellows of said Society, or other such of their Officers or Fellows as they shall appoint, shall have full Power and Authority to examine all Candidates for the practice of Physic and Surgery (who shall offer themselves for Examination, respecting their skill in their Profession,) and if upon such Examination the said Candidates shall be found skilled in their Profession, and fitted for the Practice of it, they shall receive the Approbation of the Society in Letters Testimonial of such Examination, under the Seal of the said Society, signed by the President, or such other Person or Persons as shall be appointed for that Purpose.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY AFORESAID, That if the said President, and such other Person or Persons so elected and appointed for the Purpose of examining Candidates as aforesaid, shall obstinately refuse to examine any Candidate so offering himself for Examination as aforesaid, each and every such Person so elected and appointed as aforesaid, shall be subject to a Fine of ONE HUNDRED POUNDS, to be recovered by the said Candidate, and to his own Use, in any Court within this Common-

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wealth proper to try the same.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY AFORESAID, That the Fellows of said Society may and shall forever be deemed capable in Law of having, holding and taking in Fee Simple or any less Estate by Gift, Grant or Devise or otherwise, any Land, Tenement or other Estate Real or Personal; provided that the annual Income of the whole Real Estate that may be given, granted or devised to, or purchased by the said Society, shall not exceed the Sum of TWO HUNDRED POUNDS, and the annual Income or Interest of said Personal Estate, shall not exceed the Sum of SIX HUNDRED POUNDS: all the Sums mentioned in this Act to be valued in Silver at SIX SHILLINGS AND EIGHT PENCE per Ounce; And the annual Income or Interest of the said Real and Personal Estate, together with the Fines and Penalties paid to said Society, or recovered by them, shall be appropriated to such Purposes, as are consistent with the End and Design of the Institution of said Society, and as the Fellows thereof shall determine.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the first Meeting of the said Medical Society shall be held in some convenient Place in the Town of BOSTON: and that EDWARD AUGUSTUS HOLYOKE, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized and directed to fix the Time for holding the said Meeting, and to notify the same to the Fellows of said Medical Society.

The following act includes the changes negotiated by the Worcester Medical Society.

ACT OF 1803 COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and three. An Act in addition to an Act, entitled, "An Act to incorporate certain Physicians, by the name of the Massachusetts Medical Society".

Whereas the Act, entitled, "An Act to incorporate certain Physicians, by the name of the Massachusetts Medical Society" has been found in its operation, insufficient to effect the important and desirable purposes, for which it was designed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the Fellows for the time being of the said Massachusetts Medical Society, in any meeting or meetings, to be called and holden for the purpose, before the next annual meeting, shall have authority to elect into that Corporation, and to be Fellows thereof, such and so many suitable persons, being Physicians or Surgeons, resident within this Commonwealth, as they shall see fit, anything in this Act, to which this is in addition, to the contrary, notwithstanding. Provided that all persons so elected, shall within one year after such election, subscribe the bye laws of the said Society, or otherwise declare in writing their assent thereto, or such election shall be void.

And be it further enacted, that at the next annual meeting of the Fellows of the said Society, and afterwards at every annual meeting thereof, there shall be chosen by ballot, in which any absent member may vote by his proxy, duly authorized in writing so many Counsellors as the said Society shall from time to time judge necessary and expedient, who shall hold their offices for the year next ensuing their election, and until another election of Counsellors in their place; and

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the Fellows at their annual meetings, whenever such a number shall be present, as the regulations of the society may require, may revise, alter, enlarge, and repeal the bye laws of the said Society, as the major part of the Fellows present may see fit, and not otherwise.

And be it further enacted, that the Counsellors of the said Corporation, and their successors after them, shall assemble and convene, three times in the year, at such times and places, as the bye laws of said Corporation shall hereafter direct. Provided that the first meeting be within thirty days after the annual meeting of the said Society; and the said Counsellors shall assemble and convene at any other times as the bye laws of the said Corporation shall hereafter direct, and whenever notified to convene by their presiding officer; and the meetings of the said Counsellors shall be held in the town of Boston, or as near thereto as may be, and at the said first meeting of the Counsellors, after the annual meeting of the said Society, the said Counsellors shall proceed to appoint from among themselves, a President and such other officers of the said Corporation, as are and shall be required in the rules and bye laws thereof, to be so appointed, likewise five Examiners or Censors for the examination of all persons, who having been Students in Medicine and Surgery, agreeably to the regulations of the said Society, shall offer themselves to be approved and licensed, as practising Physicians & Surgeons, and the said Counsellors at any of the three stated meetings of the same & only at those meetings, and after three months nomination of every Candidate, and not otherwise, by a major vote of those present, may elect any suitable person, or persons, to be a Fellow, or Fellows of the said Society: Provided that all practicing Physicians and Surgeons, resident within this Commonwealth, who shall be so elected, shall within one year after such election subscribe the bye laws for the said Society, or otherwise declare in writing their assent to the same, or such election shall be void; and all persons not practicing Physicians or Surgeons or not resident within this Commonwealth, who shall be so elected, may be deemed honorary members of the said Society; and at any meeting of the said Counsellors, they may fill any vacant office, and perform any other duties, as the bye laws of the said Corporation shall direct.

And be it further enacted, that for the purpose of examining candidates as aforesaid, three at least of the Examiners or Censors, who shall be appointed as aforesaid shall be convened in the town of Boston, on the Thursday next preceding the annual meetings of the said Society, and at such other times and places as the bye laws of said Society shall direct, and every Candidate who upon examination shall be approved by a majority of the said Examiners, shall be entitled to Letters Testimonial of their approbation, and of their license, to such Candidate, to become a practitioner in medicine or surgery, under the hands of the Examiners, consenting thereto; and to such Letters Testimonial, the seal of the said Corporation, shall be affixed by the President or Secretary, if any there shall be, with the signature of the same; and every person who shall received the said Letters Testimonial, and such also as hereafter may be admitted to the degree of Bachelor in Medicine at Harvard University, shall be entitled to the use of the Libraries of the Society, under such restrictions as the Counsellors may direct; and after three years approved practice in Medicine and Surgery, and being of good moral character, and not otherwise, shall upon application and subscribing the Bye Laws as aforesaid, be admitted a member of the said Corporation while a resident Practitioner of medicine or surgery within this Commonwealth.

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And be it further enacted, that the said Counsellors upon the application of any five members of the said Society, may establish within such Districts, and portions of this Commonwealth, as they shall think expedient, subordinate Societies and meetings, to consist of the Fellows of the said Corporation residing within such Districts respectively, wherein the communication of cases and experiments may be made, and the diffusion of knowledge in medicine and surgery may be encouraged and promoted, and the Counsellors aforesaid, upon application from such subordinate societies may appoint five Examiners or Censors, within such Districts, who shall be authorized and empower'd to examine such Candidates for the practice of Physick and Surgery, as shall present themselves for such examination. And every Candidate, who, upon examination shall be approved by a majority of the examiners or Censors aforesaid, shall be entitled to Letters Testimonial, in the same manner, as is provided in the fourth Section of this Act. And the members of such subordinate societies shall be holden, to report to the Counsellors of the general Society, all such cases as may be selected for their importance and utility, and the said subordinate societies shall be subject to the regulations of the general Society, in all matters, wherein the general Society, shall be concerned, and the said subordinate societies may appoint their own officers, and establish regulations for their particular government, not repugnant to the bye laws of the general Society; and shall be capable to purchase and receive by donation, Books, Philosophical, and Chirurgical Instruments, or other personal property, and may hold and dispose of the same exclusively of any authority of the general Society.

And be it further enacted, that all matters and clauses, contained in the Act aforesaid, to incorporate certain Physicians, by the name of the Massachusetts Medical Society, which are contrary to the purview of this Act, shall be, and they hereby are repealed.

And be it further enacted, that the Fellows of the said Corporation shall not be liable to be enrolled or mustered in the Militia of this Commonwealth.

FOUR

THE WORCESTER DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

In May 1804, the members of the Worcester Medical Society petitioned the Massachusetts Medical Society for leave to form a subordinate District Society, which should include all members of the Massachusetts Medical Society, resident in Worcester County.

The last meeting of the Worcester Medical Society was held on September 26, 1804, and our records tell us that "At a meeting of a number of the Fellows of the Massachusetts Medical Society resident in the County of Worcester, convened by notice in the Massachusetts Spy on Wednesday, September 26, 1804, at Captain Heywood's tavern in Worcester, it was voted; that the Fellows of the Massachusetts Medical Society, resident in the County of Worcester, organize themselves into a District Society, agreeably to the following grant, viz.- at a meeting of the Council of the Massachusetts Medical Society, June 7, 1804, it was unanimously voted that the petition of Seth Field, Francis Foxcroft, Tilly Rice, John Green and Oliver Fiske for a District Society in the County of Worcester, including all the members of the said Society resident in the County aforesaid, with those who may hereafter become members, be granted, and also that the meetings may be holden in the town of Worcester." That was the first meeting of the Society as at present organized, although the formal charter was not received until 1806.

Through the passage of time the original charter was lost, although on January 10, 1866 it had been recorded that Dr. Workman presented to the Society the original charter which had previously been in the possession of the late Dr. Green, and it was voted that it be framed and hung up in the Library. In 1904, while browsing in an antiquarian bookstore on Sudbury Street, in Boston, Dr. F.H. Gifford of Leicester by accident found the charter and realizing its historical value to the Society, very thoughtfully bought it for the purpose of presenting it to the Society. It was presented back to the Society by Dr. Homer Gage in 1904, because Dr. Gifford's natural modesty would not permit him to do it himself. At present it occupies a prominent place in the front room of the Worcester Medical Library on Cedar Street.

This document reads as follows:

CHARTER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY FOR THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

By the Councilors of the Massachusetts Medical Society, to Oliver Fiske, Francis Foxcroft, Tilly Rice, John Green, and Seth Field, members of Massachusetts Medical Society..... Greeting.

WORCESTER DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

On your application made to us in writing, requesting that those members of the Massachusetts Medical Society who may reside in the County of Worcester might be formed into a Subordinate or District Society, it was voted at a meeting of the Councilors, holden at Boston on the seventh day of June A.D. 1804 that your request be granted.

Be it therefore known that we being thereunto authorized by an act of the Legislature of this Commonwealth, entitled "An Act in addition to an Act entitled "An Act to incorporate certain physicians by the name of the Massachusetts Medical Society", do hereby incorporate, establish and declare those members of the Massachusetts Medical Society who now are, or who may hereafter reside in the County of Worcester, a Subordinate, or District Society, by the name of the Massachusetts Medical Society for the County of Worcester: and they and their successors are hereby invested with all the powers and privileges, and subjected to all the duties and restrictions of a District Society as specified in the act above mentioned.

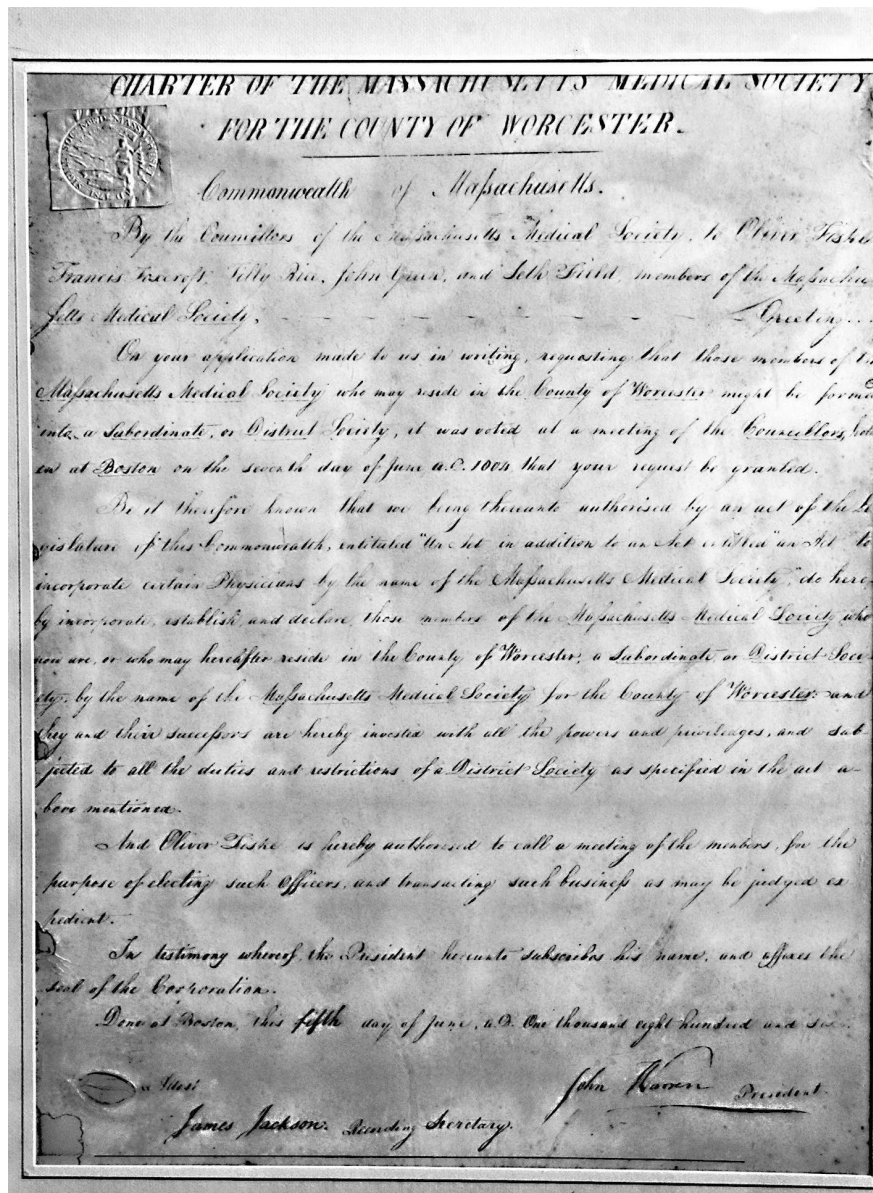
And Oliver Fiske is hereby authorized to call a meeting of the members, for the purpose of electing such officers and transacting such business as may be judged expedient.

In testimony whereof, the President hereunto subscribes his name, and affixes the seal of the Corporation.

Done at Boston, this fifth day of June, A.D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Six.

(Signed) John Warren, President.

James Jackson, Recording Secretary.



Charter of the Worcester District Medical Society

THE WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY

5. The Worcester Medical Library
6. Dr. S. Foster Haven, Librarian
7. Middle Years of the Worcester Medical Library
8. Renaissance of the Library

FIVE

THE WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY

The second true accomplishment was the founding and building up of our present magnificent library. Attention was early called to the necessity of books for circulation among members, and for reference, as a means of mutual improvement, but the first evidence that anyone took the matter up in earnest is given in the record from 1798 when the offer of "Fifty pounds value in books" by Dr. Elijah Dix is made matter of grateful acknowledgment.

In 1799 the committee reported that they had attended to the business of their appointment and that Dr. Dix would send for the books according to the orders of the Society. In 1802 it is further recorded that Dr. Oliver Fiske be requested to confer with Dr. Dix concerning his donation of books. In 1805 the by-laws of the Society, now a part of the Massachusetts Medical Society, provided for a librarian and cabinet keeper. The duties of this office could not have been very onerous, for Dr. John Green was this year elected Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian and Cabinet Keeper.

This early record of 1798 has been commonly accepted without question, for as late as 1860 in a short sketch of the library which is printed in its catalogue, Dr. William Workman dates the origin of the library from this supposed gift of Dr. Dix.

The entries from the original minutes are made to show that Dr. Dix's promise was never realized. For such we are sure was the case, otherwise some record would have showed it, as our predecessors were neither remiss in courtesy to their benefactors nor unappreciative of the value of books. Indeed their efforts to keep up the appearance of having a library are pathetic and withal comic. They regularly elected a librarian, provided rules for loaning books, the penalty of their nonreturn and also appointed a committee from time to time to procure books, but this committee always reported that it had attended to its duties, but had bought none from lack of money. According to Mr. Tiffany, the author of a biography of Dorothea Dix, Dr. Dix removed to Boston in 1795, three years before this offer was recorded. There is no doubt that he was a very unpopular man in Worcester; indeed at one time an unsuccessful attempt was made to drive him from the place. This is shown also by the fact that his name does not appear in the records of the Society as holding office or in any way taking a prominent part in its proceedings, as it would be expected that a man of his energy and ability would do unless personal traits made this impracticable, if not impossible. One must almost conclude that this promise and its nonfulfillment, either intentional or otherwise, was one of the eccentricities of an extraordinary character. However this may be, he certainly excites interest, and demands more than a passing word.

THE LIBRARY

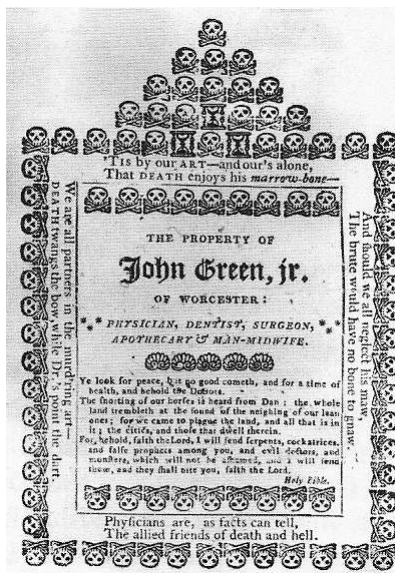
Our predecessors continued to elect their officers and play that they had a library until June 21, 1820 when a vote was passed; "that a committee be appointed to wait on the general Society and solicit their aid in establishing a medical library for the use of the Society." This committee consisted of Drs. Abraham Haskell, Austin Flint and John Green. Also at the same time it was voted "to appoint a committee to solicit subscriptions from the inhabitants at large to assist in establishing a Medical Library." This committee consisted of Drs. John Green, Samuel Manning and Ebenezer H. Phillips. In 1823, it was voted "that the rules and regulations of the library and the list of books belonging to the library be printed." It is thus evident that at last a library existed.

The date of origin in 1798 makes the medical library one of the three oldest medical libraries in the country.

The Massachusetts Medical Society loaned, as a starter, fifty books with no intention that they be returned, and as a matter of fact they never have been. How much real value these were to the members at the time is questionable as they are all ponderous volumes in Greek and Latin dating from 1057 to 1261. It is assumed that they were valuable historically or else they were so little used by the Boston men that they could be discarded to the Worcester doctors. However, the campaign for funds which was initiated by this loan of books led to a generous subscription by Hon. Daniel Waldo in 1825, when in the minutes it is recorded "that Hon. Daniel Waldo was thanked for his very splendid and liberal donation of books." The library at this time numbered one hundred volumes and was housed over one store after another on Main Street or within the home of the librarian. The books could not have been frequently used if we may judge from the report of



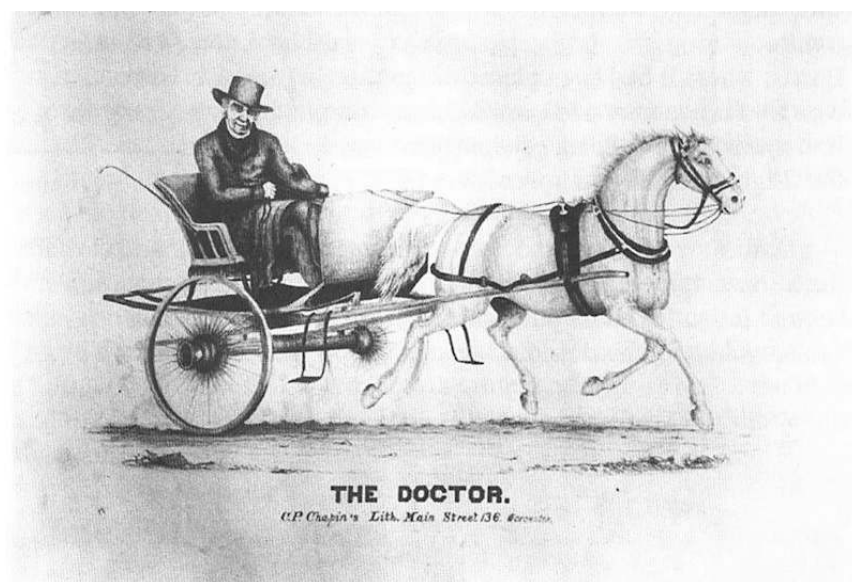
Medicine Box of Dr. John Green III



Bookplate of Dr. John Green III

the library committee, June 22, 1836, of which Dr. William Workman was chairman. Part of it is worth quoting and reads as follows: "The books are in good condition and most of

them would seem to have remained for years unmolested by the hand of any amateur except it be certain studious worms - emphatically bookworms - which, with laudable desire for knowledge, have taken the liberty without the consent of the librarian, to insinuate themselves through the covers of some of the older authors in order to satisfy their professional appetites at the original fountains of science." The report states that there were one hundred twenty-eight volumes in the library. The first published Catalogue of Books was in 1838. In 1843, Dr. Joseph Sargent, then librarian, reported that the library was found in some confusion in an unoccupied room over the bookstore of Mr. Clarendon Harris, where it had been placed when the librarian, Dr. Henry G. Davis, who held office from 1841 to 1843, moved from the town. The store of Mr. Harris was in the building adjoining that formerly occupied by the Worcester Gas Light company on lower Main Street.



Dr. John Green III - Lithograph, 1846

Daniel Waldo in 1845 left a bequest of six thousand dollars to the library. It is particularly to be noted that an important condition of this bequest is that the books purchased with the proceeds of it shall be available to all regularly licensed medical practitioners of Worcester County. Since we now have a state law regulating the practice of medicine and everyone who so practices must be licensed, it follows that our library must be available to every physician in Worcester County. It is further noted that the fund was for the purchase only of books or apparatus, etc., and none of it could be used for the care of the library. It was at once seen that the usefulness of the bequest was very much restricted by this fact, and the committee, consisting of Drs. John Green, Rufus Woodward and Joseph Sargent, who were appointed in 1846 to invest the funds, were authorized to ask the heirs to allow some of the proceeds of the funds to be applied to furnishing a room and caring for the library. This request was not granted, for in October Dr. Sargent reported that the heirs were willing to depart from the express conditions of the will only so far as should meet the views of the

THE LIBRARY

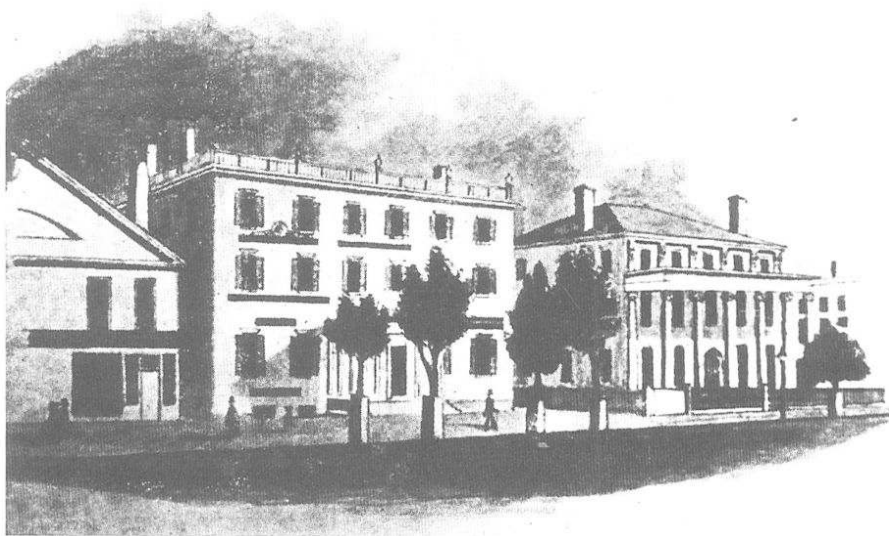
donor, and in 1847, Dr. John Green reported his fruitless efforts in the same direction. In 1848, in his report for the committee, Dr. Green recommended that the interest be allowed to accumulate that it might be used for other purposes than the purchase of books. This policy was followed and although some books were undoubtedly purchased, by 1853 a surplus of \$1,370.00 had accumulated. At this time it is recorded that an indemnity had been procured from the heirs, allowing one thousand dollars to be set aside as an available reserve fund, the income of which may be devoted to any purpose of the library.

In 1851, the Society received five hundred dollars by bequest from Dr. Charles W. Wilder of Leominster. The Wilder bequest is without any conditions except that the interest only be spent and that it be devoted to the purposes of the library. There is no reason to suppose that the Waldo Fund has been devoted to any uses other than those of the library. But in 1866 it was voted that the Wilder Fund be drawn on for the annual dinner, and also for the purchase of a record book for the Society. From time to time greater freedom has been granted the officers of the Society in the expenditure of the money. In the by-laws of the Society printed in 1860 appears an article describing the duties of the committee in charge of these funds. Among the usual provisions is one that says that "said Committee shall pay out no money except by a vote of the Society specifying that the money to be appropriated is to be drawn from the interest of the Waldo Fund or the Wilder Fund, nor until said vote shall have been certified to them by the Secretary." In the by-laws printed in 1879 the article is the same. In the by-laws printed in 1898 the manner in which the funds shall be expended is left to the discretion of the Committee on Funds.

In 1847 the Society accepted the very liberal and opportune offer of Dr. John Green which allowed the gratuitous use of the rooms over the Central Bank for the meetings of the Society and the safe keeping of the Library for the term of five years. In 1854 when Dr. Thomas H. Gage began to attend the meetings of the Society, the books were still scattered about, ill arranged and not attractive. In 1858 the valuable and rapidly increasing library of the Worcester District Medical Society, comprising about 2,400 volumes, was placed in a room in the Worcester Bank Block of Foster Street adjoining the rooms of the Worcester Lyceum and Library Association and put under the care of the latter organization, Mr. John Grey being librarian. A committee report at this time by Dr. Joseph Sargent, Chairman is as follows:

"We are now able to report that a room can be hired, which seems to us to offer many advantages; and the subject is so important and our appointment so remote, that we have thought it best to call a special meeting of the Society for full consideration. To medical gentlemen residing out of the city, the Library of the Society is its most valuable interest. To have this in a place that is central and convenient of access at all times is of great importance to gentlemen who are in town for only a few hours, and obliged to time themselves to the departure of Railway trains. In this view we have thought that no room could accommodate us better than the room which we propose, in the Bank Block, so called. This is the building nearest the Depot, from which most of our trains depart, and also in the immediate vicinity of our principal hotels. The circumstance of there being another library, namely, that of the Young Men's Association, in this building, with some person constantly at hand to take care of it, who could also be delegated to receive and deliver books for us under proper regulation, is a very important additional advantage to this location. Your committee have accordingly

conferred with a committee of the Young Men's Association and obtained their consent to the following arrangement; namely, the Young Men's Association, in consideration of forty dollars a year, propose to give up to our use a room sufficiently large for the present accommodation of our library and for its prospective growth for ten years to come. This room will be heated and lighted as often as we wish, without additional expense to us. They propose also, without additional expense, to allow us the privilege of holding our quarterly meetings in their large hall, which is one of the finest in town. The Society will recollect that we have allocated one thousand dollars of the accumulated income of the Waldo Fund, with the consent of the Heirs-at-law of the late Daniel Waldo, to the purpose of taking care of the books, instruments, etc., purchased and to be purchased from the income of that fund; and that we have also the Wilder Fund with some accumulation, and have already voted to apply this to the care of the Library. The income of these two funds, being ninety to one hundred dollars a year, and our proposed expenditure of only forty dollars, gentlemen will see that our arrangement will be an economical one. Your Committee, therefore, report the following motion: 'Voted, that the committee appointed to procure a more commodious room for the Society, be authorized to hire, for such term of years as they may elect, the room in the Bank Block referred to in the preceding report, with the privileges appended.'



Bank and Waldo Mansion

SIX

DR. S. FOSTER HAVEN, LIBRARIAN

In 1860 the Librarian, Dr. S. Foster Haven reports:

"Your Librarian, in presenting an imperfect report, offers as apology the fact that the transition state in which the library has been during the greater portion of the past year has prevented him from acquiring familiarity with its contents, and, more particularly, with the recent additions, which, it is to be hoped, future librarians will obtain. He takes pleasure, however, in reporting that, through the labors of others, the value and utility of the library has been very greatly enhanced by the printing of a systematic catalogue. For this work, you are indebted to your committee of publication, and especially to the untiring efforts of its Chairman Dr. Workman. The titles of the books have been entered in the catalogue under classified heads, accompanied by numbers, which designate their shelf and their place on the shelf. The committee have also, in a general way, as far as practicable, arranged the books themselves according to their subjects. In addition to this, your librarian has ventured, upon his own responsibility, to paste on the backs of the volumes their number and place on the shelf. By this means any book may be more easily found in its proper place, and more readily detected, when out of place.

During the past year there has been added to the apparatus of the Society, a complete set of Day's Splints, consisting of as follows:

- 3 inclined plane leg splints
- 2 thigh splints
- 2 clavicle splints (in the form of a yoke)
- 4 knee splints
- 3 elbow splints
- 5 outside arm splints
- 8 radius splints
- 5 inside arm splints
- 3 jointed arm splints

"The Library has been increased since May last, by one hundred and twenty volumes. A portion of these are already entered in the catalogue. Although a decided step has been made in advancing the welfare of the library by the publication of a catalogue, much yet remains to be done. A single glance at the present limited and awkward quarters will suffice to convince anyone that a larger and more convenient place is indispensable for a collection of the size and value of our own. It is very desirable to have the books so arranged that they may be within reach of the hand, and that the eye may readily take in their titles as they stand upon the shelves. It is equally important for the protection and preservation of the volumes, that they should be placed in cases and under lock and key. As matters stand, it would seem that we must endure our present condition for perhaps another year. The city of Worcester is now breaking ground for the erection of a

building for a Free Public Library. It is purposed to have in this building several spare rooms, of goodly size, suitable for the smaller collections of other associations, and intended more particularly for the accommodation of the Natural History and the Worcester Medical Societies. Should we then decide to move thither, we shall have the double advantage of a fireproof building and of the constant presence of a responsible person.

"It is much to be regretted that in bye gone years, numerous volumes have been lost from the Society's Library, of which no trace can be found. This is owing to a variety of causes, but chiefly from the fact that considerable difficulty has been experienced in keeping a correct record of the books taken out and returned. This embarrassment is still felt in a certain degree. It is to be hoped that members will cooperate with the librarian in his endeavors to make an accurate account and with that view your librarian would respectfully urge the importance of the following suggestions. First, that, at the Society's meetings, members having books to return, do not lay them upon the table, but keep them under their own hand and eye, until they have actually seen them checked off by the Librarian. The reason of this is obvious, as otherwise books may be taken away a second time, before they have been marked as returned. Second, that the same caution be observed with regard to books to be taken out, as otherwise the same book may be charged to two or more persons. Third, that members, taking down books from shelves for examination, lay them on the table for the Librarian to put up. This obviates any displacement.

"In appropriate connection with the collection of books, apparatus, etc., your Librarian is desirous of bringing forward another matter at the close of his report. The statement may appear a strong one, but there is a reason to believe the assertion warranted, that our own library, in point of actual value, should hold one of the first places among the medical society libraries of this country. If such be not already the case, the means which we have at our disposal ought to render it so in a few years. Taking this into consideration in addition to the fact that our Society is one of the oldest in the State, we have certainly a strong inducement held out to us to follow the example of other societies, and render our collections as complete as possible in all departments. There is one department in which not even the initiative has yet been taken. We have no cabinet of pathological specimens. Of the desirableness and utility of such a cabinet there can be no question. The subject has been already broached by your Secretary at a recent meeting of the Worcester Medical Improvement Society. While exhibiting some specimens of his own preparation, Dr. Gage took occasion to utter the wish that a pathological collection might be formed either by the City or the District Society. He furthermore announced his intention of saving and preparing any specimens that could be procured in his own practice, and offered to receive any others from physicians in or out of the city and to label and take charge of them until a suitable arrangement shall be made for the accommodation of the nucleus thus formed. Your Librarian begs leave, in an unofficial capacity, to most cordially support the suggestions made by Dr. Gage, and would also express a readiness to assist him in the putting up of preparations, and to do all in his power to increase the value of the collection. He cannot refrain from hoping, finally, that the senior members of the Society, whose extended fields of practice give them frequent opportunities for procuring interesting morbid specimens will manifest an active interest in the advancement of such a project. All of which is respectfully submitted. S. Foster Haven, Jr."

It is appropriate at this point to record a letter written to Dr. Albert C.

DR. HAVEN, LIBRARIAN

Getchell in 1899 by Dr. Thomas Gage, in which he recounts very interestingly and very vividly the biography and memorial of Dr. Haven, who made the supreme sacrifice at the battle of Fredericksburg in 1862.

"It gives me pleasure to comply with your request for information concerning Dr. Haven. I knew him well and intimately. He began his professional life soon after I did, and our offices were adjoining. We had our meals at the same table, and we were much together. I went with him and his famous regiment when they left for the seat of war, and I spent two weeks with him then in Washington and at Camp Kalorama. Sixteen months later I went again to find, and bring home, his remains.

"Dr. Haven was born in Dedham, May 20, 1831. His father was the late Samuel F. Haven, Esq., the well remembered and very distinguished Librarian of the American Antiquarian Society. His mother was a daughter of the Rev. Freeman Sears of Natick; he was an only child.

"When he was scarcely five years old his mother died, and from that time on, for several years, his intellectual and moral training were under the direction of Miss Elizabeth P. Peabody, a sister of Mrs. Horace Mann and Mrs. Nathaniel Hawthorne, a lady widely known and greatly respected in both Europe and America, not for her philanthropies alone, but for her life-long interest in education, and especially in the education of children. At the age of eight he came to Worcester to live, and to be with his father, who had been already for two years a resident here; and here, still under the general direction of Miss. Peabody, in the public and private schools of the town, he was fitted for college. At the age of 17 he entered Harvard, and in 1852, when he was 21 years old, he graduated.

"His medical studies, which he took up immediately after leaving college, he began with Dr. Henry Sargent of Worcester and continued in the Tremont Street Medical School in Boston, a private institution in which at that time instruction was given with daily recitations throughout the year by the full medical faculty of Harvard University; and from that University, after completing a three year course of study, of which one was spent in the Massachusetts General Hospital as house physician, he received in 1855 his medical degree. But, meantime, having determined to make a specialty of diseases of the eye, he had decided to go, with that in view, immediately abroad, where for two years, in London, Paris, Vienna, and Berlin, he applied himself assiduously to the study and observation of the best ophthalmic practice. Returning in 1857, he opened an office in Boston. But there he remained only one year. In 1858 he came to Worcester.

"When he returned to Worcester to make it his permanent residence Dr. Haven was a well educated man and an accomplished specialist in the department of medicine to which he had devoted particular attention. Natural abilities much above the ordinary, and an inherited taste and talent for literary pursuits, had been cultivated and developed. He was a diligent student, and his acquisitions, both general and special, were extensive and varied. In ophthalmology, especially, he was a learned man, and his learning was not only theoretical but practical. It was ready for immediate use and application. In character he was open, manly, frank and generous, with particularly high conceptions of duty and responsibility. He was loyal to his profession and honorably ambitious to excel. In all things, moral and intellectual, he was honest and upright. His manner inspired confidence and respect. There was about him

indeed at times a slight appearance of reticence and reserve but this quickly and entirely disappeared under relations of close and friendly intimacy. It was wholly due to modesty.

"Of course such a man had not long to wait for recognition at the hands of the public, nor for employment. Business came to him almost immediately, and every circumstance seemed pointing to a brilliant and prosperous future in his chosen field of labor, when there came a change, a very sudden change, in all his plans.

"With the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion Dr. Haven, very much to the surprise of his friends, was seized with a desire and a determination to enter the military service, and with this in view eagerly sought a surgical appointment in the army. This was not from any fondness for military life, for he never had a thought or care for that; nor yet was it from love of novelty, notoriety, or change; it was from pure patriotism, from a feeling that his country needed a service it was in his power to render and that he could not conscientiously withhold it. Consequently he received at the hands of Governor Andrew, with great gratification, an appointment to the post of Assistant Surgeon in the 15th Mass. Regiment, the regiment of which the Hon. Charles Devens was Colonel, George H. Ward, Lieut. Colonel, and Dr. Joseph N. Bates, Surgeon, and, with this famous command, in August 1861 left Worcester for the front. The day of this regiment's departure will long be remembered. It was the first to go from Worcester, and one of the first to leave the State. It was also one of the first to be engaged with the enemy in battle. Moreover it was the one that from first to the last seemed to be chosen for the deadliest strife and the costliest sacrifice of life.

"To write the story, from this time on to the end of Dr. Haven's life, would necessitate the writing of the history of his regiment, and all its engagements during the sixteen months of its service in Virginia and Maryland. But for such a task I have, of course, neither time nor space. I can only suggest something of what he did and dared by mentioning a few of the great battles in which he bore a part. But before I do that I must mention a determination to which he unalterably adhered, and which in the end cost him his life. He conceived it to be his duty to keep close to his men, even when they were under fire or in the hottest of the fight, in order that he might be immediately at hand for any casualty requiring his assistance. He would not remain in the rear to have the wounded brought to him. He felt that he belonged to his men and that it was his duty to share their dangers. It was in vain that friends, brother surgeons, officers, and men, expostulated and endeavored to dissuade. He would not be moved. His purpose was fixed, and his mind made up. And so our first glimpse of him, after his departure, is at Harrison's Island, in the middle of the swollen Potomac, after the terrible and disastrous battle of Ball's Bluff, where the 15th had its first awful taste of war, in the dark and dismal night, within sight and sound of rebel rejoicing and illumination, in momentary expectation of capture, with the wounded of his men who had escaped the danger of drowning around him, and with no means at hand of removing them to a place of safety, resolving, and declaring his resolve, to remain by his men and to be taken prisoner with them, if such should be his fate.

"And in this same spirit of self-forgetfulness and devotion to duty we know that he went on to all that lay before him in the awful battles of Williamsburg, Cold Harbor, Fair Oaks, Mechanicsville, Gainesmill, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hills, and a multitude of smaller engagements in the Peninsular campaign. And so again to the terrible

engagements of South Mountain, and Antietam, into the latter of which the 15th went with 583 men and came out with only 175, 321 having been killed or wounded, and 24 made prisoners.

"And by the best of evidence again, we know that in this spirit he approached his tragic fate at Fredericksburg, for here we have the testimony of his Division Surgeon. Surgeon Sherman in a letter to Dr. Haven's father soon after the battle, after speaking of his son's sacrifices to duty, and his utter disregard of danger goes on to say 'Witnessing his self exposure at the battle of Antietam, I had, as Medical Director of the Second Division, detailed your son, in a written order, in the event of battle, to repair to the Division Hospital, and give his services there instead of in the field with his regiment. When I communicated this order to your son he evidently felt disappointed. He expressed a strong desire to go wherever his regiment went; and when the column to which the 15th Mass. Regiment was attached was about to pass over the bridge in front of Fredericksburg he was expostulated with, and reminded of the previous order, but he asked as a special favor to be allowed to go with his regiment, and said that as soon as the fight was done he would return to the hospital and remain here.' But shortly after, while marching beside his regiment, in the streets of the city, to the place assigned it, he was struck in the leg by a shell. The limb was shattered, but he was not instantly killed. For a time it was hoped that he might sufficiently rally to allow an amputation, but he did not. A few hours later, with the battle still raging about him, he died.

"His remains were brought home and buried from the Church of the Unity in Rural Cemetery. A great concourse attended his funeral and followed him to his last resting place. It was sad and sorrowful, and it was at a time when sad and sorrowful days were coming thick and fast.

"To give some idea of the feeling caused by the sacrifice of this young and heroic life to an exalted sense of duty, and love of country, I am inclined to append some beautiful lines which, inscribed to Dr. Haven's memory, appeared, soon after the funeral, in the 'Spy'. They are from the pen of the Rev. Mr. Wasson:

'With skilful touch he turned away Death's wishful hand from
wounded men;
But when was done that doleful day, The living laid him with the
slain.
Thy hurt to heal, O native land, What mortal might he did and dared;
And when all services of his hand Seemed not enough his heart he
bared.
And laid his life upon thy hurt, By losing all to make thee whole;
But could not lose his high desert And place on memory's record
roll.
And when that sacred roll she calls, The word, perchance, will reach
his ear,
And he shall from the eternal hall, Among God's angels, answer
"Here".
We will not deem his life was brief, For noble death is length of
days;
The sun that ripens autumn's sheaf Has poured a summer's wealth of
rays.'

SEVEN

THE MIDDLE YEARS OF THE MEDICAL LIBRARY

The interests of our Society through its Library have always been more or less intimately associated with those of the City and citizens of Worcester and particularly with those of the Free Public Library. Although the Library owed its very existence as a useful institution to the generosity of a layman, the public had little opportunity to use it until it was removed to the Free Public Library Building. This privilege has since been extended, and at the same time our claim upon the Public Library for a proper room had been strengthened. In 1860 and for a few years previously our Library was in the Worcester Bank Building on Foster Street and was in a way associated with the Library of the Worcester Lyceum and Library Association, it being put in charge of Mr. John Grey, Librarian of that association. The Society also held its meetings there.

In 1861 the Public Library building on Elm Street was nearing completion, and in the records of the Annual Meeting held in May 1861, this minute is found: "Dr. Gage announced that the city library was nearing completion and that a large and elegant room in that building was designed for our use if we chose to rent it, and he moved that a committee be appointed to confer with the city authorities."

This committee was appointed and did confer, with what result may be seen from the following report entered in the records of the Directors of the Free Public Library, November 9, 1861.

"The Committee to whom was referred the question relative to the occupancy of a portion of the Public Library Building by the Worcester County Medical Society and The Natural History Society, submit the following report:

"These Societies are desirous of having a lease of five years of certain rooms, with a notice of one year to quit after the termination of the lease. The committee are clearly of the opinion that the Directors ought not to grant this request because they do not, cannot, know that these rooms may not be wanted for the use of the Public Library before the lease will terminate. It may be five, ten or fifteen years before these rooms will be wanted for the uses of the library.

"The committee recommend that the Medical Society have the free use of the rooms over the Circulating Library and the anteroom north of it under the following restrictions:

"If the rooms should be wanted for the purpose of the Public Library the society shall vacate them on a notice of six months; that said rooms shall be kept open during the hours fixed by the Directors for keeping open the Public Library; that the public shall have use of the Medical Library as a consulting library as an equivalent for the rent of the rooms. The Medical Society electing their own librarian and making their own regulations relative to their Library not inconsistent with the above use of the Public . The Medical Society to leave the rooms in as good condition as they

THE MIDDLE YEARS

secured them and in case of their leaving the rooms, they are to give the Directors the privilege of purchasing their gas fixtures at a fair price.

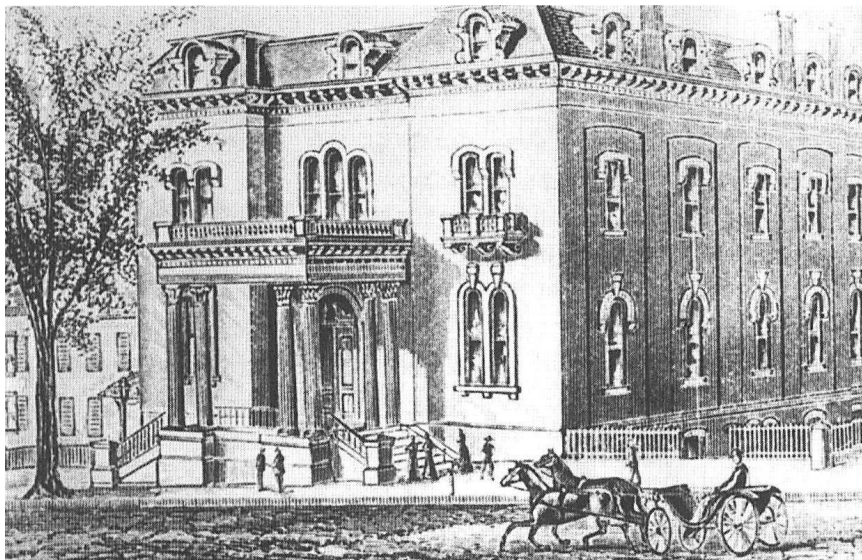
"In case the rooms occupied by these Societies (Natural History Society as well) or either of them, are warmed by furnace for heating the Public Library each society shall pay a fair proportion of the expense of heating."

Signed: Isaac Davis,
John Green, Committee.

These requirements were complied with by our Society, an entry appearing in the records January 8, 1862, to that effect.

It is interesting to note here another minute of that meeting. The report of the committee appointed to confer with the city authorities of which Dr. Joseph Sargent was Chairman, ended with the recommendation: "That the Society should purchase some fitting testimonial of the respect and gratitude due to the Honorable Daniel Waldo and Dr. Charles W. Wilder for their munificence and cause the same to be permanently placed in our new rooms in a conspicuous position." This recommendation was adopted, but later in the same meeting it was reconsidered and indefinitely postponed, as it was inexpedient to act on account of lack of funds.

In 1862 the library was moved into the new Public Library Building, and it is of interest to note that the expense of moving the library was eight dollars and six cents. The entire second floor on the west side of the building was set aside for it, and was so used until the needs of the Public Library made it necessary to vacate the north room. The meetings of the Society were also held at this place until 1887, when the number of books had so increased that there was no longer room. From that time the meetings were held in various halls.



Worcester Public Library

In the Annual Oration of 1862 on "The Past, Present and Future of the Worcester District Medical Society", Dr. Thomas H. Gage says: "Within the year that has passed since our last Annual Meeting we have exchanged the inconvenient and secluded rooms we then occupied for these spacious and elegant apartments. The opportunity to effect this change has been

afforded us through the liberal action of the city government of Worcester, and we by accepting the terms offered have, with all proper restrictions and limitations, merged our valuable library in the great free library of the city."

In the Annual Oration of 1878, "Waldo and Wilder", Dr. Leonard Wheeler reports that the library had grown to about 4,500 volumes. But he finds much to criticize. The room was poorly kept, the furniture dusty and uninviting, the catalogue outgrown and consequently of little use. He urged the making of a card catalogue that would easily expand with a growing library. But the main burden of his paper was a plea for a modern library, urging the importance of well arranged and accessible files of Journals and Transactions. His paper evidently bore fruit for soon afterward the card catalogue was made. From that time also the periodical department assumed an importance which has constantly increased. Scattered journals were collected and bound, gaps in the library files filled and increasing attention and money devoted to this part of the library.

This relationship existed until 1894 when the library was occupying the south room only. Owing to increase in the size of the library, this room was very much crowded. The north room had been vacated to make room for the increasing growth of the Free Public Library. The new building of the public library was now completed and occupied, and the Directors were asked that the north room might again be set aside for our use.

The matter was put in the hands of a committee consisting of Drs. Thomas Gage, George Francis, Leonard Wheeler and Samuel Woodward. The request was granted and the committee of the Directors to whom the matter was referred made the following report on November 29, 1894: "They recommend that the use of the room north of the one now occupied by said Society and adjoining the same be cheerfully granted for the storage and use of their Library until such time as the needs of our library shall seem to demand said room for our own use." Signed, Edward I. Comins, Almon Gunnison, Francis A. Harrington, Committee.

On September 12, 1894, the Society feeling that the privileges of our library should be extended as liberally as possible to the citizens of Worcester, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved: That the Worcester District Medical Society offers to the Directors of the Worcester Free Public Library its books, to be loaned to the public on conditions similar to those governing that portion of the Intermediate Department of the Public Library which are given out only by permission of the Librarian. Also that the Librarian of the Free Public Library be and hereby is authorized to allow such persons to go to the alcoves of the Medical Library as he may think proper. That is so our library shall be as available and useful to the citizens of Worcester as if it were a part of the Public Library."

In the spring of 1899, the Directors of the Free Public Library were again contemplating additions to the building and such rearrangement of the departments as made our removal from the rooms we then occupied necessary for the carrying out of their plans. Accordingly a request was made that we occupy other rooms in the building. It had been arranged that the Medical Library be transferred to the room over which it then occupied. A new elevator would be put into this part of the building. The room would be properly ventilated and in every way made convenient and suitable for our purposes. On the part of the Society the matter was put into the hands of a committee consisting of Drs. Samuel Woodward, Oliver Everett and Warren Gilman.

The matter was adjusted satisfactorily and the Directors of the Free Public Library reported as follows:

"At a meeting of the Directors of the Free Public Library held on the

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27th day of June 1899, I was directed to send you the following report which was adopted by the Board: the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library have carefully considered the statements of the Committee representing the Worcester District Medical Society and they have examined the records of their own body showing its previous action in the matter of the deposit of the books of the Society with the Public Library, the conditions upon which such deposit was made and all subsequent discussions and votes concerning the relations of the Society and the Library.

"They fully appreciate the importance to the general public of the relations which now exist and they earnestly hope and confidently believe that nothing will occur in the future to disturb or interrupt these relations. They are convinced, however, that the pressing demands for an enlargement of the facilities of the Circulating Department of the Library, and especially for the establishment of a Children's Department, can no longer be denied and that to satisfy them it will be necessary to make use of the rooms now occupied by the Medical Library. Regretting the necessity for this change they are anxious to make other provision which will in no way diminish the value and importance of the Medical Library, either to the physicians of Worcester County or to the general public and will not lessen the convenience with which it may be consulted and used.

"To this end they offer the use of the entire floor immediately above that now occupied by the books of the Medical Society. They will properly ventilate this room, improve the condition of its walls, make the windows easily accessible and provide them with suitable shades or blinds. They will see that the room is properly lighted and, as far as possible, made in every way acceptable to the Society or its representatives. The total amount of available space on this floor is somewhat greater than that now occupied and it is believed that its use will prove more convenient on account of the absence of the partition which breaks the space of the lower floor. A new elevator will be provided which will make the room more easily accessible than those now in use and the Directors hope that the arrangement proposed will be entirely satisfactory to the Medical Society.

"It is understood that this arrangement if entered into may continue until the growth of the Free Public Library shall imperatively demand the use of the room referred to, but the Directors hope that before this time shall come, other plans of more general character will be possible, to provide for the natural increase and that no further change will be necessary." Signed Charles M. Thayer, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Library.

There is a tradition about the Medical Library that Dr. Dixon who had since removed to Boston, took great interest in the work of reorganization of the library and devoted a great deal of time and labor to the change which evidently involved much patient and disagreeable work. This letter he sent to Dr. A. C. Getchell in 1899, giving an interesting glimpse of the confusion in which the library was and bringing home to us a keener realization of our obligations to those who undertook the Augean task. It is as follows:

"I thank you for your pleasant letter of the 25th and hasten to reply, although I fear I have nothing to give you of any value. So many years have intervened that my memory is quite dim in regard to any definite facts. I do however remember that several of us younger doctors (at that time) were much annoyed at finding the library in such a neglected condition; for

physicians had been in the habit of coming in and taking books to consult and replacing them or not or putting them anywhere; there was much laxity as to returning books and many were snugly resting hidden under papers and other books in many a doctor's office. Again there is no definite classification of the books and new books were put in almost anywhere. It needed much hunting to find anything wanted. The magazines and pamphlets were in utter confusion and therefore inaccessible, so we got permission to overhaul the place and try to put it in some order. I am sure Dr. Wheeler had much to do with this, and, if my memory is correct, Drs. William Workman and Marble were co-workers. We spent many, many hours in a very dusty atmosphere rearranging, classifying, numbering and cataloguing the books, pamphlets and magazines; made a card catalogue and induced the Society to make some rules with fines for infringement, to insure prompt return of books and proper registration. Books were hunted up in all the Doctors' offices and exchanges made of duplicate magazines and pamphlets with other libraries so as to complete our files.

"I remember that we found the work a greater and more tedious one than we anticipated, but got much interested in it and enjoyed it. New shelves were put in and more interest awakened in all the members to keep the library in good order. I am quite sure however that I deserve only my small share of credit in common with the others who were equally interested. I remember that Dr. Green helped us with his advice as also did several of the older physicians. I am sorry that my recollections can give you no more definite data. Very truly yours, L.S. Dixon."

In the By-laws published in 1838 it is designated that each member shall pay annually into the treasury one dollar for purposes of adding to the library. Previous to 1869 the Librarian appears to have had no compensation. It was then voted that he have fifty dollars a year which was increased in 1872 to seventy-five dollars. Out of this he paid his assistant. In May 1899 the total aggregate of funds was \$9,536.23, and the total annual income \$529.04.

A catalogue is such an essential part of a library that some attention should be devoted to this subject.

The first printed catalogue bears the date 1838. This records the titles of two hundred fifty-nine books, fifty-five of which are those deposited with the Society by the Massachusetts Medical Society. It was probably prepared by Drs. Workman and A. Brigham, since in 1835 they were appointed a committee to prepare a catalogue.

The next one bears the date of 1853. It recorded over 800 volumes. There are as yet no shelf numbers. But in the back of the book is an index of subjects. There is no record of who prepared it, but at this time Dr. Henry Clarke was Librarian and Drs. William Workman, Joseph Sargent and Benjamin F. Heywood the Committee on the Waldo-Wilder Funds.

There were two other printed catalogues, one printed in 1860 and one in 1865. In both are shelf numbers. The following interesting letter from Dr. Gage to Dr. Getchell in 1899 describes them:

"These catalogues of the Medical Library may interest you, and may be of value to the District Medical Society. The small one, published in 1860, shows what the library was when the Society occupied rooms in the Worcester Bank Block, just before removal to the Public Library Building. I think its preparation was wholly the work of Dr. William Workman, who died in 1885 at the age of eighty-seven.

THE MIDDLE YEARS

"The larger one came into my possession from Dr. Rufus Woodward when he resigned and I assumed the chairmanship of the Committee on the Waldo and Wilder Fund. I know not by whom it was prepared, but I think it was by some one connected with the public library who was paid for the service. You will observe that it is an interleaved copy and that books in great numbers, as they were purchased or came otherwise into the Society's possession, were entered with pen and ink on the blank leaves. Most of



Drs. Rufus Woodward, Joseph Sargeant, Thomas Gage, 1880

these entries were apparently made by some employee of the public library, but many of them are in Dr. Woodward's handwriting.

"Dr. Woodward, during the fourteen years he was chairman of the Fund Committee purchased himself all the books, or nearly all, that were procured, and I presume he kept the copy of the catalogue I send you for his own convenience. Dr. Woodward, as you know, died in 1885 at the age of sixty-six.

"If these little books should serve no other purpose, they will, I trust, do something to keep in mind the Society's debt of gratitude to two of its most faithful, conscientious and most interested members."

In this connection it is of interest to note that in May 1859, it was voted that Dr. William Workman be given fifty dollars "in token of the high estimation in which we hold his valuable services as Chairman of the Committee on the Waldo and Wilder Funds." After his death a large part of his valuable library was given to the Society.

In May 1878, after the Oration of Dr. Leonard Wheeler, already referred to, a committee was appointed to recommend definite measures for carrying out the suggestions of his paper. This committee of which Dr. Wheeler was chairman, reported at the July meeting and the report appears in full in the records in his handwriting. The report sets forth that the library was little used because the books and room were dirty, journals were few, incomplete and scattered, and the shelves were overcrowded. The books were poorly catalogued. Incidentally it might be mentioned that

the journals taken by the society were the New York Record, the New York Medical Journal, the American Journal of the Medical Sciences, and Braithwait's Retrospect, and no pains were taken to keep the files complete.

The Library Committee, consisting of Drs. William H. Workman, Leonard Wheeler and Lewis S. Dixon, was authorized to carry out the recommendations of the report and a sum of money was voted to meet the expenses. On January 8, 1879, the committee reported the work done. New shelves had been added, the books had been classified, a card catalogue had been made and the work of completing the files of journals and binding them had begun.

At this time the library was put on a modern working basis, and since then for many years the only work done has been to carry out the methods so wisely instituted. Then the card catalogue embraced subjects as well as authors, but since the publication of the index catalogue of the Library in the Surgeon General's Office, where this work is better done than we can possibly do it, this publication being in the Library, books are catalogued by author only.

In 1897, a small supplementary card catalogue was made, embracing the periodical literature of our library and the Medical Periodicals of the Free Public Library, Clark University, Worcester Lunatic Hospital, and such journals owned by individuals in Worcester as are not in other collections.

In 1899 the growth of our library and that of the Free Public Library was such that we asked to move to the top floor of the old building, otherwise known as the Mansard Roof Room. This was an unfortunate move, for in spite of the faithful work of the librarians, Drs. Getchell, Merrick Lincoln, George Lincoln and again Dr. Getchell, the library was little used. It was difficult to get to it, and being out of sight was out of mind. For years our library, founded in 1798 and one of the best when American Medicine was young, had been left to moulder in the garret of the Worcester Public Library. Nobody used it but it was free. Running expenses were paid from a yearly rebate on state Society dues. Voices like those of Drs. Woodward, Gage, Leonard Wheeler, Fisher, M.F. Fallon, and Getchell had cried against parasitism, but cried in the wilderness. In an era of getting what you paid for, we stayed free.

Excerpts from a report made on May 11, 1921 by the Librarian, Dr. Getchell, sheds much light on the hibernation period of our library. He made two recommendations for improvement: first, the responsibility for the management of the Library, and particularly the choice of books to be purchased, should not rest, as heretofore, solely with the Librarian; second, the Library Committee should be familiar enough with the library to advise about methods of procedure and management. The committee elected consisted of Drs. Wm. F. Lynch, Oliver H. Stansfield and Wm. F. Holzer. The first matter to be investigated was the crowded and disorderly condition of the shelves. For years material had been collecting in the Library, much of very doubtful medical value, and some of no medical value at all. This was due partly to the New England respect for the printed page, and partly to the idea that a library should be a repository of everything for which there was the remotest prospect of use. This material consisted of such things as books from deceased members' libraries, duplicates of which we had on our shelves, incomplete sets of state and other transactions, fragmentary sets of medical journals, many of a semi-commercial character, hospital and other reports, semi-medical publications and non medical publications. The only place for such matter is in a store-room, where it may rest until it can be sorted and catalogued. As it was, these books, journals and pamphlets, were occupying shelves

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needed for valuable books, they had to be periodically cleaned, and were uncatalogued. With the limited funds at our disposal, it was impossible properly to care for the essential parts of the Library, if labor was to be spent on this unclassified matter. So that, after going over the matter thoroughly, the committee decided to remove the heterogeneous accumulation.

As between text books and other current books and periodicals, it is generally agreed that the periodicals are of the more permanent value to a medical library, and that this department cannot be allowed to run down. Therefore, the files of the periodicals must be kept complete and they should be properly catalogued and easily accessible.

Hitherto it had been the custom to clean the room and books once a year. Meanwhile, the chairs, floors, and tables accumulated dust and were untidy. Arrangements were made to have a woman come in from time to time to dust a certain number of books each month, so that, in the year the whole library will be gone over.

EIGHT

RENAISSANCE OF THE LIBRARY

In 1933, the Library was again asked to move. Our library had lost its marsupial nest. We faced the decision of really supporting it or dropping it on the doorstep. The Library, as a library, had become impractical. The journals were few. The books were too old to be useful and too new to be antique. The hospitals had better collections, and since this was in the Depression, abandonment would not have been unreasonable.

But the spirit had survived of the old timers who built the library, back when a book cost a doctor's income for a week and readers came on horseback. Under the leadership of the Library Committee, consisting of Drs. A. W. Marsh, Ernest L. Hunt and John Fallon, a new home was found at 34 Elm Street. This energetic committee fitted up the reading room attractively, but owing to lack of money most of the books were left lying in bundles in the basement.

At this time began the renaissance of the library. A new corporation was formed, the Worcester Medical Library, Incorporated, embracing all members of the society.

The first meeting of the incorporators and the first trustee meeting are herewith recorded in toto for historical purposes:

MINUTES OF ORGANIZATION

All the incorporators, having been given seven days notice in writing of the holding of a first meeting for organization of the WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY, INC., and all said incorporators having waived all requirements of the General Laws of Massachusetts for notice of the first meeting for organization, and having appointed the twelfth day of December, 1934, at five o'clock P.M., at St. Vincent Hospital in the City of Worcester as the time and place for holding said first meeting, said meeting was duly held at said time and place, a majority of the incorporators being present. Dr. Ernest B. Emerson was duly chosen as Temporary Chairman of the meeting. Dr. John M. Fallon was unanimously chosen by ballot as Temporary Secretary. He was then duly sworn as follows before Charles T. Tatman, Justice of the Peace: Worcester, ss., December 12, 1934:.

"Then personally appeared the above named John M. Fallon and made oath that he would faithfully and impartially discharge the duties devolving upon him as temporary secretary of the Worcester Medical Library, Inc. Before me, Charles T. Tatman Justice of the Peace."

Pursuant to a vote passed by the incorporators, Mr. Tatman read a set of proposed by-laws, which by-laws were first considered article by article and afterwards as a whole. The following by-laws were adopted article by article:

RENAISSANCE

BY-LAWS OF WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY, INC.

ARTICLE I NAME, LOCATION, PURPOSES, AND SEAL.

The name by which the Corporation shall be known is Worcester Medical Library, Inc. The location of the principal office of the Corporation is the City of Worcester. The purposes for which the Corporation is formed are as follows: to establish and maintain a library of medicine and the allied sciences, and to promote and advance medical education and medical science. It shall have a corporate seal bearing the name of the Corporation and such other devices and inscriptions as the board of Trustees may determine.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP.

The regular voting membership of the Corporation shall consist of the members in good standing of the Worcester District Medical Society. There shall also be associate members, who shall not have the right to vote, but shall have all other privileges of the Corporation. Any member of the Massachusetts Medical Society residing outside of the Worcester District, any member of the Worcester Dental Society, and any other person approved by the Board of Trustees, may become an associate member upon payment of the sum of five dollars (\$5.) per year, or such other fee as may be fixed by the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE III. MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of the Corporation shall be held at 5 o'clock P.M., on the second Wednesday of May in each year. All meetings of the Corporation shall be held at the principal office of the Corporation in the City of Worcester or at such other place in the Worcester District as may be ordered by the Trustees. A special meeting may be called at any time by the President upon due notice sent by mail to all the members, and shall be called upon the written request of at least twenty-five members, delivered to the Secretary, stating the purposes for which the meeting is to be held.

ARTICLE IV. QUORUM.

Ten members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may adjourn the meeting from time to time.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS.

The officers of the Corporation shall be a President, A Vice-President, a Treasurer, a Secretary, such other officers as the Corporation may from time to time authorize, and a Board of Trustees who shall be ten in number, and shall consist of the said four officers and six others to be chosen as follows: At the meeting for organization, six trustees shall be elected to serve until the annual meeting for 1935, at which annual meeting there shall be elected said six other trustees, two for the term of three years, two for the term of two years, and two for the term of one year; and in each year thereafter shall be elected two trustees for the term of three years. All said officers shall be elected by ballot by the Corporation.

ARTICLE VI PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Corporation and shall exercise a general supervision over the affairs of the Corporation. At the first meeting of the Trustees following the annual meeting of the Corporation, the trustees shall choose from their own number a Chairman of the Board of Trustees, who shall preside over their meetings and shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Trustees.

ARTICLE VII. TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall be custodian of the funds and valuable papers of the Corporation subject to the orders of the Corporation and of the Trustees, and custodian of the Corporate Seal. He shall collect all moneys due the Corporation. He shall keep an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements, and shall make disbursements for all routine expenses under the authority of the Trustees or as may be ordered by vote of the Corporation in any meeting duly called. He shall keep accurate records of the invested funds under the direction of the Trustees in performance of their duties under Article X. of these by-laws.

Checks shall be drawn and notes and other obligations issued by him only upon regularly numbered blanks, with the name of the Corporation written or printed on one end thereof. He shall, when thereto required, give bond to the Corporation for the faithful performance of his duties, in such sum and with such sureties as the Trustees may require. The custody of such bond shall be with such person as the Trustees may designate. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall end on December 31. The funds of the Corporation shall be used only in furtherance of the purposes for which the Corporation is formed. He shall annually make to the Corporation a written report of his doings and of the state of the Treasury, and shall subject all his accounts to the inspection of the Trustees, the Auditing Committee, and their agents.

ARTICLE VIII. SECRETARY.

The Secretary shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his duties. He shall keep and shall have charge of the records of the Corporation and of the Trustees. He shall send by mail to each member at least seven days in advance, notice of the annual meeting, with the list of nominations, and notice of any special meeting of the Corporation called by the President or called upon written request as provided in Article III. of these by-laws. The notices of all meetings of the Corporation shall state the purposes for which the meeting is called. He shall send by mail to each Trustee at least two days in advance, notice of every regular meeting of the Trustees and of every special meeting of the Trustees called by the President or called upon written request as provided in article IX. of these by-laws. The purposes for which all special meetings of the Trustees are to be held shall be stated in the notice of the meeting.

ARTICLE IX. TRUSTEES

Immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Corporation, the Board of Trustees shall meet for organization and for the business of a regular meeting. The Trustees are hereby given all the powers which the Corporation itself possesses, not incompatible with these by-laws or with the laws of the Commonwealth. They may make such rules and orders for their regular meetings and for their procedure and may appoint such committees as they may deem fit. They shall make such rules and regulations with reference to the use of the library by members of the Corporation, or by others, as they may deem fit. They shall make such rules and regulations with reference to the use of the library by members of the Corporation, or by others, as they may deem proper. A quorum of the Trustees for the transaction of business shall be three. Special meetings of the Trustees may be called at any time by the President, and shall be called upon the written request of at least five Trustees delivered to the Secretary, stating the purposes for which the meeting is to be held. Any vacancy occurring in the officers or Board of Trustees from the death, resignation, removal, or disability of any Officer or Trustee shall be filled by the remaining members of the Board at their next regular meeting or at a special meeting called for the purpose. The Trustees may appoint any appropriate employees and

RENAISSANCE

remove them at their pleasure. The Trustees shall have access to the books, vouchers and funds of the Treasurer.

ARTICLE X. PERMANENT FUNDS AND PROPERTY

The general care and management of the permanent funds and property of the Corporation, including any that may hereafter be acquired, is hereby placed in the Trustees, subject always to such directions as may be given from time to time by the Corporation.

The duties of the Trustees in this regard shall be:

1. To treat each separate gift or legacy, or other acquisition designed for permanent investment, from whatever source received, as a separate and independent fund, designating it by either the name of the donor, or some other name indicative of the use to which it is made applicable.
2. To keep all such funds constantly invested in interest-bearing securities, having at all times, in the selection of such securities, particular regard rather to the safety of the principal than to the rate of interest to be obtained.
3. To expend, or cause to be expended at their discretion, the income derived from these investments, for the purposes authorized by the terms under which the several funds are or shall be held, and for no other.
4. To cause to be kept in a book provided for the purpose an account current with each fund, which books and account shall at all times be open to the inspection of any member of the Corporation who may desire to examine them.
5. To lay before the Corporation at every annual meeting, in print and in detail, a complete report of the transactions of the year preceding, stating for each fund the income received, and expenditures made (and for what), its present condition, and the name, character and amounts of the several securities in which it is held.

ARTICLE XI COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

At the first meeting of the Trustees following the Annual Meeting, the Trustees shall elect a Committee on Nominations, to consist of five members, which shall hold their office for one year and until others are duly chosen in their stead. This committee shall meet not later than two weeks prior to the date of the Annual Meeting, shall make nominations for all officers of the Corporation, and shall cause notice thereof to be sent by the Secretary with the call for the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE XII AUDITING COMMITTEE.

At the first meeting of the Trustees following the Annual Meeting, the Trustees shall elect an Auditing Committee, to consist of three members of the Corporation, not members of the Board of Trustees, who shall hold office for one year and until others are duly chosen in their stead. The Committee shall have access at all times to the books, records, and vouchers of the Treasurer and of the Trustees, and shall seasonably audit the accounts of the Trustees as to the invested funds and the accounts of the Treasurer, and shall present reports of such audits to the annual meeting of the Corporation.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS.

These by-laws, or any of them, may be amended or repealed by vote of a majority of members present and voting at any meeting of the Corporation duly called and held for that purpose, which purpose shall be specifically stated in the call for the meeting.

The foregoing by-laws were adopted as a whole by unanimous vote. It was voted that the company proceed to the election of officers under the by-laws, and Dr. John M. Fallon was unanimously elected by ballot to be Secretary of the Corporation. He was then duly sworn as follows before Charles T. Tatman, Justice of the Peace: Worcester, ss., December 12, 1934.:

Then personally appeared the above named John M. Fallon and made oath that he would faithfully and impartially discharge the duties devolving upon him as Secretary of the Worcester Medical Library, Inc. Before me Charles T. Tatman, Justice of the Peace.

Dr. Ernest B. Emerson was unanimously elected President by ballot.

Dr. Ernest L. Hunt was unanimously elected Vice-President by ballot.

Dr. Arthur W. March was unanimously elected Treasurer by ballot.

The following named six incorporators were unanimously elected Trustees by ballot, in addition to the four officers above named: Dr. Leonard Wheeler, Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, Dr. Albert C. Getchell, Dr. Homer Gage, Dr. Michael F. Fallon and Dr. William J. Delahanty. The meeting then adjourned at 5:45 o'clock P.M. I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true record of the first meeting of the Worcester Medical Library, Inc. John M. Fallon, Temporary Secretary and Secretary.

The first Trustees meeting took place on February 7, 1935, at Dr. Leonard Wheeler's house, on Chestnut Street. Present were Doctors W. J. Delahanty, John Fallon, M.F. Fallon, A. C. Getchell, Ernest L. Hunt, Arthur W. Marsh, Leonard Wheeler, and Samuel B. Woodward. Absent were Doctors Ernest B. Emerson and Homer Gage. Vice-President Hunt presided.

Dr. Arthur W. Marsh read the Treasurer's report. The Corporation would start with \$531.73 in the bank. Two hundred fifty dollars of this had been donated by the Worcester District Medical Society and the balance by Doctors Hunt and W.F. Lynch from reserve funds of the Harvard Extension Courses.

After discussion of the internal organization of the Trustees Dr. Ernest L. Hunt was unanimously elected Chairman of the Board. It was decided to make a Library Committee and a Nominating Committee, the former to have charge of the details of the library administration, the latter to make nominations for the trustees to be presented at the Annual Meeting. Doctors Hunt, Marsh and John Fallon were unanimously elected as the Library Committee and Doctors Delahanty, M. F. Fallon, Getchell, Wheeler, and Woodward as the Nominating Committee.

Dr. Woodward moved that an attempt be made to get contributions from all members for a maintenance fund, and that a subcommittee of members should be appointed by the Chairman of the Trustees for this purpose. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. Dr. Woodward moved that the Library Committee be authorized to sell the library's set of the journal "Brain". This motion was seconded and



Dr. Leonard Wheeler

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unanimously passed. The meeting was then adjourned.

When the 18,000 volumes which were housed in the Free Public Library were dumped into what was to be the stack room downstairs at 34 Elm Street, it seemed an almost impossible task to bring order out of chaos. The committee at that time took up the task and were able to put the most valuable periodicals and books on shelves. The stack room shelves were designed and built by Dr. Hunt, but this still left an untold amount of detail in finishing the work, such as building more stacks and cataloguing. On May 9, 1935 part of the books were removed from the Public Library to 34 Elm Street, and in April 1937 at the request of the Public Library the remainder of books were transferred to the new quarters. We applied for aid from the Works Progress Administration of the Federal Government and, through the influence of Mr. Ballard of the Boston Medical Library, the rest of the books were arranged on shelves, the medical literature in Worcester being catalogued with a master catalogue file as reference. It is of interest to note here that the total cost of the W.P.A. project in 1939 to shelve, list and catalogue books, pamphlets and periodicals in the field of medicine and bio-medicine in the Worcester Medical Library, libraries at Worcester State Hospital for the Insane, Worcester City Hospital, Memorial Hospital, Hahnemann Hospital, the St. Vincent Hospital, Clark University Department of Biology, Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Holy Cross College amounted to the sum of eighteen thousand and nine hundred dollars.

This new location of the library on 34 Elm Street seems to be the turning point of the Society in our time; the books themselves were secondary, the significant phenomenon was the new spirit. It was a battle to keep the rent paid and only the most valuable of the journals were bound. The Library dues were still optional to the members of the Society and only half of the membership saw fit to be active paying members of the Library. The finances were a constant worry to the Trustees. A group of four benefit affairs was arranged, and these were a great financial success, adding over six thousand dollars to the building fund. The first was a lecture given by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt on April 27, 1939 at the Worcester Municipal Auditorium; the second, a Pop Concert in the fall of 1940; the third, a lecture by Eve Curie in the spring of 1941; the fourth, a lecture by Vincent Sheean, in the spring of 1942.

With the advent of World War II, the problem of financing the activities of the society and the library increased. One third of the members had entered the armed forces. An unprecedented budget was brought in, large enough to cover not only the old but also some new activities.

This called for a reorganization of the corporate structure and adopting respectable dues. The meeting which decided these dues is of interest. It first was proposed that members from outside the city, for whom it was harder than for in-city men to use the library, should be assessed a smaller amount, but the out-of-city members insisted on paying the same dues. The society voted the dues without a "Nay".

In 1942 the library again moved. The Trustees were in a dilemma. They searched the city for an available place. Many sites were found and abandoned because of expense. The Worcester District Center for Aiding Transfusions, commonly called the Blood Bank, a collateral corporation established in 1941, sold one-seventh of its building at 57 Cedar Street to the Worcester Medical Library for the sum of one thousand dollars and again the gigantic task of moving the library had to be accomplished. Stack

rooms were constructed in the cellar, and current journals were kept in the front room of the building. Since 1936 an assistant to the Librarian has been employed. This female assistant is on duty during the library hours and aids greatly in increasing the service.

With the end of World War II the need for the Blood Bank ceased and in 1947 the Blood Bank, which included The Community Chest, Red Cross and Women's Group, sold the property for \$9,400.00 to the Worcester



Worcester Medical Library, 1947

Medical Library, Incorporated. This was manna from heaven, to purchase for such a ridiculous sum the fine old Bowler Estate. The library had at last found a home, adequate for many years to come. The old carriage house in the rear of the building in 1951 was converted into the "Medical Library Hall". In the Fall of 1951, the Society began holding its meetings in this hall. This may be only an interlude to the history of our library, for the dream has always been to have a medical center. Through the years the library has been the stimulus and the binder for the Society. The original plan for a center to house related medical groups may come in the future, but for the present the development of our assets at hand is the immediate problem.

RENAISSANCE



Library Hall, 1951

[In 1974 the library's collection was merged with that of the library of the University of Massachusetts Medical School where our older and more valuable books continue to form the core of the Rare Book Room.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

- 9. Medicine in the Early Years of the Society
- 10. Quackery in the Nineteenth Century
- 11. Formation of the Worcester North District
- 12. The Late Nineteenth Century
- 13. The Annual Orations

NINE

MEDICINE IN THE EARLY YEARS OF THE SOCIETY

The early days of the society have been recorded to its becoming an auxiliary district to the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1804. The interruption in the history was necessary to relate the progress and incidents relating to the Worcester Medical Library, which was the hinge that kept the Society closely knit in a harmonious group. In order to keep the story continuous this divergence was necessary. A brief resume of the activities of this early period is given before the record is continued.

On December 18, 1794, the officers of the Society were elected at Barker's Tavern as follows:

President: John Frink, Esq.

Vice President: Israel Atherton, Esq.

Secretary: Doctor Oliver Fiske

Counsellors: Doctor Ebenezer Morse, Doctor Elijah Dix, Doctor Samuel Willard

Treasurer: Doctor John Green, Jr.

At the first annual meeting in 1795, it was "voted to solicit an act of incorporation from the Gen'l Court," but it appears that subsequently, for three years, nothing was done concerning this but to procure signers to the petition. On June 12, 1798, it would seem to have been before the legislature, as it was "Voted that a committee of three be chosen to confer with the committee of the legislature, on the subject of incorporating this society." This effort failed, and nothing more was done until September 1799 when steps were taken for renewing the application, and at the next annual meeting the Secretary was appointed to "request Nathaniel Paine, Esq. to whom had been committed the petition, to pursue the business immediately, unless in the opinion of the Committee, a conference with the Massachusetts Medical Society was necessary." This, too, must have either failed, or been unattended to, for soon after a petition appears to be in circulation again. On November 9, 1802, we find it "Voted that a Committee of three be chosen to prefer the petition to the legislature for an act of incorporation; with power, however, to abandon this object, provided they can so far make any compromise with the Massachusetts Medical Society, as will effect the purposes of this institution, at their discretion." The committee reported at the annual meeting in 1803 the following words: "That on the twenty-fifth day of January last they caused the petition to be committed in the House of Representatives to Dr. Kitridge of Andover, Dr. Munroe of Sutton, Dr. Aaron Porter of Biddeford, and E.I. Upham, Esq. of N. Salem. Upon a conference with that committee we were informed that some gentlemen of the Massachusetts Medical Society had expressed a wish that a report upon our petition might be postponed until the Massachusetts Medical Society could have an opportunity to make some propositions. In expectation of this our business was adjourned from day to day until the thirty-first of January, when it was thought advisable to

adjourn to February 8th. On this day we learned that a committee from the Massachusetts Medical Society had offered a petition to the Senate to extend their powers. Not knowing exactly the extent of their plan, a joint committee was proposed, to take up the business of both petitions. This was agreed to, and Dr. Hunt and Judge Tudor of the Senate, with the gentlemen above named, formed the joint committee. The committee of the Massachusetts Medical Society produced a bill, which was thought by the joint committee, with some amendment, would take up our wishes. After receiving assurances that certain alterations, which we proposed, should be added to the bill, your committee consented to waive the petition." Signed Oliver Fiske, Thomas Babbitt.

The report was accepted, and it was immediately, "Voted to choose a Committee to inquire what further measures are necessary for the purpose of establishing this Society as a branch of the Massachusetts Medical Society." On June 11, 1804, the committee reported, and the Society then "Voted that the members of the Worcester Medical Society who are, or may become Fellows of the Massachusetts Medical Society will organize themselves into a District Society, and that a meeting of the Fellows of said Society be called for said purpose on Wednesday the 26th of September next, at Capt. Daniel Heywood's Tavern in Worcester, at 10:00 A.M."

In conformance with this call the meeting was held; the Worcester Medical Society was dissolved; and the Worcester District Medical Society, an auxiliary of the Massachusetts Medical Society, was formed and organized.

Other allusions afford, however, no definite information to conferences and correspondence with the Massachusetts Medical Society ; but enough appears in the Record, especially that portion which has been quoted, to show that the views of the members embraced a far wider and more comprehensive field of action, than now appertains to the District associations, and showing clearly the inference that they aimed at an equality of authority and influence. Their repeated attempts to obtain an incorporation, and constant failure, together with the evidence of Drs. Fiske and Babbitt's report, give great probability to the idea that they came more than once in conflict before the legislature, and that the older and stronger triumphed. Still it is pleasant to observe that no spirit of irritation is manifested upon the record at these repeated delays and disappointments; and we are justified in concluding that the enlargement of powers granted to the Massachusetts Medical Society by the legislature in 1803, was in no small degree the result of the pertinacious and honorable efforts (aided, perhaps, by similar movements in other parts of the state) of the Worcester Medical Society.

To comprehend more fully the trials and tribulations of the medical profession in the days when our Society was founded in 1794, a description of world medicine is recorded. It was the year that Lavoisier died on Dr. Guillotin's new machine, accused by Dr. Marat of "obstructing the air of Paris": Lavoisier, who discovered oxygen! John Hunter was leading English medicine through that flowering which led, six years after our own Society's birth, to the charter of a Royal College of Surgeons. Withering recently had published his "Account of the Fox-glove" and added digitalis to the effective pharmacopeia of opium and Jesuits' bark. Two years were to pass before another down-country researcher was to vaccinate a farm boy with cowpox taken from the hand of a Gloucestershire dairymaid. It was seventy years to Listerism, ninety to appendicitis. President Washington began his second term that year and a flying column under Mad Anthony Wayne crossed the Appalachian frontier chasing Indians into the Ohio wilderness, past what is now Cleveland. A fruit of its victory was Indian

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permission for a remote trading post later to be called Chicago. London at that time was a city of one million inhabitants. The bills of mortality of this city from March 22nd. to May 24th. 1796, that is, for a period of two months, give the total number of deaths as 3,187. Of this number 1,129 were children under two years of age and 240 were between seventy and ninety years of age. Among the causes of death enumerated, consumption heads the list with 743 deaths; a large number, 673, died from convulsions; 29 in childbed; 20 subsequent to or resulting from miscarriage; 121 from dropsy; 230 from fever, without any definition or description of the form of fever; 144 from whooping cough; and 56 from inflammation pure and simple without any other designation. The mortality from smallpox is particularly noticeable; during this period 478 persons succumbed to the disease in the city of London. The death rate from this scourge was simply appalling in those days. From 1725 to 1772, a period of about half a century, out of an annual death rate of from twenty to twenty-six thousand, the number of deaths ascribed to this disease ranged from 3,014, the lowest for any one year, up to 3,992, the highest record for the same period of time. Inoculation was practiced at this period. The usual death rate among ordinary cases was one in five or six, while among those who had been inoculated but one in four or five hundred succumbed. This practice was an excessively dangerous means of securing personal immunity from the disease, and was introduced into England as far back as 1720 by Lady Mary Wortley Montague, a famous court beauty, who had learned of it in Turkey, where her husband had been British Ambassador. In that day one-third of all the children born in London died before they had reached the age of two years.

Auscultation was yet awaiting its discovery and practical application to the diagnosis of internal disease at the hands of Laennec. The microscope was regarded as little better than a scientific toy and the immense strides it has brought about in all departments of scientific knowledge and investigation were wanting. The surgeon of the day was obliged to perform his operations without the invaluable aid of the anaesthetic. Rapidity was considered the mark of certain skill, and as one of the surgeon's attributes. To abrogate the pain of surgical operations had been an object of study and effort from the most remote ages. The surgeon carefully sought to secure adequate drainage for the pus, which he was aware would certainly form, which he hoped would prove "laudable". He also hoped that the recovery of his patient would not be delayed or death would not ensue on the supervention of erysipelas or hospital gangrene.

In 1784, Bell used leaden drainage tubes and very simple dressings. He advised valvular openings for many surgical cases, especially for the removal of floating cartilages from the joints. The researches of John Hunter on healing under the scab were of extreme value, as he deduced therefrom the lesson that it was better to leave the healing process to nature alone. Von Kern in 1809, claimed that all that was necessary in the treatment of wounds was, first, cold water for the arrest of hemorrhage, warm water for dressings, some small pieces of lint, and artificial heat with absolute rest of the injured parts.

QUACKERY IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

Medical quackery was quite prevalent in the early days of the society and, as much space is taken up in the record concerning the struggle against this evil, a few of the more important nostrums of that era are recounted.

A furious debate raged over the merits of Perkins' "tractors". The Society has a pair of these instruments in its medical collection. Dr. Elisha Perkins was born at Norwich, Connecticut, in 1740. Standing well over six feet, of good appearance and address, he bore a high professional reputation for many years. He then conceived the idea which Dr. Holmes described: "that metallic substances might be used in curing disease if applied in a certain manner; a notion probably suggested by the then recent experiments of Galvani, in which muscular contractions were found to be produced by the contact of two metals with the living fiber (the so-called Galvanic current). It was in 1796 that Perkins' discovery was promulgated, in the shape of Perkins' Tractors, two pieces of metal, one apparently iron and the other brass, about three inches long, blunt at one end and pointed at the other. These instruments were applied for the cure of various complaints, such as rheumatism, local pain, inflammations, and even tumors, by drawing them over the affected parts for about twenty minutes. Dr. Perkins took out a patent for his discovery, and traveled about the country to diffuse the new practice. Just what the tractors contained may be found in the application for a patent filed in the Rolls Office in London. They were not simply two different metals, but a combination, with even some of the precious metals in them, partly for possible appeal to the multitude, but also because the canny inventor was able to charge a higher price. The ordinary tractors sold for fifty dollars a pair, a stiff price in those days; with the combination of precious metals wealthier patients paid up to a hundred and twenty-five dollars. The fame of the tractors spread. In 1798, they had crossed the Atlantic and were employed in the Royal Hospital at Copenhagen. The inventor's son, Benjamin Douglass Perkins, took them to London, where they attracted wide attention. In 1804, The Perkinsean Institute was founded there. Perkins lived in the house formerly occupied by the great surgeon, John Hunter, a clever device. By the end of 1802, five thousand cases had been treated. Much more could be said about this extraordinary delusion, but Perkins was eventually hoist by his own petard. Back in America, he learned in 1810 that a yellow fever epidemic was raging in New York. With full confidence in his ability to control it, he traveled thither, treated some patients, caught the disease, and died.

Another dubious method of treatment, animal magnetism, was a lively subject of debate at the meetings of the Worcester District Medical Society. On January 8, 1839, we find the following entry in the records: "The subject of Animal Magnetism was as usual brought up for debate, and as a great diversity of sentiment and feeling was found to exist among the members of the society, some of them being positively and some negatively

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electrified, the Secretary was directed to use his best endeavors to procure the attendance of some easily magnetizable young lady, to be manipulated at the Annual Meeting of the Society, that by her agency the opposite poles of opinion might be brought safely and quietly in contact." One turns the page with high anticipation, but, alas, no result. Apparently no susceptible maiden could be found. Now, the phrase "as usual" used by the Secretary in the entry above shows the subject of animal magnetism was much in the minds of the Society's members at the time. Victor Robinson, in his "History of Medicine", explains: "Franz Anton Mesmer, of Swabia, came to Paris to study medicine. His graduating thesis, 'The Influence of the Planets in the Cure of Disease' (1766), promulgated the theory that the sun and moon act upon living beings by means of the subtle fluid known as animal magnetism, analogous in its effects to the influence of the lodestone. Mesmer thus revealed himself as a belated astrologer. But he opened in Paris a Temple of Health, and here thronged the afflicted. They trod the halls in silence broken only by the sound of an Aeolian harp from a distant chamber. The light that shone through the richly stained windows fell on walls lined with mirrors. From the corridors floated the odor of orange-blossoms, and from antique vases on the chimney-pieces ascended the rarest incense. The majority of patients were women, and for them a special set of young men had been provided. Slowly and solemnly these assistant magnetizers marched forward; each selected a woman and stared her in the eye; no word was spoken, but from somewhere softly sailed the music of an accordion, and the voice of a hidden opera-singer sweetened the incense-laden air. The young Apollos embraced the knees of the women and gently massaged their breasts. The women closed their eyes and felt the magnetism surge through them. The master-magnetizer, Mesmer himself, in a lilac gown, with lofty mien and majestic tread, passed among them, making passes and accomplishing miracles. If a lady had a 'crisis', Mesmer lifted her up and carried her to his private crisis-chamber. It must have been a pleasant form of hypnosis, for as soon as a patient recovered from one crisis she begged for another."

Mesmerism became a sensation: the French Government offered the inventor a pension and the Cross of the Order of St. Michael for his secret but he refused. Finally a commission, including Benjamin Franklin and Lavoisier, the discoverer of oxygen who later became a victim of the French Revolution, was appointed to investigate. It decided that Mesmerism was due to imagination, and called attention to the moral dangers of the practice. But the practice persisted and the latter day descendant of Mesmerism is psychoanalysis.

Frustrated by the lack of a susceptible Worcester maiden in its efforts to test the merits of animal magnetism, the Society turned to other problems. Patent medicines, as now, were frowned upon by the profession. On June 22, 1842 we learn that Dr. John Starkweather, of Upton, was expelled from the society for sale of a secret nostrum. He tried to resign because of illness, but this boon was denied him. The record shows the following: "Whereas Dr. John Starkweather, a member of this Society, after a full investigation of charges preferred and proved against him for violation of one of the by-laws of the Massachusetts Medical Society and after ample and repeated opportunities given him for his deference, was on the 25th day of May 1842 by an almost unanimous vote, expelled from the said Massachusetts Medical Society for violation of its tenth by-law, viz: by advertising for sale a secret nostrum; therefore, voted that Dr. John Starkweather be expelled from the Worcester District Medical Society also

for the same offense."

The battle against patent medicines continued and in the meantime the Society was obliged to throw its weight against other quackeries which offered simple cures for complicated troubles.

One of these was the Thomsonian System which taught that the eradication of disease depended upon free and continuous bowel evacuation. It later developed into the Eclectic System which claimed to select the best remedies from both homeopathic and (so-called) allopathic pharmacopoeias, and some practitioners of this school were still working at it until 1906.

In 1845, Thomsonian enthusiasts subscribed funds to enable Dr. Calvin Newton, a graduate of Berkshire Medical College, to build on Union Hill his "Botanico-Medical College," a large four-towered building, which is the present Davis Hall of Worcester Academy. Over strong opposition from the Massachusetts Medical Society, the Legislature granted a charter to the new school which came to be known as the Worcester Medical School. For

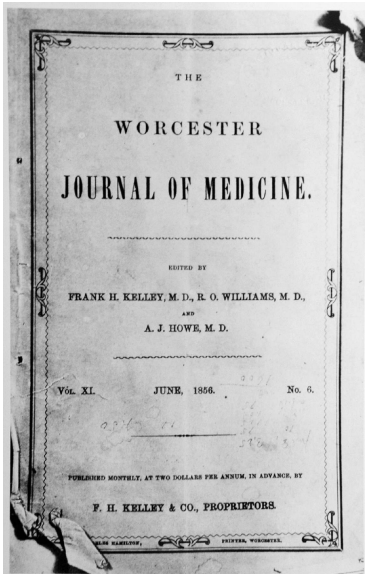


Worcester Medical College (1850). Later Worcester Academy

a time Dr. Newton's institute flourished. With a faculty of six physicians and scientists, he administered a lecture course of fourteen weeks beginning in March. A large body of students paid his tuition fee of fifty dollars and half as much more for his elaborate diploma of which the Medical Library has a copy. Dr. Newton's enterprise did not last long; in June, 1849, the Society entertained charges against him for handbill advertising of a nostrum which brought his expulsion in May 1851. About two years later he died and his college, like his journal, *The Worcester Journal of Medicine*, failed to long survive him. But the charter did not lapse and was later used for Middlesex Medical College. The final chapter in the history of this latter institution, the problem child of medical authorities of the state in recent years, was written in August 1946, when the campus in Waltham was sold to Professor Einstein's Institute for Higher Learning [to be named Brandeis University -ed].

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The opposition to homeopathy and eclectic medicine raged in Worcester as it had all over the country for twenty-five years, from 1852 to 1877. A lengthy erudite committee report to the state Society presented in



Worcester Journal of Medicine, 1856

1854 explains the local antipathy and violent opinions, which were then prevalent. It is such a masterpiece of the English language and so forceful in its logic that it is recorded in its entirety.

First, however, here is the document which precipitated the report and which was appended to the report:

"A transcript from the records of the Bristol District Medical Society, held at Attleboro, June 8th, 1853:

"We, the members of the Bristol District Medical Society, being assured, as we are by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Massachusetts Medical Society, that its great and leading object was in the beginning, and should continue to be, the promotion of Medical Science;

"And, further, believing that the great object, for which the Society was formed, can never be accomplished, until it has disenthralled itself entirely from empiricism of every name and nature;

"And, again, believing that the parent Society is, at the present time encumbered by the most dishonest class of empirics that have ever disgraced the Medical profession.

"And, finally, believing that the time has come, when she must disencumber herself of these insidious Parasites or abandon the objects, for which she was so wisely founded, and has been so long and worthily sustained, therefore,

"Resolved: That we heartily approved of the course adopted by our Sister Society of Essex North, at the annual meeting of the parent Society.

"Resolved: That in our opinion the parent Society ought immediately, and in the most positive manner, to purify itself from all empirical connections.

"Resolved: That in the opinion of this Society it is doing injustice to censure "Thompsonians," empirical oculists, &c., or those who consult with outside empirics, while the parent Society retains in full and honorable communication, a class of Jesuitical deceivers in comparison with whom all other empirics and mountebanks are entitled to the most profound respect.

"Resolved: That in the event the parent Society refuses this just request, we ask of her that boon, which she has recently so liberally extended to a certain class of her communionists, viz, that we may be permitted to withdraw ourselves honorably from all connection with the parent Society.

"Resolved: That this preamble, and these resolutions be signed by the President and Secretary of this Society, and that the Secretary be instructed to transmit a copy to the Corresponding Secretary of the parent Society, and

also the Secretaries of each of the District Societies."

M.R. RANDALL, President.

WILLIAM DICKINSON, Secretary.

The full report is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred "a transcript from the records of the Bristol District Medical Society, held at Attleboro, June 8, 1853," and which is hereto appended, having considered the subject matter of said transcript, respectfully ask leave to submit the following:

REPORT

Without yielding their assent to all the positions set forth by their brethren of the Bristol Medical District, your committee are ready to declare their belief that medical science, in our own Commonwealth, will acquire for itself a larger share of honorable distinction, and the character of the Massachusetts Medical Society be more satisfactorily upheld, if a stricter adherence to the rules and regulations for discountenancing quackery and empiricism were observed.

The evil complained of, in the Bristol Medical District, is, by no means, indigenous to that locality. There is no city, town or village, through all the length and breadth of the land, we believe, that does not furnish a field upon which the charlatan may not follow his vocation with impunity; or where, not infrequently, competent qualifications and unobtrusive merit are passed by and the accumulated experience of a profession, which has been tried and recognized as a science from the remote periods of antiquity, is superseded by the exclusive dogma of some German enthusiast, or set at naught by the equally ridiculous therapeutics of some cis-Atlantic mountebank.

The God, Terminus, your committee presume, is not claimed as the tutelar divinity of the Bristol Medical District; and, if he is, they are quite sure that his Godship is not endowed with the vigilance of Argus, and that, like mortal sentinel, he sometimes sleeps upon his post; for they find other hunting grounds, than those over which the crafty and remorseless, though patriotic, Pequot once roamed, that still furnish opportunities for a chase, that, provided the bottom of the purse is not arrived at before, is, like the chase of the Indian, only to be foregone by the death of the game.

They remember too that we live in an age of progress and that he, whose obtuseness fails to discover all the wisdom of past ages between the covers of the last new hand-book upon hydropathy; or, who doubts, in his heart, that an infusion of lobelia will cure the bite of a mad dog; or that an infinitesimal dose of opium will overcome a costiveness of twenty days standing, as soon as the sugar with which it is united can be dissolved in the stomach, is set down, at once, in the category of one "joined to his idols," and, without benefit of clergy, condemned to a conservatism, compared with which, the "outer darkness" is brighter "beyond compare," than the noonday sun.

From the beginning, quackery has never lacked a field, over whose whole area, the calamitous results of its unblushing ignorance could not readily be traced; or multitudes, who were not the cheated and betrayed victims of the cunningly devised, though transparent, tricks of its professional legerdemain. Taking shameless and criminal advantage of the hopes and fears of the sick man and shrouding itself beneath the fantastic drapery of some more fantastic hypotheses, or, masking its professional ignorance by the pretended discovery of some new therapeutic agent, or some omnipotent formula, which the whole race of physicians from Hippocrates downward, had carelessly overlooked or wilfully ignored, it has not hesitated to proclaim that patient research and studious observation were but time misspent and talent buried in the acquisition of medical knowledge.

But, while we deplore the evils of quackery and mourn over the prodigal waste of human life from a blind and confiding trust in its

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wasted infallibility, we shall be excused if we do, sometimes, magnify the office of the true physician; and, while we profess to regard it as an important one, that we recommend not legitimate means should be left untried to make it an honorable one. The members of no other profession or calling are held to a more strict accountability, in the discharge of their various duties, than physicians; and hence, as a class, they would fall short of the duty they owe the community as well as a just regard for their own character, should they consent to any low standard of professional qualification, or neglect to demand all suitable quarantines of those, who seek admission to their company, that they shall be duly instructed in the elements of medical knowledge and sustain that probity of moral character and that honorable bearing in deportment, without which they have no right to expect or reason to claim the association or the sympathy of those into whose society they may endeavor to obtrude themselves.

Every society claims for itself and exercises the right of deciding upon the qualifications necessary for admission to its communion, and of establishing the terms upon which it will afford its protection and extend its fellowship; and they who fall short of the requisite qualifications, or who do not choose to subject themselves to the established terms, cannot, we submit, reasonably complain of the adoption of rules, intended for the moral and the physical welfare of the community, in which their mission is to be fulfilled. No one complains of the various political organizations, or assumes to find fault with the indefinite number, or the incongruous quality, of the pranks with which they build their multitudinous platforms; or, if they do and can find no place to set up the staff of their political nest, no arena upon which they can play off the tableaux vivants of their political inconsistencies to advantage, or, no new trick, by which they can put a hook in the nose of leviathan, and the animal be not cognizant of the exploit, they forthwith go to work and construct a new one; and, at the glorification meeting, called to dedicate the unrivalled specimen of political carpentry to the people's good, ten to one, they will devise rules as rigid and ordain a commission as close as those against whom so lately, they vehemently urged the objection of exclusiveness.

The rules, which the medical profession has adopted for the government of its members, so far, as least, as our own Commonwealth is concerned, although so strenuously objected to by those whose acquirements will not admit them to participate in their advantages, or subject themselves to their salutary control, are, nevertheless, your Committee believe, by no means, justly chargeable with illiberality, and, were they clearly and fully understood, would command the unanimous approval of a vast preponderance of the enlightened public sentiment of the community. These rules and regulations, which have been adopted for the government of our professional intercourse, involve no sacrifice, which the good of the community, in which our lot is cast, and our self-respect, do not approve as well as demand.

Of the multiple accusations, against our medical organization, by irregular practitioners; or the shameless misrepresentations of the practice of physic, as understood by the great majority of enlightened physicians, which the quack, so industriously, circulates, and which, generally, constitutes the sum total of his professional stock in trade, we have no fears; neither do we feel called upon to acknowledge a sympathy with that diffuse philanthropy, which, while it deplores the lack of qualification in those who prescribe by intuition, or claim, that "learned of the Indians," is a sufficient and proper warrant for an experiment upon the health and a levy upon the pockets of their patients, still, at the same time, allows the charlatan to shroud his ignorance beneath the stolen gown of the licentiate, and cannot find it, in its heart, to reject the treacherous embrace of a class of men, with

whom no opportunity would be suffered to pass, unimproved, to sting the good man, who has warmed them into life, to the very death. Nor even do we yield that we should be lacking in that charity, "which hopeth all things," because we cannot counsel the profession to cut down the standard of its requirements, or dispense with a single plank from its professional platform to accommodate the stunted qualifications of those, who are only eager for a seat upon it, that they may pass themselves off as current, when, otherwise, the counterfeit would soon be detected, and "Othello's occupation gone".

The medical profession is not to be "crushed out", your Committee believe, by any of the thousand and one new tricks and devices, that are played off upon the fears, the credulity and the ignorance of the public. They feel strong that, so long as the members of the medical profession will be true to themselves and the benevolent mission committed to their charge, it will only be necessary to adopt and insist upon a high standard of professional qualification, and such honorable bearing and demeanor toward those who fall short of that standard, as a proper self respect and a just regard for the public good, shall dictate, to insure them the enjoyment of that place and station in society to which they have a reasonable claim.

With our brethren of the Bristol Medical District, we believe, as fully as they do, in the evils of empiricism and quackery; but, while we yield the postulate, we trust we shall be excused if we part company with them in the conclusion of their principal proposition. That these are members of the Massachusetts Medical Society who are obnoxious to the charge preferred by the Bristol District Medical Society, we are, by no means, prepared to deny; but that the dishonorable conduct of a few of its members, who contrive to escape the operation of its wholesome discipline, should be held as a sufficient reason for a withdrawal from its communion, we cannot recommend or counsel the Society, whose representatives we are, to endorse or sanction. Your Committee believe that the Massachusetts Medical Society, however it may have failed to have fully satisfied the expectations and hopes of all its members, has, nevertheless, been productive of great good; and that, this day, the medical profession in Massachusetts stands higher, in the estimation of the professional as well as the non-professional public, for its labors and doings. And they trust that their brethren of the Bristol Medical District, upon a calm and dispassionate review of the position they have spurned, in the transcript of their records, now before us, if they do not "repeal" their 4th Resolution, will, in some way, "supersede the legislation" of June 8, 1853, by some subsequent enactment; so that we shall still find ourselves upon the same platform, ready and willing to do battle for the cause of medical truth, and to uphold the welfare of the different communities, in which our lots are cast, against the dishonorable trickery and the open attacks of "inside" as well as "outside barbarians".

Our brethren should not forget that the disciples of Loyola are found in other communions besides that of the Roman Catholic Church; and that wherever the holy brethren gain a foothold, sooner or later, however their true character may, for a time, be conceded, the inevitable results of a life based upon the maxim that "The end sanctifies the means," will as plainly reveal the habitat of the lay as of the ecclesiastical Jesuit. That there are those in the medical profession and even within the pale of the Massachusetts Medical Society, whose rule of professional living has been adopted from the facile code of the Spanish Monk, your Committee do not choose to run the risk of having the draft they should be obliged to make upon your credulity, dishonored by denying.

And, if there are those who have gained admission to the medical commonwealth, by "climbing up some other way," rather than by the door of the fold, or, having entered by the door, have ceased to acknowledge the obligations, by fair and logical implication,

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voluntarily assumed, to maintain the unwritten as faithfully as the written code of medical ethics, the practical question seems to be: what shall be done about the matter? In what manner shall the delinquents be subjected to discipline? How shall the Society be "disencumbered" of their presence?

The 11th, 12th, and 13th By-laws of the Massachusetts Medical Society define the reasons for which the penalty of expulsion may be inflicted. By the 11th By-law a Fellow may be expelled,

1. For any gross and notorious immorality or infamous crime under the laws of the land.

2. For any attempt to overturn or destroy the Society.

3. For the breach of any By-laws of the Society, for which expulsion is made the penalty.

4. For furnishing to any person or presenting in his own behalf a false certificate of character and studies, as a student of medicine, tending to deceive the public or the Censors of the Society.

By the 12th By-law, after declaring what constitutes an irregular practitioner, a fellow of the Society, who advises or consults with any such irregular practitioner, or, in any way, abets or assists him as a practitioner of medicine or surgery, disqualifies himself, for one year, from giving his vote at any meeting either of the Parent or District Society of which he is a member, and also, becomes liable to the censure and reprimand of the Counsellors, and, in aggravated cases, to expulsion.

By the 13th By-law, any person who publicly advertises for sale, or otherwise offers to the public, any medicine, the composition of which he keeps a secret, or offers to cure any disease by any such secret medicine, shall be considered an irregular practitioner; and, if a fellow of the Society, shall be liable to expulsion, or such other penalty as the Society at their annual meeting, may think proper to inflict.

In order to obtain a conviction, for the infraction of the foregoing rules, or any of them, a charge must be made to the Counsellors or to the Society, at an annual meeting; and, when the accused shall have an opportunity to be heard in refutation, the case must be adjudicated and the matter settled, by the acquittal or the condemnation of the person against whom the charge was preferred.

And so long as a member does not render himself obnoxious to the penalty attached to these rules, your Committee see not how he can be expelled from the Society, or made subject to its discipline. But, of the morality and honorable dealing of those who insist on retaining their membership in a Society, which, by precept and example, they are daily endeavoring to bring into disrepute, the gentlemen must hold us excused if we do not bestow upon such conduct any great breadth of amplification or length of detail, by way of approbation. If they are honest in the denunciations which they are continually employing to decry the medical practice of the great majority of the members of the Massachusetts Medical Society, we see not how they manage to preserve even a show of consistency, by retaining their fellowship with a company who reject a principle, upon which, as they affirm, the only true system of medicine is based, and follow a practice so destructive, that the only wonder is that any of its subjects have survived a trial of its tremendous pharmacopoeia.

It would be far more honorable, your Committee affirm, for the class of practitioners, included in the foregoing category, if they would, at once, absolve themselves from all connection with an association which, as they would have the public believe, holds to fundamental errors as regards both theory and practice; and thus furnish a proof, to their patients, at least, that there is a modicum of sincerity in the anathemas they indulge in, with such reckless prodigality. It is with these, "insidious parasites," as they are aptly termed by our Bristol

brethren, the beginning and the end - the alpha and the omega - that the practice of medicine, as regarded by far the greater portion of the civilized world, and for the promotion of which the Massachusetts Medical Society was founded, is to be overturned and brought to nought by occult meaning to be found in the cabalistic works, "similia, similibus curantur," or by some inexplicable but omnipotent potency of a dose of the 30th dilution. If the homeopathic practitioner believes all this professional rigmarole and still seeks admission to the Massachusetts Medical Society, we have concluded we shall submit to the hazard of being charged with professional blindness or even contumacy before we can award him, either a medal for his honesty or a diploma for his medical attainments, certainly not, while, with one breath, he is clamorous for the privileges of a fellowship with a society, which, with the next, he charges as only concerned in upholding a most dangerous error; as unwilling to lend its countenance and aid to the progressive spirit of the present age, and as holding in check, as well as it may, one of the most philosophical and transcendent discoveries of ancient or modern times.

While your Committee do not believe that disease can only be safely combatted by that practice which has been denominated heroic; still we are not of that school which looks upon the practice of physic, as "the art of amusing the patient while nature cures the disease". We believe something may be done to facilitate the restoration of our friends, when sick, to health; but to accomplish this, our remedial agents must be prescribed in, at least, appreciable doses. We would not borrow the sledge of the blacksmith to dislodge a fly from the proboscis of our patient, or call for a crow-bar to unburrow even the largest size infusoria from a vesicle beneath his epidermis, neither should we expect a dose of iron or mercury or aconite, of the thirtieth or even of the twentieth potency, to arrest or even, by any measurable space, to cut short any of the "numerous ills which flesh is heir to," under which our patient might for the time be laboring. We are aware that many diseases, and those of the gravest character too, are not sufficient to destroy life even when unassisted by the aids of science and art, but hence it is, by no means, a logical non sequitur that they may not sooner be cured and with less injury to the organization, if properly prescribed for.

In view of these considerations, your Committee, do not understand that they are called upon, by any requirements of courtesy or any demands of philanthropy, however expansive, to concede the vantage ground of a fellowship and the consequent claim to the advantages of a consultation, to a class, who are constantly decrying the labors of those who have made the study of physic the work of a life-time, and urging, by no stinted rhetoric, that all the experience, which has been accumulating for two thousand years, was extinguished by the wonderful discoveries of Hahnemann and his German neophytes. Nor, when the public good requires the unwelcome task, at our hands, can we hold ourselves excused, by the curtness of those who may be made to smart by the operation, or, by any considerations of personal dignity, from an examination of any and every mode of cure which may be promulgated, whether in the shape of the everlasting hot water and phlebotomy of Sangrado, the tar water of Bishop Berkeley, the "Terrible Tractoration" of Perkins, the hydropathy of Priessnitz, the red pepper and lobelia micrapeutics of Thompson, or the infinitesimal pharmacy of homeopathy.

That quackery assumes new phases and is known by various names is not to be taken as evidence of improvement, nor because the argument, that proves the last new scheme of the empiric is worthless, if not absolutely dangerous, to the subjects of its experiments, will answer equally as well for its successor, are we relieved from the obligation to expose its shameless and criminal trickery, and disfellowship its educated as well as its ignorant professors. For men who have translated themselves from the plough, the anvil or the loom to the title of the Doctor, per saltum, by the payment of twenty dollars

QUACKERY

for Samuel Thompson's vade mecum; and even for those who have unwisely abandoned the honorable bench of St. Crispin, and given up the cure of souls for the cure of bodies, at the expense of turning down a leaf, here and there, in Beach's Reformed practice, and making an outlay of capital in the shape of a dollar's worth of globules or mandrake, we do not object to a reasonable indulgence in the virtue of pity; but, when we come to him, who claims to have been regularly educated, to have been favored with all the ordinary means and appliances for the foundation of a medical education, and who has been admitted to the companionship of honorable men upon the presumption that his conduct would not bring discredit upon the association, and yet who has not hesitated to disregard both the rules of probity and honor and the principles of science for the accomplishment of selfish ends and venal purposes, and who has ceased to feel that proper self respect that would have preserved him from that disastrous descent, "*fortuna impar animo*", we feel we should be derelict to the duty we owe humanity did we suffer, even the charity of our silence, to put off the day when the common sense of a cheated and outraged community will discard the fragitious juggler from its respect and confidence.

To the question whether the By-laws of the Massachusetts Medical Society will warrant the expulsion of those who have abandoned the principles and practice of medicine, as understood by the great majority of its members for the adoption of homeopathy, we feel constrained to reply in the negative. But, while we find ourselves bound by the letter of the rule, to the companionship of those who are so unflinchingly tenacious of the advantages thereby conferred, and which, if not surreptitiously acquired, cannot, we submit, be longer honorably retained, we claim, by the spirit of the rule, that we are absolved from a fellowship with a class, between whom and ourselves there can be no professional sympathy as there is no professional agreement. Believing that the evils complained of, in the transcript before us, can be measurably abated, if not wholly eradicated, by such an amendment of the By-laws of the Massachusetts Medical Society as shall include the disciples of Hahnemann and Priessnitz, et id omne genus, in the category of irregular practitioners, your Committee have endeavored to bestow such consideration upon the "transcript from the records of the Bristol Medical Society" as was due to professional courtesy, the good of the medical profession, and a proper regard for the welfare of the community.

The Committee close the labors of their present commission by presenting the following resolutions for the consideration of the Society:

1. Resolved: that the Worcester District Medical Society recommend to the Massachusetts Medical Society an amendment to its 12th By-law, by inserting, in the 5th line thereof, immediately after the word Fellows, the following words, "or whose practice is based upon an exclusive dogma, to the rejection of the accumulated experience of the profession".

2. Resolved: that the Secretary of this Society certify the foregoing Resolution to the corresponding Secretary of the Massachusetts Medical Society, with a request that it be brought to the notice of the Councilors, at their next meeting; and that the Councilors, for the Worcester Medical District, be requested to use their influence for procuring the adoption of the amendment therein proposed, by the Parent Society.

3. Resolved: that this Report be printed and copies thereof sent to the Massachusetts Medical Society and to each of the District Medical Societies.

Signed John G. Metcalf, for the majority of the Committee.

Mendon, May 17, 1854

ELEVEN

FORMATION OF THE WORCESTER NORTH DISTRICT

On October 7, 1857, a petition was made to the Massachusetts Medical Society for the establishment of a new District to be called the "Worcester North District Medical Society," signed by Alvah Godding of Winchendon and twenty-eight others. A copy of the petition is recorded:

"To the President and Councilors of the Massachusetts Medical Society,

"Gentlemen:

"The undersigned, Fellows of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and others, Physicians, residing in the northerly part of the county of Worcester, and the northwesterly part of the County of Middlesex, beg leave respectfully to represent, that in the present division of said Society into District Societies, we are unable to avail ourselves of the advantages to be derived from an attendance upon the meetings of the District Society to which we now belong or in the limits of which we are now included, without an unreasonable and inconvenient expenditure of both time and money, by reason of the distance between our several homes and the places where the meetings of said District Societies are held; Winchendon, Athol and Royalston being between thirty and forty miles from Worcester, the place of meeting of the Worcester District Society, and Ashby and Townsend being about twenty-seven and thirty-two miles, respectively, from Lowell, the place of meeting of the Middlesex North District Society; said District Societies including the towns, according to the present arrangements, in which your petitioners reside; we therefore pray your honorable Board to form a new District Medical Society, to consist of the following towns, viz; Royalston, Winchendon, Ashburnham, Athol, Phillipston, Templeton, Gardner, Westminster, Fitchburg, Lunenburg, Leominster, in the county of Worcester; and Ashby, Townsend, Shirley, in the county of Middlesex; said new Society to be called and known as the Worcester North District Medical Society; and as in duty bound will ever pray."

August 29, 1857

Signed:

Alvah Godding - Winchendon
A.B. Hoyt - Winchendon
George D. Colony - Athol
James P. Lynde - Athol
J.A. White - Templeton
*J.W.D. Osgood - Templeton
J.C. Batchelder - Templeton
I.P. Willis - Royalston
J.B. Gould - Royalston
*David Parker - Gardner
George Jewett - Gardner

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Clinton Warren - Westminster
A.G. Williams - Westminster
*Thomas R. Boutelle - Fitchburg
*Jonas A. Marshall - Fitchburg
*James P.C. Cummins - Fitchburg
*Alfred Hitchcock - Fitchburg
*James R. Wellman - Fitchburg
*C.C. Field - Leominster
Henry Shaw - Leominster
*George W. Pierce - Leominster
*Alfred Miller - Ashburnham
William H. Cutler - Ashburnham
A.A. Plimpton - Shirley
James O. Parker - Shirley
M.F. Delano - Leominster
Leonard French - Ashby
Frank A. Wood - Lunenburg
A.G. Stickney - West Townsend

The asterisk names were members of the Worcester District Medical Society. The adjoining districts were consulted and the report of the Committee of Conference from the Worcester District is as follows:

"The Committee appointed at the January meeting to confer with the petitioners for a division of the Society have attended to their duty and report that they have availed themselves of every opportunity for conversation of the subject with those of the petitioners whom they have met. We have visited Fitchburg for the purpose of conference with Drs. Boutelle and Marshall, a majority of a committee chosen with express reference to this object, on the part of the petitioners. From these sources they have learned that the circumstances and motions which led to the step come as follows: First, the great distance from Worcester at which many of them reside and the inconvenience of the ordinary means of conveyance, which have for a long time rendered it impossible for them to attend the meetings of the Society without an unreasonable sacrifice of time and money, and this has thus practically shut them out from its privileges. Second, the failure of an attempt made to compensate in some measure for the loss thus sustained, by the formation of a new and independent medical organization, which has failed for want of adequate support, the meetings of which have been discontinued. Third, a laudable desire to promote medical and surgical science, to cultivate the virtues of professional honor, courtesy and good brotherhood, and to extend the advantages of medical association to all the regularly educated members of the profession within the limits of the proposed district.

"And further, your committee finds that the petitioners have never entertained the idea of claiming any portion of the property of the Worcester District Medical Society; that they fully agree with us in the interpretation of the will of the late Hon. Daniel Waldo, believing that no part of the fund bequeathed to us by that will, or the income thereof, can be legally diverted from its present purpose and use, and they only desire on their behalf the fulfillment of that provision by which the books purchased are made free to the use of all regularly licensed physicians of Worcester County. Further, that they understand, as we do, the terms of the will of the Late Dr. Wilder of Leominster to be such that his bequest can only be appropriated or disposed of by the vote of a majority of the members. We find that in their whole course upon this subject they have been actuated by high and honorable motives and we are unable to see how the pecuniary

interests of the Society can suffer should their prayer to the councilors be granted."

Signed,
Thomas G. Gage
Joseph Sargent,
Henry Clarke"

The petition was granted by the council on May 25, 1858 and the new district, Worcester North District Medical Society, was established. Still in their swaddling clothes, in opposite action to information received by the Conference Committee they applied to our Society for a just apportionment of the Wilder Fund. The committee report on this perfidious application gives a lesson in verbal calisthenics and is included in its entirety.

"The committee to whom was referred the application of members of the Worcester North District Medical Society for some portion of the Wilder Fund beg leave respectfully to report.

"The Wilder Fund was bequeathed by the late honored Charles W. Wilder to the Worcester District Medical Society, to have and to hold by them and their successors forever. The so-called Worcester North District Medical Society embraces some of the towns in the northern part of our County and some of the adjoining towns in the County of Middlesex, and has on its list of members the names of nine gentlemen who have been members of our Society. They withdrew voluntarily, for no advantages which they could not have reached as well without separation. Fifty-eight members remain. It has been for many years the policy of our Society to encourage local associations for medical improvement. This is the first instance of secession; and our treatment of the whole matter should be considerate that it may be just and dignified. We did not oppose the separation before the Parent Society, nor before the Legislature, because we would not try to hold by force those who desired to leave us; but confined our remonstrance to personal appeal, which could be more friendly and earnest, and which the inconsiderable number of the proposed seceders made convenient. It is both just to them to say that while some of them cooperated in the new organization against their own judgement, they had no expectation that they might receive any portion of our funds; and also that they do not now claim this as a right. They urge their claim solely on the consideration that some distribution of the Wilder Fund to them would "encourage Medical Science" in the region where Dr. Wilder passed most of his life, and where his most important interests centered. Your committee hold the memory of Dr. Wilder in grateful recollection. They do not believe that he would have looked upon the withdrawal of nine medical gentlemen from all association with fifty-eight other medical gentlemen as calculated to "encourage Medical Science"; and they feel constrained to express their belief that Dr. Wilder, if living, would have favored no such separation. It has been suggested in committee that a donation might be made to this northern society from the accumulated income of the Wilder Fund, without involving the breach of trust which the division of a Fund given to us and our successors forever might involve. Any such distribution, however, is liable to the same objections of establishing a bad precedent and encouraging secession. Your Committee, therefore, recommend no action in the premises, but report the following resolve in the kindly spirit of the vote of last year:

"Resolved: that the Worcester District Medical Society deeply regret that any portion of its members should have thought it for their interest or for the interest of Science to establish an organization depriving us and them of association and mutual improvement; and that we extend to the members of the Worcester North District Medical Society who have

WORCESTER NORTH DISTRICT

hitherto been connected with this Society a cordial invitation to continue to meet with us and to improve all the advantages of our rich endowments."

Signed,
Joseph Sargent
Nelson Carpenter

This literary whiplash on the penalties of rebellion closes the book on the cleavage, and the next item of interest was found in the report of the auditing Committee for 1859 which is also presented for the record.

"The Auditing Committee have attended to the examination of the vouchers for the accounts of the Committee on the Waldo Legacy and Wilder Fund, and of the Committee on the Purchases of Books, and have found them full and correct. They have observed with great satisfaction the ability and fidelity with which the committee in charge of the funds of the Society have discharged their important and onerous duties, and in connection with this subject beg leave to call your attention to a few facts, and a single suggestion. The whole amount of the present fund is \$8,043.74, of which \$7,350.00 is to be credited to the Waldo Legacy and the remainder \$693.74 to the Wilder fund. It is all permanently invested, with the most ample securities, and in such manner as to yield an income of considerable more than six percent. Its annual management and care is by no means a light burden. It involves the necessity of no small amount of correspondence; keeping of minute and detailed accounts of receipt and expenditure; not infrequently of important changes of security; and throughout of no inconsiderable degree of labor and anxiety. These duties and the important additional ones of purchasing books for the library have been performed for several years by the present committee, and with no remuneration. And while your committee have no design to disparage the labor or fidelity of any of its members, they feel bound to mention particularly the long continuous services of the Chairman, upon whom by far the largest proportion of the duties have devolved; and they would respectfully suggest to the Society the propriety of awarding to him from the balance of cash in his hands, from the Wilder Fund, the sum of fifty dollars as a token of the high estimation in which we hold his valuable services. In making this suggestion we deem it not improper to add that it is made without the knowledge of Dr. Workman, and with the advice and cordial approval of his colleagues upon the committee."

Respectfully submitted:
Calvin P. Fiske
James W. Robbins
Thomas H. Gage
Auditing Committee

This munificence was so voted and the amount, which is so insignificant today, was a largess in that era. The recipient must have enjoyed the universal esteem of the Society.

TWELVE

THE LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY

Dr. Thomas Gage in his oration in 1862 says "And here I cannot forebear to remind you that Dr. John Green, 3rd, is still spared, after an active professional career of more than half a century, with undiminished and unabated mental and physical vigor, to meet with us today. His fruitful life reaches back almost to the very commencement of the era of which we are speaking and in itself is an epitome of the history of medicine in this



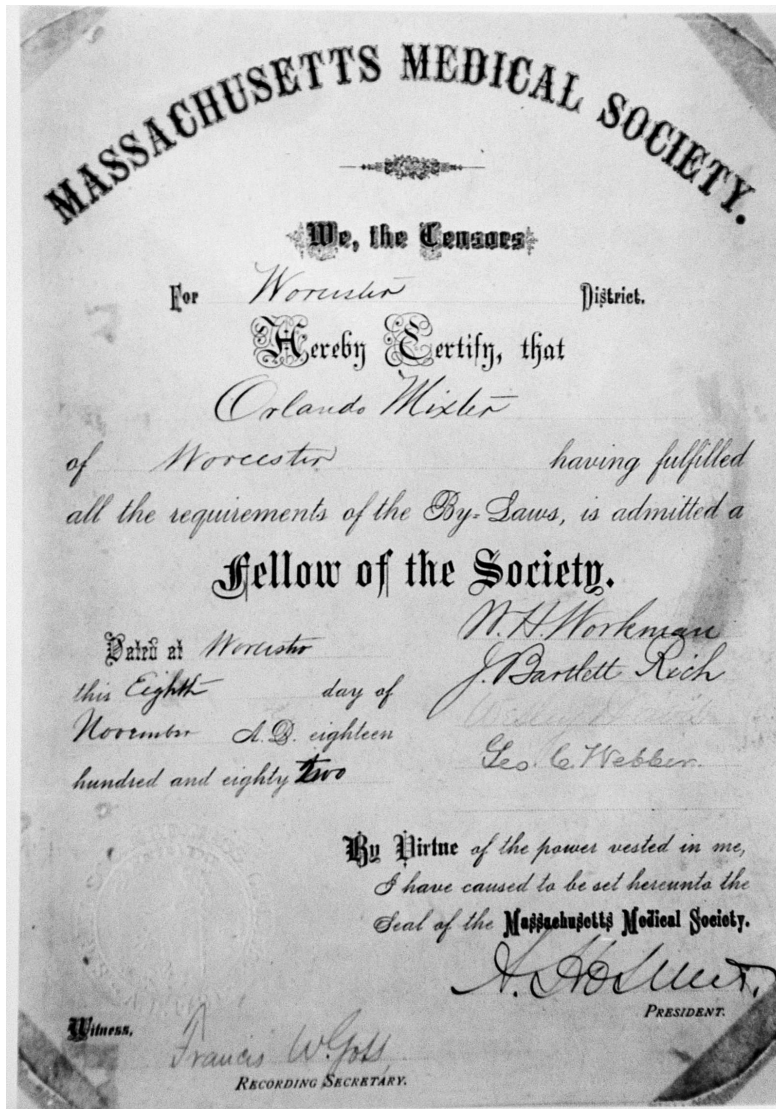
Dr. John Green III

county during that period. There are few medical men who have lived so long, so laborious, so useful and so honorable a professional life, and fewer still who are enabled to spend its later years in labors of such unselfish benevolence, such assiduous devotion to the public welfare." Dr. John Green, 3rd, began practice in 1807, entered the Society in 1811 and was for very many years one of its most active members. He was for eight years its President. This name will forever be known in Worcester through the noble gift of the library which bears his name. One year after he began practice he succeeded, on the sudden death of his father, the 2nd John Green, to his large practice and continued to be for more than half a century the recognized leader of the profession in the county. Devoting himself entirely to the practice of his profession, few men

were better known in his day than Dr. John Green. "His name," says Judge Thomas, "was a household word. Not to have seen him, as, under that brown broad-brimmed soft hat, he rolled from side to side, in that old time honored gig through the streets of the village, town and city was to have missed one of the most striking institutions of Worcester."

Drs. John Green and Benjamin F. Heywood were associated for many years in the practice of medicine and with every verbal bouquet, all is not nectar, for a note is found which states that "Dr. Joseph Sargent was the first man who succeeded in breaking down the monopoly established by Drs. John Green and Benjamin F. Heywood, who by refusing to consult with any new physician who tried to locate here, had driven several away, including Dr. Homans, father of Doctors John and Charles Homans, the well known Boston physicians."

LATE IN THE CENTURY



MMS Fellowship Certificate

In 1868, the Society voted to meet quarterly instead of twice a year and in 1869 increased the meetings to five a year when it was decided to meet the second Wednesday of July, September, November, January and March annually at two o'clock for hearing reports of cases. In 1887 it was voted to omit the July meeting and the time of assembly was fixed at 3:45 P.M.

The fight for admission of women to the Society began in the early 1870's and elicited much bad blood. Sex prejudice there doubtless was, but it must also be remembered that the so-called Women's Rights advocates were very vocal at the time, and two of their leaders, Victoria Woodhull and Tennessee Claflin, alienated the sympathies of many people by their overbold tactics and their private lives. Worcester was early in the fray. In May 1873, Dr. Oramel Martin introduced a resolution to the effect that "the Worcester District Medical Society would welcome the admission of women members." Heated debate ensued; an opponent said "that he did not

wish to bring the Woman Question into the Medical Society," and the resolution was tabled. Brought up again at the following meeting, it was finally passed with the word "welcome" changed to "has no objection to" women members. Thus ungallantly was the fair sex admitted to fellowship. They soon proved themselves worthy of it.

The newly admitted ladies were just in time to join a discussion of peculiar interest to them. On July 9, 1873, the meeting took the form of a symposium on prenatal impression. Dr. Rufus Woodward (father of Lemuel Woodward) reported having delivered a child with a badly deformed right hand, the mother having seen during her pregnancy a woman with similar deformity. He also told of a person eighteen years old in Shrewsbury with no eyes "except little pearls". The mother said that during pregnancy a man chased her "with a halibut head prepared in a peculiar way". Other such cases were reported. Modern embryology has chased away these ancient bugaboos, but the good doctors of 1873 did not have this knowledge.

The 1870's were certainly lively times in the history of the Worcester District Medical Society. That decade saw the feud between the allopathic and homeopathic schools rise to its highest pitch of bitterness.

The story of homeopathy goes back to Samuel Hahnemann. In the last years of the eighteenth century he began in Germany a series of studies of drugs (he called them "provings") along a new line. In 1810 he published the *Organon*, his principal work. It involved the well known theory that "like cures like," that is, that symptoms were to be met with a drug which would produce the same symptoms in a normal person, and that the potency of a drug increased with repeated trituration, which might be carried to a high degree. Hostile critics declared that the theory arose from a faulty deduction by Hahnemann, when in triturating metallic mercury with sugar he converted it into the oxide, which is more powerful than the metal itself, and did not recognize the chemical fact. But, be that as it may, his sugar pellets and highly diluted alcoholic tinctures met with popular response along the line which he had intended, a protest against the heroic therapy of that period.

Now, Hahnemann had intended his work as a contribution to the general knowledge of his fellow-practitioners, but violent opposition arose and he was forced to form a new school under the name of "homeopathic". The regular profession they dubbed "allopathic", and the fight was on.

According to a volume published in 1876 by the American Institute of Homeopathy, the Rev. Aurin Bugbee, of Charlton, was the first to introduce the system into Worcester County in 1840. He removed to Worcester in 1854, then went to Warren, Vermont, where he died in 1859. Other pioneers in the forties were Drs. Joseph Bernstill and J.K. Clark. The name of Dr. L.B. Nichols deserves special attention. Graduating in Philadelphia, he settled in Worcester in 1848. The book cited states that "he has an extensive practice, and has done much to give this system the respect it has acquired." His son, who followed in his footsteps, was the genial Dr. Charles L. Nichols, who was so well known to many of us.

In 1862, according to Hersey's "History of Worcester", there were listed twenty-six allopathic, four eclectic, four homeopathic, one Thomsonian, and four female physicians. There was no cooperation among the groups; homeopaths denounced the crude and dangerous methods of the allopaths; the latter, in the person of Oliver Wendell Holmes, ridiculed homeopathic dosage as "a drop of medicine in the Lake of Geneva". In 1866 the Worcester County Homeopathic Medical Society was founded with a membership of eight. A dispensary was established on October 4, 1880 at 58 Mechanic Street through the efforts of Doctors Charles L. Nichols and J.H. Carmichael and was supported by a legacy of Mrs. L.J. Knowles and voluntary contributions until it was incorporated on January

LATE IN THE CENTURY

15, 1885 as The Worcester Homeopathic Dispensary Association. Members of the District Society who practiced or consulted with practitioners of the opposing school were expelled. In 1875, H. Jones, H.C. Clapp, Hiram L. Chase, and F.G. Kittredge suffered this penalty, and the records of 1874 contain a reference to the debt incurred by the prosecution of homeopathic members two years previously.

But a new era was on the way; the new science of medicine was being born. The recognition of the self-limitation of disease, which meant that most diseases tend to recovery by the resisting forces of the body dealt a heavy blow to the heroic gunshot treatments with drugs. The scope of surgery, after the work of Pasteur and Lister, increased enormously. Serums and other products of the new science of biochemistry were introduced and all these advances were accepted in common by both warring schools. Drug administration was pushed into a small corner of the field it had nearly monopolized fifty years before with the result that the area of disagreement between the factions was much less than that of agreement.

In 1904, Dr. Homer Gage, in his oration before the District Society, quoted Dr. William Osler: "There have been two contributing factors on the side of progress, the remarkable growth of the skeptical spirit fostered by Paris, Vienna, and Boston Physicians, and above all the valuable lesson of homeopathy, the infinitesimals of which certainly could not do harm, and quite as certainly could not do good; yet nobody has ever claimed that the mortality among homeopathic practitioners was greater than among those of the regular school. A new school of practitioners has arisen, which cares nothing for homeopathy, and less for so called allopathy. It seeks to study rationally and scientifically the action of drugs, old and new. It is more concerned that a physician shall know how to apply the few great medicines which all have to use, such as quinine, iron, mercury, iodide of potassium, opium, and digitalis, rather than a multiplicity of remedies, the action of which is extremely doubtful."

It was then possible to bridge the gulf; the first timber was thrown across by Dr. Alfred Elijah Perkins Rockwell, of Worcester and Shrewsbury, graduate of Boston University, then a Homeopathic school, descendant of Elisha Perkins of tractor fame, who appeared before the Censors for admission to the Society on November 14, 1901. An item in the minutes of the Censors explains that this applicant, while an active member of the Worcester Homeopathic Medical Society, passed the examination of the Censors, most of whom were unaware of his homeopathic affiliations. By inadvertence he was allowed to join. When his status was reported to the authorities of the Massachusetts Medical Society, his Certificate of Fellowship was withheld by the President and Recording Secretary, on the ground that the applicant could not honorably sign By-laws of the Society while he retains his homeopathic connections. Dr. Rockwell wrote a letter to the Massachusetts Medical Society calling attention to what he termed the "incongruous and conflicting provisions of the By-laws as to admission of members". He claimed that he had sent his dues of five dollars to the local Treasurer, Dr. George Otis Ward, and requested a Certificate of Membership. Dr. Ward, an unbending partisan of the antagonism between the schools, refused to grant it and Rockwell appealed to the Council, the governing body of the Massachusetts Medical Society. This was referred to a committee of which Dr. Richard Cabot of Boston, and Dr. Homer Gage were members. They supported his contention. His name appears on the list of admissions in 1901, but not on the official membership roster until the year 1906, when the following note in the record appears, "This caused a change in By-laws of the Massachusetts Medical Society and a Certificate of Membership was issued in 1906 by order of the President of the

Massachusetts Medical Society." The matter had lain dormant until February 7, 1906, when Dr. Frederick C. Shattuck, professor of Medicine at Harvard and Nestor of the Council, moved to appoint a committee to effect changes in the By-laws. "In these days of Christian Scientists," he said, "of Naturopaths, Osteopaths and various other 'paths', it is about time the educated men of the profession buried the hatchet and got together." The committee was appointed and on June 12th of that year brought in a recommendation for change in the By-laws whereby any candidate who has graduated from an acceptable school and does not practice any exclusive system might be admitted to the Society. This was adopted, and since that time the graduates of homeopathic schools have stood shoulder to shoulder with their former antagonists in the Society. They have not abandoned their own therapy; perhaps the attenuations are less than in Hahnemann's original conception, but like the rest of us, they are content to bear the common title of physician. Their school has made its contribution to the field of medical knowledge and been absorbed therein.

To quote from Doctor Oliver Wendell Holmes, "Medicine appropriates everything from any source which can be in the slightest way of use to anyone who is ailing in any way; it learned from a Monk how to use antimony, from a Jesuit how to cure ague, from a Friar how to treat scurvy, from a Postmaster how to sound the Eustachian tube, from a dairy maid how to prevent smallpox, and from an old market woman how to catch the itch insect. It was taught the use of helonin and lobelia by the American savage."

Another movement sweeping the country in the 1870's was temperance in the liquor habit. As our society always entered into national movements, debate on this subject enlivened the meetings and on May 13, 1874, the following resolutions, proposed by Dr. Woodward, were so voted:

"Resolved. That the District Medical Society of the county of Worcester holds itself in full sympathy with every proper effort employed for the suppression of intemperance.

"Resolved. That individually its members are not willing to acknowledge that they are now, or ever have been, drunkard makers or that their practice touching the administration of alcohol in the treatment of disease has ever been such as to require personal pledges to prevent their becoming such.

"Resolved. That having been right in this respect in the past we expect to remain right in the future."

Thus our forefathers in sagacious language placed themselves on record as supporting the trend to curb the inebriate.

THIRTEEN

THE ANNUAL ORATIONS and SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS AT REGULAR MEETINGS

To complete the history of the early days of our Society, which has been brought into the beginning of the twentieth century by compiling the items of interest arising in the business portion of the meetings and following very carefully the development of the medical library, up to this point the scientific sessions have not been reviewed. It has been the custom through the years for an annual paper to be delivered. The title by which this annual paper is dignified is, at first consideration a little oppressive. With the word "Oration" we associate an idea of stately dignity; we think of it as a discourse of weighty matter delivered with power of rhetoric. But this is not so although the Annual Oration is one of the oldest traditions in the life of our Society. The history of our orations begins very vaguely shortly after the Worcester Medical Society was organized. The Annual Address has usually been upon the subjects of the progress of medicine, the relations and duties of the medical profession or some specific disease or drug. The custom of the regular annual discourse started in 1840. Up to this time dissertators, with substitutes, were irregularly appointed and seen with more irregularity still, or several members were appointed by the President to report cases. And even then it often happened that literary entertainment was entirely lacking. In 1838, there were one hundred and ten physicians in the county, seventy of whom were members of the Massachusetts Medical Society and thirty of whom were members of this District Society. In 1878, our district, although including but a fraction of the territory, had a society numbering eighty-four members. At the earlier period the meetings were little more than a formal assembling of the members for the election of officers and the consumption of an ordinary dinner.

The first of the regular series of dissertators was Dr. Samuel B. Woodward in 1841 on "The Pathology And Treatment Of Different Forms Of Inflammation". For years after this the office lacked importance sufficient to impress the incumbent with any necessity of executing his trust; the orator sometimes neither preparing an address, presenting himself, or even sending an apology. Of all the labor and thought expended until the turn of the century there is no record on the majority of orations except the titles. No abstract is made in the Secretary's report, but the custom is to vote to ask a copy for the Library and then never request it of the speaker. The files of our Society and Library are deficient in every direction.

By diligent search the following orations were found hidden in the deep recesses of the library in the original handwriting of the authors. These were laboriously transcribed and then typewritten to be bound into a permanent record. The first was delivered by Dr. Thomas R. Boutelle in 1843 on "Sympathy Of The Stomach Or Digestive Organs Or Parts Of The Body". An old non-descript, dilapidated book contained three important orations of that day; "The Past, Present And Future Of The Worcester District Medical Society" by Dr. T.H. Gage in 1862, "Waldo And Wilder" by Dr. Leonard Wheeler in 1878, and "Sketch of the Medical History Of Worcester District Medical Society" by Dr. J.J. Halloran in 1892. It is interesting to quote from Dr. Wheeler's oration in 1878 the following: "Dr.

BAY STATE HOUSE.			
DINNER			
FOR THE			
Worcester District Medical Society,			
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13TH, 1863.			
BILL OF FARE.			
Soup.			
Vermicilla.			
Fish.			
Boiled Halibut—Egg Sauce.			
Boiled.			
Corned Beef and Cabbage,	Beef Tongues,	Chicken with Pork,	
Leg of Mutton—Caper Sauce.	Phipps Ham.		
Cold Dishes.			
Corned Beef,	Ham,	Beef Tongues.	
Hot Entrees.			
Fricassee Chicken, Spanish style,	Macaroni a la Creme,		
Veal Cutlets, breaded, Tomato Sauce,	Haricot de Veau,		
Lamb Cutlets, Fried in Crumbs,	Broiled Shad,		
Stewed Giblets, Port Wine Sauce,	Apple Fritters.		
Relishes.			
Cranberry Sauce,	Lettuce, Pickles,	Pickled Beets.	
Horseradish,	Olives,	Pepper Sauce,	French Mustard.
Vegetables.			
Mashed Potatoes,	Boiled Potatoes,	Boiled Rice,	Radishes,
Beets,	Onions,	Parsneps,	Greens,
			Turneps.
Roast.			
Chicken, Stuffed,	Phipps Ham, Champagne Sauce,		
Sirloin of Beef,	Ribs of Beef,	Stuffed Veal,	
	Pork,	Lamb.	
Pastry.			
Apple Pie,	Mince Pie,	Custard Pie,	Lemon Pie,
Raspberry Tarts,	Boiled English Pudding,	Sunderland Pudding,	
Dessert.			
Charlotte Russe,	Floating Island.		
Nuts and Fruit.			
Filberts,	Hickory Nuts,	Raisins,	Apples,
			Oranges.
COFFEE.			

Menu of the Annual Dinner, 1863

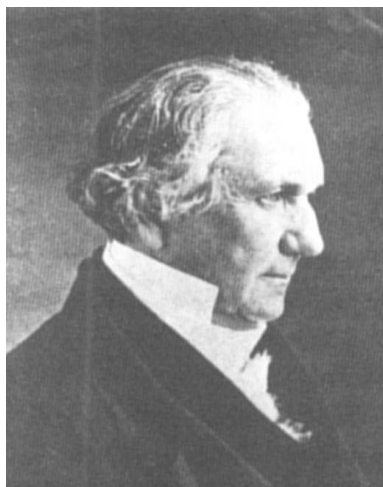
ANNUAL ORATIONS

Gage in 1862 read a paper of real value as well as interest on 'The Past, Present And Future Of The Worcester District Medical Society' which, with the usual vote of thanks, received the unusual compliment of a request of a copy for publication. And I may here add that this unusual compliment was followed by the very common and undignified neglect of the Society. The copy was never requested and never published, and it is a pity, for it was well worth it and would be valuable now. By urging the author to a search, I became, through his kindness, possessed of the original, and in that form at least, it will be added to the library. The improvements for the future urged in this address of Dr. Gage were: the formation of a pathological museum, the securing of greater uniformity in the reporting of cases, and rendering more certain the performance of duties assigned to individual members."

The remaining orations discovered and transcribed are "Diphtheria" in 1865 by Dr. Chauncy A. Wilcox, "Asiatic Cholera" by Dr. Francis Leland in 1866, "Sanitary Science" by Dr. Charles A. Peabody in 1887, "Present Medical Practice" by Dr. George M. Morse in 1888, and "A Quarter Section" by Dr. Frederick A. Wilmarth in 1891.

I expected to find, in the records of the Society and among preserved orations, ample material for a retrospective review and consideration of the medical and surgical work accomplished by the organization now rapidly approaching its one hundred and sixtieth year of existence. The full records of the Society, compiled or reported by successive Secretaries, are there since the initial meeting in December 1794. Very little mention is afforded however, to the oration, or, as it was at that time styled, the dissertation. The delivery of an oration is mentioned; but, in many cases, even the title of the paper is not placed on the record. This distinctive honor was not duly appreciated by the member elected at the annual meeting and in the record of the following year frequently a substitute is mentioned who replaces the one originally elected. It is of marked interest to record a brief resume of the various papers before the Society. It was the practice to designate three members to bring in interesting case reports for discussion, and these received more attention in the recordings of the Secretaries than the orations. Unfortunately, even these papers received scant notice in the minutes, which are largely taken up by the routine business and discussions common in any society and which render said case reports of little value from a professional point of view.

In 1812, Dr. Thomas Babbitt of Brookfield read a communication of two cases of tetanus treated by the actual cautery with favorable results. During the years following, up to 1840, but little of professional value is found in the reports. At the Annual Meeting of 1838 sixteen members were present and in 1839, thirty-five members were present. On June 17, 1840, the Annual Meeting was adjourned in order that the members present might attend the Whig Convention then in session in the city. At this adjourned Annual Meeting the Elder Dr. William Workman was Secretary and with his work commenced the first reports which attempt in any degree to



Dr. Samuel B. Woodward
First Superintendent of the
State Lunatic Hospital

mirror the meetings from a medical point of view. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward read the paper at this meeting, his subject being "The Pathology and Treatment of the Different Forms of Inflammation". Commencing at this period we will attempt some consideration of the work done at the meetings as a whole taking up the diverse subjects treated so as to form as nearly as possible some idea of the collective work done in each branch of professional knowledge.

As might perhaps be expected by members who have long listened to the papers and subjects chosen for discussion at Society meetings in those days, we find Obstetrics, and particularly the accidents and abnormalities of midwifery practice, comes in for a very large share in the deliberations of the society. At one of the first meetings of which we have any adequate reports, in 1844, a case of placenta praevia was reported, which resulted fatally under an expectant plan of treatment. Hemorrhage commenced three weeks prior to the expected confinement and, after the manner of the day, venesection was immediately done and ten ounces of blood taken. This unique method of treatment for uterine hemorrhage was defended by one of the members present, who averred that he should have taken thirty ounces of blood. Ergot was just then coming into use, and its specific action in arresting uterine hemorrhage and the benefits obtained from it in all forms of debilitating discharge were discussed by Dr. Chandler Smith in 1841.

In 1848 a very lengthy discussion took place on the treatment of post-partum hemorrhage. The remedies differed from the frequent use of laudanum before any attempt was made to clear the uterus of clots, and internal application of alum, to insertion of a peeled lemon. Ergot was thoroughly discussed and its action well understood, as mention was made of its administration prior to the completion of the third stage in cases where hemorrhage might be feared. In those days they lacked the hypodermic syringe and no mention is made of transfusion of blood or of infusion into the circulation of saline solutions. Abdominal kneading, cold applications externally, and elevating the hips were advocated.

In 1848 a case of rupture of the uterus and vagina and escape of the placenta into the peritoneal cavity was reported. A similar case was outlined by Dr. Henry Clarke in 1863, of rupture of the uterus. The rupture probably occurred prior to the birth of the child, which was delivered without any apparent incident. The patient expired suddenly and the autopsy showed a rent in the posterior aspect of the uterus. Dr. Edward Layng at a later date reported a case where abdominal section was performed subsequent to rupture of the uterus. The child was extracted dead and the mother died three days later. This operation must have been performed several hours after the rupture occurred as Drs. Joseph, Sargent, Martin, Woodward and Hathaway were present in consultation.

A case of postmortem cesarean section was reported in 1855. The child was extracted almost moribund but after twenty minutes showed signs of life.

Among obstetric subjects, puerperal eclampsia seems to have attracted a marked degree of attention. At the first discussion in 1857 no mention is made of dropsy or edema or kidney derangement among the symptoms observed. Bleeding seemed to be the form of treatment most favorably considered. Singularly enough the first mention of anesthetics in our records was made during this discussion when Dr. Sargent said he thought an anesthesia would constitute a plan of treatment much to be commended in such forms of convulsive disorder. The treatment of puerperal eclampsia mentioned consisted mainly of powerful cathartics, nervine sedatives, bleeding, and chloroform. Sedation was not mentioned and pilocarpine had not come into general use. Dr. Sargent called particular attention to the importance of arresting and subduing the convulsive seizures as early as

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possible in order to prevent rupture among the cerebral blood vessels and consequent apoplexy.

In 1873 there was an interesting paper on embolus embodying all the then known facts, and in the following year a case of phlegmasia alba dolens occurring in the person of an unmarried female was reported, with the only apparent cause being a long ride during the catamenial period.

In 1877 some time-honored obstetric traditions were sharply criticized. Support of the perineum was considered inferior to lateral incision as a means of preventing rupture. Immediate union of perineal tears was advocated by some and considered well-nigh impossible of accomplishment by others. The swaying motion of the forceps recommended by Pajot had in more than one instance caused rupture of the vagina.

In 1868, a successful ovariectomy was reported by Dr. Warren Tyler of North Brookfield. The pedicle was ligatured with stout silk and placed back within the abdomen; the bleeding surfaces were sponged with a solution of perchloride of iron, then the divided surfaces brought together by sutures. The wound was left unsutured for a space of two inches at its lower extremity, in order, as he quaintly puts it, to ventilate the abdomen. Finally the patient was swathed in bandages and left, as the doctor expressed it, to her fate, which fortunately was not death, notwithstanding the before mentioned ventilation of the abdomen.

In 1881 an interesting communication on "Uterine Fibroids And Their Treatment" was presented. Palliative treatment by the administration of ergot, and radical or surgical treatment by means of the ecraseur, the scissors, the galvano-cautery, or the Thomas spoon were mentioned. The entire tumor should be removed if possible. If this proves not feasible, contraction of the uterine muscles should be brought about by the administration of ergot and this will probably induce gradual expulsion of the mass.

Next in importance to obstetric and gynecological subjects, we should expect to find discussions on surgical matters a prominent feature in our records. Such is the case but the number of papers and the list of cases reported is more meager than could be anticipated. The earliest recorded surgical communication to the Society is a very interesting *ex tempore* statement by Dr. Joseph Sargent of three cases of subcutaneous division of tendons for muscular contractures. This was in 1842 and in all probability these cases are among the earliest operated in that manner.

In 1854 several interesting surgical cases were reported; a case of encephaloid cancer developed after the removal of a tonsil; a rapidly progressing case of gelatinous disease of the femur; a case of osteo-sarcoma of the femur, the thigh at the diseased point having a girth of eighteen inches.

In 1863, in war times, a case was reported, where a soldier had at that time survived three months after receiving two musket balls in the left temple entering the skull. Dr. Oramel Martin was present at the discussion, having returned from service with the Western Army in the field. He said that musket balls do much less injury than is generally supposed and that minie balls do more. Wounds through the lungs, generally considered fatal, he had sometimes seen heal in three weeks. Wounds of all kinds did better treated in tents.

In 1867, two cases of joint excision were reported. Both were done at the time of injury. In one, the head of the humerus and a portion of the denuded shaft were removed. In the other case, the lower articular surface of the tibia with about three inches of the shaft was excised; the fibula was not interfered with, and the boy recovered with a firm limb. In 1869, one of the members reported where he had ligated the external iliac artery at a

point one and one half inches above Poupart's ligament. It was done for traumatic aneurism of the femoral artery, the injury sustained sixteen days prior to the operation. An interesting and instructive paper on the treatment of hemorrhoids was read in 1878. The operation consisted of first dilating the sphincter, then seizing the pile with a vulsellum, drawing down, enclosing in a clamp, and finally removing with a knife or scissors, and cauterizing denuded surfaces.

An important and very complete paper on "Ununited Fractures" was presented in 1882. The treatment of recent cases, where there is undue vascular excitement, consists in the application of blisters and iodine and cutaneous frictions and massage. In cases of longer standing, forcible friction together of the two fragments has often proven successful, as also wiring together, a form of treatment especially favorable in cases involving the lower maxilla, the clavicle, and the humerus.

At various times papers have been contributed upon the surgery of the kidney. The first, in 1881, was on perinephritis. The pus has a tendency to burrow into the gluteal muscles and then outwardly towards the skin. The abscess sometimes points in the lumbar region, sometimes again it follows the psoas muscle to the thigh, or it mounts upwards along the pillars of the diaphragm, penetrating the pleura or lungs. Early opening is recommended as soon as fluctuation can be detected, or even exploratory incision earlier. In 1883, a case was reported where an entire nephrectomy was performed on account of a penetrating wound of the kidney, which was inducing an alarming and continuous hemorrhage. The recovery of the young patient was complete. Somewhat later, in 1889, a paper was read on a case of pyonephrosis followed by nephrotomy. A report of a case of supra-pubic cystotomy with the removal of fragments of a catheter was made at an ensuing meeting. At this meeting in a very instructive discussion on the best methods of radical cure of stricture of the urethra, it was concluded that gradual dilatation never cures organic stricture and divulsion seldom. Sounds must be used after divulsion and when relapses occur the stricture is more dense and resisting than primarily.

As far back as 1845, naphtha was administered for the cure of phthisis. The first mention of paracentesis thoracis occurs in 1854. In 1864, several cases of paracenteses thoracis were reported and the dangers resulting from the admission of air into the pleural cavity considered.

In 1874, a very interesting discussion regarding the treatment of pneumonia took place.

Many communications have been made to the Society on children's diseases. In 1874, the points of difference between true cholera infantum and common entero-colitis or summer diarrhea were brought out in a paper on the subject. An interesting paper on enuresis in children was read in 1886. The remedies found most useful were tincture of belladonna, ergot to strengthen the sphincter, bromides, cantharides, avoidance of rich foods, and Rhus Toxicodendron. In 1890 the condition of chorea in children was discussed.

The epidemic variety of cerebro-spinal meningitis was discussed at two meetings in 1871 and 1872. Bromide of potash in large doses seemed to be the remedy most in vogue but iodide of potash was mentioned and chloral was used for its soporific effects.

In 1879 and 1880 alcohol and the drink habit received attention. Alcohol has been of benefit in all forms of chronic and wasting disease, especially in children, when the digestive organs were in a weak condition. The drink habit is acquired and not inherent or instinctive.

In 1883, an important paper on "Incipient Mental Disorders" was read. These disorders frequently do not amount to insanity but exist to a considerable extent and frequently are the cause of bitterness and wretchedness in families. The mental disorder frequently takes the character of some one dominant passion or appetite.

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In 1864, mention is made of an epidemic of diphtheria in Oakham. The treatment was entirely medicinal with the exception of gargles containing chlorate of potash. The mortality was large at first as the disease was considered to be tonsillitis and was treated by depletion. Tracheotomy was discussed in 1877. Any operation, if it prove successful, grows in favor. The "Treatment Of Membranous Croup" was considered in 1887. Lime vapor should be generated in large quantities in the room. Intubation has many advantages over tracheotomy. The operation is simpler, leaves no wound for after-treatment, is more easily done, and relieves dyspnea more effectually.

The first paper on typhoid fever was read in 1865. Careful examination of well contamination was made. Introduction of city water supply in 1848 cut down the incidence of the disease.

In 1871, a paper was read on smallpox. From 1869 to 1870, two hundred and ninety one cases were reported in the city with nineteen deaths. The reader deplored the fact that the sanitary laws, as then existing, were of no practical importance and that cases could not be properly isolated.

In the earlier days of our Society, worms seem to have infested the bodies of our little ancestors to an astonishing extent. A paper presented in 1844 records the case of a child who had been given an infusion of pinkroot, sage and Indian hemp, with two grains of calomel every third night and was rewarded by the passage of seven hundred lumbrici and the complete recovery of the child from what was supposed to be a severe case of rickets.

In 1848, dysentery was especially malignant. The remedies most frequently used were opium, calomel, camphor, acetate of lead, and injection of a solution of sulphate of iron.

An interesting paper on "The Ophthalmoscope and Its Use" was read in 1859, and in 1879 an important essay on "Eye Complications of the Exanthemata" was given.

In 1885, a paper on diabetes was read. The usual dietary treatment was recommended and the most efficacious remedies were considered to be opium, ergot and the bromides.

In 1876, the first mention is made of salicylic acid in the treatment of rheumatism. In 1887, a discussion of "Valvular Heart Diseases" was given. Such patients frequently live longer than is generally supposed. It is better, unless there be some particular reason for it, that they should not be informed regarding the existence of an incurable heart disease.

Several very complete papers on the "Medical and Surgical Uses of Electricity" have been read on two occasions in 1877 and 1878. The galvanic current is chiefly employed in medicine for soothing pain and removing growths. The faradic current and particularly the interrupted faradic current is used for stimulation of inactive muscles in order to prevent them from undergoing atrophy. The second paper in 1878 was more especially on "The Faradic Electricity in General Medicine". This form of electricity is a stimulant to nerves and muscles. To induce contraction in uterine hemorrhage the electrodes were placed externally front and back over the pelvis. In 1888, another instructive paper was presented on "Electro-Therapeutics in Medical Practice". The writer claimed that failure was most frequently due to lack of proper attention to electro-therapeutic laws. He described localized galvanization and faradization. He commented at length on its application in nervous diseases and diseases of the heart, larynx and intestine. In surgery it can be used and regulated as well as the knife. In gynecology, very strong currents were used by Apostoli and Englemann for the destruction of fibroids.

In 1887, a paper on "Temperature as a Remedial Agent" described the

use of the ice bag to the spine for painful cramps in the legs from a pregnant uterus, and for the treatment of neuralgia and pneumonia; the use of ice in the reduction of hernia; the use of a hot water bag and hot hip baths in tedious labor.

These discussions and review of papers presented before our Society up until the turn of the century are included in the history to give the reader a broader prospectus of medicine and its related problems during this period. The orations, papers and discussions, as far as they are accessible or are mentioned in the records, have been referred to in their proper sequence and as nearly as possible classified according to their subject matter. With regard to their importance as contributions to general medical literature and the advancement of medical science, the exact words of our orator in 1862 can be applied to silence the critics. He says, "Such in brief, have been the accomplishments of the Society in this direction, and, as I have before said, if it shall seem to you, as it does to me, painfully meager when compared with the personal ability of members, with the unparalleled activity of the age and the vast importance of the subjects involved; let me still invoke you to exercise charity in your judgement until at least you and I have shown by greater zeal that we have inaugurated a new and more industrious system of operation."

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

- 14. Some Doctors of the Turn of the Century
- 15. The Early Twentieth Century through the First World War
- 16. The Worcester District Medical Society through the Second World War
- 17. The Post-war Years

FOURTEEN

SOME WORCESTER DOCTORS AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY

Here again it is necessary to interrupt our narrative of the history of the Society to interweave some personalities into the pattern.

At the turn of the century the majority of practicing physicians were located in one of three places in the city. The fashionable doctors were situated mainly on Pearl Street and the hoi polloi men of medicine were found in the Trumbull Square area or on Portland Street.

The Pearl Street of today is dominated by business blocks and parking lots; but around the turn of the century it had for a generation or more been known as "Pill Row" with at least one physician in every house. Looking down from Chestnut Street the right hand corner was occupied by Plymouth Church, an imposing granite structure, and now a parking lot for the Worcester County Trust Company. Next below the church stood a red-painted house, #61. This old structure is shown on the Snow map of 1829, when the street was laid out. In 1860 the first All Saints Church, which stood just below at #55, took it for a Parish House. Ten years after the burning of the church in 1874 it was sold to Dr. Charles L. Nichols, who lived there until 1894, when he moved to Cedar Street. His office was on Main street. To #61 in 1896 came a group of men who were to play prominent roles in the Worcester medical profession; Walter T. Clark, Fred H. Baker and Charles D. Wheeler moved up from #49; from #36 came Warren D. Gilman. The genial Walter Clark, known to his friends as "Divvy", was City Physician, and loved by everyone. He died prematurely of heart disease in 1908. Fred Baker, in addition to having a large West Side practice, was Medical Examiner for thirty years and set the standards for the position. Charles Wheeler, a prominent surgeon, was forced to give up his career by an accident which cost him the sight of one eye; he took a position in the State Mutual Company and held it till his death. All three men were on the City Hospital Staff. Warren Gilman was another City Hospital man; his career was also cut short prematurely.

In those days the house had a generous yard both at side and back, separated by a green-painted lattice covered with vines. Behind the office, tenants installed a croquet set to occupy their spare moments, of which, in the early years, there were many. Effectively screened from the passers-by on Pearl Street, they were in full view of the apartment dwellers on lower Pleasant street, who, observing the proceedings from their rear windows, made many scornful comments on the neglected practices of the young men. In 1899 Dr. Wheeler moved to Chestnut Street, and Dr. Charles B. Stevens came in; in 1900 Baker and Gilman left, leaving the house to Stevens and Clark. Dr. Stevens caught the disease in Worcester's last smallpox outbreak in 1901, and perforce had to be isolated with the other victims in a "pest-house" on the Home Farm grounds, but the City paid him for services to the other victims (no one died) and the experience turned his interest definitely in the direction of infectious diseases. Before long he became the City's best authority, and remained so until his death in 1924.

TURN OF THE CENTURY DOCTORS

In later years Drs. Edward B. Bigelow and Ethel Rockwood had offices in the building, the latter staying until Dr. Stevens' death. Then the Plymouth Church took it over as Parish House.

Next below and still standing, came the large granite structure known as the Bull House. The site had been occupied by the first All Saints' Church from 1846 to 1874, when it was destroyed by fire. It was bought by D.B. Wesson, revolver millionaire of Springfield, and the house built for his daughter, who was to marry Dr. George J. Bull, a young Canadian. Before completion in 1877 it had cost \$125,000, but to Wesson, who had put a full million into his estate in Springfield, this was of little account. Beautiful and elaborate the house undoubtedly was, but it was also completely beyond the ability of a young physician to maintain, and in addition the couple were not happy together. In 1882 Dr. Bull separated from his wife and went to Colorado Springs; he is said to have gone to Paris later, and done well there. His wife went back to Springfield. In 1897 Dr. John O. Marble took possession. By a strange coincidence, he married another firearms fortune, that of Ethan Allen, whose "Allen pepper-box" had played a considerable role in the rough society of the developing West, and whose fine estate originally extended on Main Street, from Wellington to Piedmont. Dr. Marble occupied the house until 1897, kept his office there for another year, and then went back to the old Allen mansion and virtual retirement. In 1904 the structure was bought by Mr. Hobbs of Shrewsbury, whose daughter had married Dr. Howard W. Beal. Dr. Beal was the pioneer Shrewsbury, whose daughter had married Dr. Howard W. Beal. Dr. Beal was the pioneer

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Dr. Dean Ellis winter circa 1900



Dr. Dean Ellis summer circa 1900

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in scientific urology, working at all the Worcester hospitals. He was a slow worker, but an absolute perfectionist, and he laid in Worcester a foundation for others to follow. When World War I began he went to Europe on the first Red Cross ship and worked in England, on the estate of Mr. Singer of sewing machine fame, which had been made into a hospital. The Queen came down one day, and Howard took her visit in stride, merely being careful as he afterward said "to throw away his right hand glove". In the fall of 1915 he was back in America, but he could not forget the shambles in Europe, and he resented the enthusiasm of his friends over such trivia as football games. So in a few months he was back at the front, where he served faithfully until he was wounded by a shell near Soissons in July 1918, from which he died a few days later in Paris - the only battle casualty of the Worcester District Medical Society in the war. Mrs. Beal moved to Shrewsbury, and the house was taken over by the veterans' organizations, which still hold it, under agreement with the City of Worcester which owns it.

Next below this house stood a wooden structure numbered 53, dating back to 1846. In the 70's it came into possession of F.H. Dewey, and from 1877 to 1884 Dr. Charles L. Nichols, who had married Caroline Dewey, had an office there. In 1885 Dr. Oliver Hurd Everett married Sarah Dewey, another daughter, and moved into the house a year later. At first an esteemed general practitioner, he later went into dermatology, and headed the staff of Memorial Hospital in that branch. He was quiet and retiring but enjoyed clubs like the Worcester Club and the Quinsigamond Boat Club. He died in 1926, and a little later the house was sold to F.W. Taylor, who converted it for business purposes. It is now a parking lot.

First and last, #49 harbored more physicians than any other house on the street, being rivalled only by #61. This wooden house was probably built by Putnam W. Taft between 1845 and 1851. The following men had offices there: Joseph N. Bates, 1876-83; Franklin Eccles, 1887-89; Peter B. Migneault, 1870; Walter T. Clark, 1891; F.H. Baker and C.D. Wheeler, 1894. The three last named moved to #61 in 1896, and Dr. J.S. Hall came in.

In 1901-2 the old house moved into an eventful chapter in its history; Dr. James Taylor, Jr., an Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat man, came in, followed by Benjamin T. Burley, Kendall Emerson and Walter C. Seelye. Living quarters were above; on the ground floor a series of connecting offices opened into a common waiting room, presided over by an efficient nurse, Miss Leonora Heustis. The routine of the office hours usually began with the starting of a card game in one of the rear rooms; if and when a patient appeared, Miss Heustis summoned the man wanted, who, proceeding through the connecting rooms till he reached his own, opened the door into the waiting room and greeted his patient. Here also was born the Owl Club, a small medical group which meant much to its members for a good many years. However five of the members died before the age of 50, including Dr. Beal, who was killed in France as stated before, and the Club faded out in 1928. The arrangement in the house lasted until 1908, when Dr. Taylor took over the whole, and maintained it until his death in 1925.

Both #49 and #53 have been swept away by a parking lot.

Returning now to the head of the street, on the left-hand corner stood (and still stands) the fine yellow-brick home of Dr. Homer Gage. From 1830 to 1892 the site was occupied by the house of Henry Miller; in the last-named year the old house was razed, and Miss Mabel Knowles, who had become engaged to Dr. Gage, purchased the site for their new home, into which they moved in 1893. It was numbered 72 Pearl Street.

Homer Gage had exceptional talent and every opportunity to develop it. His father paved the way. After postgraduate study in Europe he returned

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to Worcester and forged rapidly ahead. Soon after receiving his appointment as City Hospital House Officer, it was said that a member of the Massachusetts General Hospital Staff remarked that "there was not a surgeon in Massachusetts, Boston not excepted, who could give points to Homer Gage" -an unusual tribute to be paid by a Bostonian to a man from "back country". He also enjoyed Board work, and sat in the meetings of various banks and industries. In later years he took the presidency of the Crompton & Knowles Loom Works, probably to save it for his only son, who was making a promising start with the firm. The young man's sudden and tragic death at the age of 30 struck Dr. Gage a blow from which he never wholly recovered, but he carried on faithfully until his death in 1938. Thereafter Mrs. Gage, despite physical ailments, led a fine civic and philanthropic life until her death in 1948. Her will gave the house to the District Nursing Society, in which she had always been greatly interested, and a clause provided that if the Society should ever abandon the residence it should be immediately razed. It is believed that this action was due to Mrs. Gage's desire that her home should not suffer the fate of her childhood abode on south Main Street, which was made into a funeral home.

Next below the Gage home, but soon to be razed for another parking lot, stood the large, hospitable-looking house of Dr. Samuel B. Woodward. Built in 1835 for Judge Thomas Kinnicutt, it was purchased in the 60's by the doctor's father, who sold the eastern edge of the lot to his brother Rufus; the latter proceeded to erect upon this the brick house numbered 52, which was completed in 1869.

"Dr. Sam", as he was always called, inherited the property at the death of his father in 1888, and added the conservatory in 1896. Like Homer Gage, he had both ability and opportunity, and soon after establishing himself in practice in 1881, following three years' postgraduate study in Europe, he became prominent both in his profession and in the community. His grandfather and namesake had been the first superintendent of the Summer Street Asylum, which had been built as the result of the agitation of Dorothea Dix and Horace Mann for reforms in the care of the insane, so it was but natural that Dr. Sam should take a position as Trustee of that institution and hold it for fourteen years. He claimed the first appendectomy in Worcester in 1884, and various other firsts, of more interest to a medical audience than a lay one. With his entrance into High School in 1866 he started Volume I of his scrapbooks; Volume XXXIV, begun in 1943, was unfinished at the time of his death.

These books went to the American Antiquarian Society after his death. They cover more than eighty years of his life with extraordinary minuteness, but in addition, the civic history of Worcester for sixty years might almost be written from them. In addition to his medical distinctions (he was for two years President of the Massachusetts Medical Society) he was President of the Worcester Chamber of Commerce, and, in his later years, of the Worcester County Institution for Savings. Every civic project interested him and he delighted to make his views known. A bibliography of the scrapbooks lists 118 items, mostly letters to medical and other publications in Worcester and Boston. His crusade for vaccination, in which he introduced the same bill 17 times and finally got it passed, attracted international attention in medical circles. He died in his 93rd year, the last survivor of his Harvard Class of '74.

The sturdy brick house at #52, already referred to, was occupied by Dr. Lemuel F. Woodward, who had his office in the basement. "Lem" and "Sam" were cousins, but did not always see eye to eye. At this period, around the turn of the century, the Workmen's Compensation Act was still more than a decade in the future, and Lem had a near-monopoly on the industrial accident work. Beside his telephone hung a list of telephone

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numbers, always headed by that of the latest City Hospital graduate.

This position, like that of the Oldest Living Graduate of a University, was naturally precarious; in a year or less one was pushed down to a second place by a newer fledgling, but the idea was fair. When an accident appeared in the office, the nurse would make the patient comfortable and start calling down the list. The man called came in and treated the injury; for this he eventually received \$1 from Lem.

At this period, too, the three men last mentioned (Gage and the two Woodwards) controlled most of the surgery of Worcester. The three major hospitals (Hahnemann had 15 beds in an old mansion, and Fairlawn had not been founded) had three-month surgical services, and these men worked at all of them.

Lem liked outdoor sports, particularly on the water (in college days he had stroked the Harvard crew). So he became a sort of patron saint to the Quinsigamond Boat Club, and President of the Natural History Society. In spare moments he could frequently be found in Elm Park, observing birds with an opera glass.

A bachelor himself, he was fond of children. He bought one of the early Cadillac "one-lungers", and it was a frequent sight to see the machine chugging around town, with Lem's 250 lb. bulk planted stolidly in the driver's seat, while the tonneau was filled with youngsters, squealing with delight; an automobile ride in those days was a treat to most children. After Lem's death in the '30's the office was occupied for a time by Dr. Winifred Grant and later by the Christian Science Reading Room.

Next below came an old wooden house, built by Emory Washburn in about 1833. Dr. George Chandler, superintendent of the Summer Street Asylum, took over in 1856, and in 1867 sold to Dr. Thomas H. Gage, father of Homer. He had previously been on lower Elm Street.

Dr. Gage, who had been born in Maine in 1826, was Medical Director of the State Mutual Company for 43 years. He was director of two banks and a Trustee of Clark University, also of Worcester City Hospital. Medically, he served the community for 50 years as a general practitioner of the best type. His reputation was wide, and up to the time of his death in 1909 he still did some work in different lines.

"The evil that men do lives after them;
The good is oft interred with their bones"

So wrote Shakespeare; but the accuracy of this statement was definitely challenged in about 1920, when Dr. George O. Ward, then physician to Worcester Academy, was attending a student who had contracted pneumonia. That disease was then much more serious than now, and the school authorities summoned the boy's father from Ohio. On his arrival, the man requested a consultation, and stated that his physician in the Ohio city had named Dr. Thomas H. Gage as the best consultant in Worcester. Dr. Ward informed him that the old man had long since been gathered to his fathers, but that his son was still in active practice. Now, Homer Gage had probably not handled a pneumonia case in 25 years (which is exactly what he told Dr. Ward over the phone), but the father insisted, and the boy was not in critical condition, so he answered the call, examined the patient, and the father was satisfied. The boy then went on to a speedy recovery.

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Dr. Homer Gage, ca 1913

While on the subject of a consultation, old Dr. Albert Wood, whose office on Chestnut and Pleasant Streets is now occupied by Sessions (a funeral parlor), delighted to tell of driving up to the Gage house one day to get the doctor to go out with him. Homer, a very small boy, was playing in the yard. Dr. Wood hailed him, "Well, Homer, is your father at home?" The child stopped playing and looked soberly at him; "No, sir; he has gone to perform a postmortem examination." And so the child was indeed the father of the man.

At #32 Dr. David B. Lovell, otolaryngologist, had an office from 1894 to 1915; in the brick block below, Dr. Walter Seelye and some others

occupied the offices for a while.

The old Gage house was swept away years ago, and its site is now occupied by a block of stores with offices above, some of which are occupied by Drs. Bennett, Scanlon, Ouellette, Reardon, Williams, and Yasuna. On the opposite side at #29, now known as the Chapin Building, Drs. Itkin, Pierce and Salomon have their offices; the names of these nine men indicate that change which the population of the city has undergone in the past half century.

The area of Trumbull Street running from Front Street down to Park Avenue at Trumbull Square had many physicians in residence at the turn of the century. The homes were mainly single dwellings with front lawns, although apartment blocks did dot the street, particularly at the Square. Stephen Bergin lived at #19 on the right hand side in a small white house, which later became the rectory of the Notre Dame Church. He remained here from 1902 until 1906 when he moved to #33, which was called "Cronin's Block". At #31 which was part of the block, came Henry Cronin, in 1898 the purchaser of the property, with his office on the street floor, and here he remained until his death in 1917. James McDonald opened up at #33 in 1905, later moving to the Park Building when it was erected. Michael O'Toole had office space at #25 from 1902 until his death in 1911; John Harkins and John Sullivan also occupied the same building from 1905 for a few years; Dr. Harkins originally had quarters at #30 for four years.

On the left side at #26 (now the A.O.H. Building) was Daniel Kelley, from 1902 until 1911. Michael O'Meara lived at #36 from 1891 until he left to take charge of the Summer Street branch of the State Hospital. At #42 resided two of the fairer sex, Mary O'Callaghan from 1885 and Clara Fitzgerald from 1898; in later years they both moved to Pleasant Street.

Practically on the square in #48 was Richard Stapleton, from 1893 until his death in 1924. On the Square, at #9, the most famed personage was William Delahanty, physician par excellence from 1884 until his death in 1942. Joseph Kelley was at #1 from 1884 until 1914. At #15 was Michael Scannell from 1895 until 1905, and Timothy Foley from 1894 until he moved in 1907. James Nightingale arrived across the square in 1900 and was a talented musician besides owning his famed aquarium; here he remained for many years, one flight up over a store, until his retirement in the early thirties.

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Down on Green Street under the railroad bridge, a short distance from the square, was M.J. Halloran at #42. He was a prolific prescription writer, historian, owner of a pharmacy, and at this time had the largest office practice in the city; he was at this site from 1881 until his death in 1925.

All these excellent men have long since departed and the area has been deserted by the medical profession, except for E.M. Feingold at #50 and Simeon Weiner at #31.

A short distance uptown, Portland Street at this time was a mecca for physicians. The Sheraton, formerly the Bancroft Hotel, had not yet been built. There was no Federal Street and the houses were mainly single dwellings with spacious lawns; the trolley car tracks running down the center of the street added to the picturesque setting. Michael Fallon lived at #9, near the corner of Park from 1891 until he moved to the Slater Building in the teens; here he progressed from a general practitioner to a surgeon of renown at Saint Vincent Hospital. At #19, which would now be the north side of Federal Street, arrived in 1908 Andrew O'Connell, the skiagrapher, now retired; also O. Draper Phelps, later to become a urologist and to meet a tragic end. In #25, on the south corner off Federal Street, were John and Dennis O'Connor, brothers, the former in general practice who died prematurely in 1925, and the latter in ophthalmology, who moved to New Jersey in 1920. At #33 Stephen Bergin moved in 1909, and remained until the late teens, when he moved to Main south.



Dr. Michael Fallon, 1917



Operating 1901: Dr. M. Fallon, 2nd from right

Across the street near Park at #8, Ralph Goldthwaite and James Taylor resided for a short time. At #8 was also located the Worcester Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Infirmary which went out of existence in the early teens. In a narrow block at #20 was John Brennan, an otolaryngologist of the old school, arriving in 1906; and a year later Robert Matthews, subsequently a urologist. They both remained at this location until the late teens. Down at #28 Timothy Foley moved in about 1907 and remained until the early twenties.

Now Portland Street is a maze of business blocks, garages and apartment houses, and boasts of not one physician on the street. The last hardy soul, Joseph Mulhern, for years a fixture at #22, moved to the Slater Building in the early thirties.

FIFTEEN

THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY THROUGH THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Following this personal tour of the city environs to place the densely populated streets inhabited by the medical profession at the turn of the century, we return once more to the transaction of the business at hand, and a most interesting observation is made in the record of the meeting on October 8, 1902. This is a classic description of the white plague (tuberculosis, at that time often called "consumption") and the following is the quotation of the Resolutions forwarded to the State Board of Charity: "In reply to the questions submitted by the State Board of Charity, the Worcester District Medical Society voted to adopt the following considerations as the sense of the meetings:

"First, the climate of Massachusetts is not a favorable one for the treatment and care of consumption, and those who have the disease and can go, should be advised to go to, and remain in places where the climate is suitable. Furthermore, consumption is not as contagious a disease as are whooping cough, measles, diphtheria, and scarlet fever. The infective agent resides mostly, if not solely, in the expectoration of consumptive persons, and can be destroyed by burning.

"Second, for classification in treatment, consumptives may be divided into three classes: the curable cases, the incurable cases, and such cases as must be kept under observation for a time to determine whether they are probably curable or incurable. The curable cases are cared for by the State at Rutland. To this institution there should be added another ward for probationary cases. The incurable cases should be provided for by the cities or counties in which they live, and institutions for this purpose should be built within the limits of such cities or counties and maintained by them.

"Third, the commonwealth should provide for the curable cases because it can establish a sanitarium or sanitariums in any portion of the State, and the climate of some parts of the State is better for this purpose than other parts.

"Fourth, the Commonwealth should build another sanitarium similar to that at Rutland, if possible, 50 miles or more from the sea; provided that after a year from August 1, 1902, when the enlarged institution there was completed, it is demonstrated that such a one is needed. One of these State Institutions then should be for men and one for women."

On October 14, 1908, the record speaks, "That the Worcester District Medical Society authorize the organization of a Medical Milk Commission. Said Commission to consist of eight members, four of whom shall be members of this Society, two members of the Worcester Homeopathic Medical Society, and two laymen, appointed by the Board of Trade." This Commission hurdled many obstacles, establishing a fresh milk station on Green Street and being instrumental in sanitary improvements at the milk points on farms, and assuring faster transportation with icing, cleanliness of handlers, and better containers.

During this period there was much controversy at the meetings about the unethical practice of fraternal societies in employing physicians on a

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contract basis, and on March 9, 1910, the recommendation was sent to the parent organization that the Massachusetts Medical Society set its disapproval upon such of its members who do contract work for societies, benefit societies, and similar organizations at a rate of compensation below the ordinary rate for professional services of the locality in which the society is located. Although much debate continued about this abuse, nothing was ever accomplished.

With righteous indignation the record states on January 13, 1915, "The Worcester District Medical Society being convinced by evidence submitted to it that the cells in Police Stations #1 and #2 are unsanitary, insufficient in number, inadequately ventilated and totally unsuited to the purpose for which they are maintained, urges upon the authorities the substitution of sanitary cells in number sufficient to care in a more humane manner for persons under arrest and awaiting trial, and directs its Secretary to forward this memorandum of opinion to the Mayor of this city and to the press."

In November 1916 there was a revision of the By-laws, by which all meetings were to be held in Worcester unless otherwise voted. In addition they established an Executive Committee, and passed the ruling that three of the five censors, two of the three members of the Committee on Funds, and two of the five members of the Committee on Nominations must be renominations.

The first war meeting was on May 9, 1917, when the members assembled at the Annual Meeting to listen to a most appropriate oration, "A Physician's Impression of Florida". A Committee on Fees presented a table, covering medical, obstetrical and surgical fees. After much heated debate, it was finally moved that the present moment was not the time to adopt an increase in rates. The Secretary's book does not record any enthusiastic or patriotic response to our country's call to arms, although towards the close of the President's message, it is written, "Our profession seems to have the first active call. The medical and surgical units are gathering rapidly for active service. Not all service is to be in the field. They also serve who stand and wait.' As great duties are to be met and as much patriotism can be shown by the home helpers as by those who 'seek the bubble reputation in the cannon's mouth'. I have no original call or message. I can only emphasize that each find his conscience and duty; and do it, for the honor of our profession, our country and her flag, in behalf of humanity."

At a special meeting called on August 1, 1917, in the suitably named G.A.R. Hall, for the purpose of "taking action upon the matter of the division of fees received from patients of Fellows, who have or may hereafter enter the Army or Navy of the United States, and such other matters as may legally come before the meeting."

The following was voted.

"First: That its members attending patients of Fellows absent in military service of the United States, or its Allies, are in honor bound to turn over to the authorized representatives of such absentees, one-third (at least) of fees collected from such patients, provided always that the absentee is willing to accept this service.

" Second: That the Society also declares its opinion that its Fellows, thus practicing, in loco absentis, should decline to attend former patients of the absentee for a period of six months after his return, unless by his expressed consent.

"Third: The Society authorizes the Secretary to furnish to each Fellow, a placard for posting in his office embodying this declaration of policy, as approved by the Society, and an invitation to patients of such absentees to assist in the application of this policy by declaring themselves as such patients.

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"Fourth: That the Society elect a War Committee, consisting of five members, of which the President shall be the chairman ex-officio, and the rest appointed by him for one year's service at least; and the Society requests every practitioner entering military service to notify this committee of his action, and to specify whether or not he wishes to avail himself of the provisions of the above policy. This committee shall keep a list of such absentees and shall publish with the notices of regular meetings of the Society, such additions as come to their knowledge. The committee shall, as the agent of the Society, protect in all practicable ways, the interest of absentees on military service, and may therefore devise and promulgate to the Society membership such rules and regulations as are, in its opinion, necessary to guide members in practical application of these policies. The committee shall act as referee in all cases that may be referred to them when the home physician or the representative of the absentee is in doubt as to proper procedure.

"Fifth: That the Society invites all registered physicians in this district, whether affiliated with this Society or not, to full and cordial cooperation in carrying out the letter and spirit of these policies; and the Society instructs its War Committee to use such means as it finds practicable to secure this desired cooperation.

"Sixth: That the Society, through its War committee, cooperate with the War Relief Committee of the Worcester Chapter Red Cross in the medical care of dependents of men enlisted from this district."

Thus ended the Society's war effort because it was never mentioned again in the minute book with the exception of a printed list of members absent as of May 8, 1918, and a second roster of physicians, both members and non-members of the District Society, dated September 1, 1918. Careful perusal of the November 13, 1918 record revealed no mention of the armistice, declared two days previously, or that the absent members would soon be returning to their homes after hazardous sufferings to protect those who remained back in the comfortable, lucrative practices in lieu of their proper places in the service of their country.

Although it is not in the official record, the history would not be complete without the byplay of this period. The list of May 8, 1918 contained approximately fifty-four names, while the September 1, 1918 roster had seventy-nine physicians within the district. Evidently the draft boards in the interim were quite active and rumor hath it that two prominent unmarried members were to be interviewed personally by the representative of the Appeal Commission from Washington in November 1918, but circumstances postponed the meeting indefinitely. Tales were told of previous office space not being returned; of loss of ratings in hospital staffs by the home members advancing to positions of advantage; of the failure of the policy of patients being given back to the absentee; of two prominent surgeon members not speaking to each other for the remainder of their lives due to the fact one was on a draft board, which was unsuccessfully attempting to persuade the assistant of the other that his place was in the colors of his country.

However, all was not on one side of the ledger, as the home front was quite faithful in fulfilling the obligation of returning one-third of fees collected to absentee members.

The Society lost two of its members during World War I: Dr. Howard Beal, killed in action, and Dr. Edward Phelan, who died of influenza. For those who served and did not return, it is appropriate that their eulogies are entered here.

Howard Walter Beal was born in Lewiston, Maine, in 1870. After finishing common school education, he entered Philips Andover Academy

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and then Harvard Medical School, graduating in 1898. He served his surgical internship at the Massachusetts General Hospital and then entered the U.S. Army Medical Service. He was sent to the Philippines where war against Aguinaldo was in progress. Here he saw service, first on an army transport and then in the field against the enemy. At the end of his service, he came to Worcester in 1902 and was married to Miss Henrietta Hobbs of Shrewsbury. His first home and office was located at 55 Pearl Street and he specialized in genito-urinary surgery. He received appointments to the staffs of Worcester City and Memorial Hospitals. A pioneer in cystoscopy, pyelography and similar advanced work along his own lines, he first taught the hospital staffs the value of the genito-urinary specialty. On his return from active service in 1902, Dr. Beal went to Washington to the Surgeon General's office and asked that he be put on a list of those who might be called upon to serve his country in case of emergency. Upon being informed that there was no provision by law for such service, he suggested and outlined the organization of a Medical Reserve Corps. This plan was afterwards adopted and put into effect, and Beal was always justly proud of his part in the establishment of this branch of the Army Medical Service.

The first Red Cross ship, the converted German liner "Hamburg", leaving New York in the Fall of 1914, carried Howard to England, where he was assigned to the American Women's Hospital at Paignton, Devonshire, the former country home of Mr. Singer, of sewing machine fame. He became head of this hospital. After a disagreement with the Governing Board, a year later he returned to Worcester. When this country entered the war, he was commissioned a Major and was one of the first to go to France.

On July 18, 1918, Thursday, in the great allied counterattack in the Marne Salient, he was wounded in action. The story is told in a comrade's letter, "And he died as we, who loved him, knew he would die, bravely, calmly, and never a complaint; he died like the man that he was. Our regiment had gone into the fight south of Soissons and Major had his little tent in a hollow near a small village. The big battle was lighting the sky-line only a few kilometers away, and the avions were searching for our billets. Major was standing out in front of his tent when a bomb from an aeroplane struck on the edge of the bank near him and a fragment struck him in the

left chest. He was rushed to Nevilly by special ambulance, although he protested that he wanted the men cared for first. This was on Thursday night and on Saturday he left us." The end came in the American Red Cross Hospital. A message from an observer stated, "He did not suffer; he remained conscious up to almost the time of his death, and always preserved the same attitude of fine courage and simple strength. His wound was such that no treatment which could have been given, would have saved him." He was buried in the cemetery of Suresnes, in a section assigned to the A.E.F.



Dr. Howard Beal

Edward Francis Phelan was born in Ludlow, Vermont on October 23, 1886 and was graduated at the age of sixteen from Black River Academy in Ludlow, in 1902. When he was but twenty years of age he received the degree of M.D. from the University of

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Vermont. He served one year as House Officer at the Westchester Hospital in New York, and two years were spent in post-graduate work at Harvard Medical School and in New York. In September 1909, he went to North Brookfield and remained there until he enlisted as a Lieutenant in the Medical Corps of the U.S. Army on July 7, 1917.

Dr. Phelan went overseas on September 8, 1917 and there worked for three months in a General Hospital in Scotland. He then went to the British front in France as Medical Officer of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry Battalion and was with the battalion for over a year, which is a long time as things go in a fighting unit. Once the battalion was completely wiped out. From March 1918 until September, he was on the Lens-Vimy front near very heavy shelling and fierce gas attacks. In July 1918, for conspicuous surgical work among the wounded, he received his promotion to the Captaincy, thus having the distinction of being the youngest Captain of the Medical Corps in the British Army. In September and October he took part in the smashing of the Hindenburg Line and later followed the Germans to a post outside Maubeuge, where he was when the Armistice was signed. Immediately after the signing, he went to a base hospital to help care for the influenza cases, of which there were very many at that time. After a few days he developed influenza; pneumonia set in and he died on December 18, 1918 in a hospital near Cambrai. He was unmarried, survived by his mother, one brother and two sisters.

SIXTEEN

THE SOCIETY THROUGH THE SECOND WORLD WAR

There was nothing of note in the Secretary's book until September 10, 1924, when a committee was appointed to establish a Physicians Telephone Exchange in the Chamber of Commerce. This was very successful and is still in existence at the present writing.

On January 7, 1925, a historian was appointed to mail a questionnaire to each member, at five or ten year intervals, to furnish all information of interest to the Society. Although the intent was admirable, there is no evidence that this was carried out.

New England Section meetings of the American College of Surgeons were held in Worcester in June 1923 and again in June 1930. The Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society was held in Worcester in June 1851, in June 1934, in June 1939, and finally in June 1949.

At the Annual Meeting on May 12, 1937, fifty year fellowship scrolls were presented to fourteen members:

Levi White, Worcester, retired 1921, admitted 1872
William H. Workman, Newton, retired 1912, admitted 1873
Samuel B. Woodward, Worcester, admitted 1877
Walter T. Bowers, Clinton, admitted 1879
George L. Tobey, Bremen, Maine, retired 1928, admitted 1880
Roscoe S. Swan, Worcester, admitted 1882
William C. Fogarty, Worcester, retired 1935, admitted 1883
George A. Brown, Barre, admitted 1884
William J. Delahanty, Worcester, admitted 1884
David Harrower, Worcester, admitted 1884
Charles A. Drews, Worcester, admitted 1885
Albert C. Getchell, Worcester, retired 1937, admitted 1885
Charles A. Deland, Warren, retired 1937, admitted 1886
Homer Gage, Worcester, admitted 1886

The Worcester Medical News came into existence this year, 1937, and an account of the period of gestation and birth is here recorded. In July 1936, the Society became interested in promoting an



Announcement, 1939

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immunity campaign. This developed into an idea of publishing a bulletin for the useful purpose of advancing educational and other worthwhile projects in the Society. Dr. Roy J. Ward, President at that time, referred the matter to the Publicity Committee. This committee, of which Dr. Philip Cook was chairman, in November 1936 voted the publication of such a bulletin and the first issue appeared on February 5, 1937. It was to have a four month trial marriage with the Medical Society from February to May of that year. In order to meet the expense of these four issues, a sponsor was obtained for each. In May 1937, at the Annual Meeting, the Worcester Medical News was voted the official publication of the Worcester District Medical Society. At the same time the Publicity Committee was relieved of its responsibility as sponsor. At first little more than a monthly announcement sheet, it has grown to include news, synopses of the talks at our meetings, occasional original papers, committee reports, previews of debatable matters, and editorials of some influence. The value of the bulletin as a means of communication within the Society is incalculable. Within the bound volumes of the Worcester Medical News is an accurate year by year history of our Society and its activities, besides a great deal of historical material that otherwise would never have been recorded. The date of publication is the Friday preceding the usual Wednesday meeting of the Society. This was the first modern District-Society journal in Massachusetts.

The first editor was Dr. Arthur M. Kimberly. The work of evolving a new project fell on his shoulders, and he was Editor-in-Chief through the trying days. He was followed in succession by Drs. Francis J. Steele, Charles S. Whelan, Adolph Meltzer, Joseph A. Lundy, and John A. Maroney.

The Medical News was incorporated in May 1941 in order to limit the individual responsibility of members of the Board and the business management, and became an independent organization, with membership identical to that of the Medical Society. The Dental Section was authorized in April 1939, and was accepted by the Worcester District Dental Society. The first issue containing the Dental Section appeared on September 6, 1940 and it has been in publication ever since. This was the first joint medical-dental county bulletin in the country. A large amount of material for this history was culled from the pages of the Worcester Medical News.

As stated previously in the history of the Worcester Medical Library, that organization was incorporated on December 12, 1934, and it is interesting to note the astute reasoning behind that move and that of the Worcester Medical News. The Worcester District Medical Society itself is not incorporated. It is a branch of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and by provision of the state Society it is permitted to hold property and assets in its own name and dispose of them at will, provided regular dues are paid by them to the parent Society. The reasons for acquiring papers of incorporation on the part of the Library and Medical News are two-fold: first, to absolve members of our Society from possible lawsuits, and secondly, to establish the fact that all are engaged in non-profit, scientific, educational, or charitable pursuits, free from taxation. Because there has been some fear that medical societies in general might be the first to feel the grasping hands of unjust taxation, the Medical Library became the repository of surplus funds paid as dues by society members, and of other income.

With this thought in mind the dues were changed on January 13, 1943 to thirteen dollars annually for Senior Members, and five dollars for Junior Members, with 6/7ths of the assessment to be transferred to Library upkeep and 1/7th to the District Society.

THROUGH WORLD WAR II

On February 12, 1941, the Society recognized the proximity of war when a committee of three was appointed to serve with the President and Secretary to consider how best to protect the interests of those fellows in military service. Drs. R.J. Ward, Alton, and Steele were assigned. This committee became known as the War Committee, and on May 10, 1941 recommended that individual and personal arrangements be negotiated privately by affected members. The committee was to exist for the duration of the emergency.

Although at this time our country was not actually at war, the lend-lease program caused intimate commitments, and a state of emergency had been declared in December of 1940. When the actual declaration of war came on December 8, 1941, the meeting at Worcester City Hospital on December 10th made no mention of it in the Secretary's record. On January 14, 1942, a Blood Bank Committee was formed to act with the Red Cross and Office of Civilian Defense in the procurement of blood donations, and this led to the formation of the Worcester District Community Center for Aiding Transfusions, which organization purchased the Bowler Estate at 57 Cedar Street on July 27, 1942.

At this same meeting in January, a Medical Preparedness on Procurement and Assignment Committee was appointed and Dr. R. J. Ward was appointed the chairman. On February 5, 1942 the name of this committee was changed to the Worcester District Local Committee for Procurement and Assignment, and its duties were defined: "To provide information, assistance and advice to the State Committee in carrying out its function. Local Committees have no authority to make final decisions as to whether physicians are essential or non-essential."

On December 9, 1942, Medical Health Bureaus at the six Worcester Hospitals, using a rotating system of calling physicians, were instituted. The hospitals were: Worcester City, Memorial, Hahnemann, Belmont, Fairlawn, and Saint Vincent. It was published that those in need of emergency medical service could contact the hospital on call for that month and a physician from their list would respond. The above named institutions rotated on a monthly basis as a depository for medical aid.

The war activities of the Worcester District Medical Society may be briefly listed as the work of the Medical Procurement and Assignment Committee, the Civilian Health Committee, the Reviewing Committee, the page in the Medical News edited by Dr. Ralph Perkins and devoted to the members in the Armed Forces, and last, the continuation of the regular monthly meetings and monthly publication of the Medical News.

In a country geared for war production, the civilian population was hard pressed by rationing and lack of goods for purchase. Many commodities such as butter, coffee, canned goods, meat, automobiles, gasoline, oil, coal and tires were on a coupon basis. The local War Rationing Board was beset by urgent needs, and developed a hardened attitude, which could be lessened by those of gifted influence. The populace avidly awaited news dispatches on battle and campaign results with varied emotions. Those with an immediate member in the armed services suffered and fought the fight with fear on the home front. This was a period of sharpened tempers and conflicts of conscience for the members of the Society who, through subterfuge, remained static within the district.

To illustrate the unspoken remorse with the resultant oral defense, the Presidential Message of May 1943 is quoted: "In commendable public endeavors by speakers to influence qualified physicians to apply for commissions in the armed forces, it seems to us that rarely is due comment given to a deserving group. We refer to those of available age who are refused a commission because of physical defects, and particularly those who have sought opportunity to enlist their services, but have been declared

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unavailable or essential by the Procurement and Assignment Service.

"Few who have not been in a similar situation appreciate the state of mind or 'complex' developed by some of these patriotic men. We know they are delivering war service equal to any, but this is 'unheralded and unsung' and they too often find themselves sitting under scalding speech, well intended but undifferentiating. In World War I, we had the certificate of the Voluntary Medical Service Corps. Should not they have some distinction, at least the equivalent or better? We are not defending him who could be spared but withholds his services.

"My toast: To the patriotic medical men on the home front."

The author is a veteran of World War II and hence has a biased viewpoint in this portion of the history. To him the above statements are just balderdash because the Armed Services did not refuse a commission to any physician under the age of fifty-five years, and if a physical defect were present, he was placed on a limited duty status within the continental limits. If without his connivance, the member was placed on the essential list by the local Procurement and Assignment Committee, only a slight effort on his part and an indication of willingness to serve were the requisites to be placed on the available roll. Personalities of the younger physicians were an influencing factor in the decisions made by the committee. This is not meant to be a controversy, but the author was placed on the essential listing in the district, like a few of his confreres without his knowledge, but knew the mechanism of release so that he could serve. In the future it is hoped that the record of this trying episode in the District history will be helpful in avoiding the many errors committed in the times of extreme peril to our nation.

In the minutes of the meeting on December 14, 1944, an interesting commentary is noted: "The President pointed out that the Veterans' Committee, appointed this year, has been very active trying to draw up plans for the benefit of returning doctors to practice."

On January 10, 1945, to digress from the present disputation, a member from a Worcester hospital staff presented the following resolutions, which were voted:

"Whereas: This Society has traditionally emphasized the importance of placing competent men in public offices which require special medical training, and Whereas: This policy of the Society has recently been given expression in its recommendations regarding the office of Commissioner of Public Health in Worcester, and

"Whereas: Our recent state government has consistently followed a practice which parallels our policy and has, for example, filled the offices of Medical Examiners in Suffolk County with only qualified pathologists, all diplomates of the American Board of Pathology, and

"Whereas: The 11th Medical Examiner District is the second largest in the State and this Society is interested that the office of Medical Examiner in this district be conducted with efficiency and with credit to our profession,

"Be It Resolved: That this Society record itself as favoring the appointment of a qualified pathologist to the office of Medical Examiner in this District, and

"Be It Further Resolved: That this resolution be spread upon our records and that copies be sent to proper state officials."

This was a subversive act to dislodge the current incumbent, who held the position with honor and respect for many ears. Despite the black vote of the members present in approval, the wishes of the Society fortunately were of no avail.

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The Medical News at this time was the prime medium of expression of thought by the Society, and frequent mention of post-war planning was made. In the December 1944 issue an article appeared in this tenor, which strongly advocated that the charity of the members, cemented to the district environment, be shown to those paupers soon to be returning to the community, rusty in civilian practice. The service physician's reaction appeared in the January 1945 issue, foretelling revolution and is quoted entirely for the record:

"Much has been written recently in the Medical News concerning some type of concrete action to be taken relative to the physicians in the service of our country returning to their civilian practices. So far the entire planning is being developed by the stationary members. The idea is a very commendable one and will help those returning to adjust themselves more rapidly to the trials and tribulations of civilian practice.

"Apropos at the present time would be suggestions from those actually in service to aid those at home in trying to crystallize some form of concerted official action. The following is the opinion of the writer which has been formed from countless discussions with medical officers in the services, who have served their country, their families, and incidentally you fellow members, in this world wide conflict.

"Some of these statements will be difficult for one who has never been out there to understand, and I sincerely hope that you realize that they are made without malice, but rather in an honest effort to smooth the future path. The attitude of those returning will be very difficult at times for those who remained at home to fully comprehend.

"A man in combat forms very definite opinions lying in a foxhole night after night never knowing if this is to be his last resting place. He thinks of those at home, who are capitalizing on medicine and thereby giving an added impetus to governmental regimentation. He wonders if it has been worthwhile. The fact that he has given up his family, his professional income, his specialty or general practice, his normal advance on various hospital staffs, even down to his vacated offices, which have been rapidly refilled by your patriotic members. His only solace in these critical times is that he is fighting for his family and is attempting to fulfill his obligation to the best country in the world. He had given up everything gladly to answer the urgent call of our nation in distress. He cannot help but think of those who turned a deaf ear, through either selfishness or fear, to the frantic appeal for physicians to enter the service. He remembers the dubious function of the Procurement and Assignment Committee.

"Thus I am trying to explain why a man develops some degree of bitterness and becomes almost unbearably cynical in your eyes. Please be charitable in this regard as this is a perfectly normal reaction within those who really know what actual warfare is like.

"The suggestions are few and they can be very easily incorporated into the Medical Society's plan. Do not be sympathetic or charitable in your approach to the returning members; they want none of it. Do not ask them to recount their experiences. Remember that they are trying to forget, and those pages in their lives should be closed forever. It would be appreciated if the Society sees to it that in the restoration of hospital staffs, the service members be given their rightful places. It would be well if all those returning were offered the privilege of re-entering their old offices, even through some of them are occupied by you. It would be extremely thoughtful on your part to forego backbiting and spreading false rumors that the physician in the service is without sufficient practice to return to his specialty without further training.

"If the Society does not form an agreeable arrangement, then it is up to those returning to take over and fight for their rights. This has also been

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endlessly discussed in the service, and remember, organized action by this group should exert a powerful influence in our Society's future policies.

"These men are firmly resolved not to allow what happened after World War I. Empty promises which were soon forgotten, and the attitude that 'the conquering hero' be put at the foot of the ladder prevailed. As long as we follow the old adage, 'live and let live', I feel sure that the readjustment can be easily made to our mutual satisfaction.

"Do not include in your plans any idea of charity to those returning. It would be the wrong approach. They do not want civil positions, insurance work or industrial jobs handed to them on a silver platter by men who consider them the only means to earn their bread and butter. Although there will be a minority few who might need such help desperately in trying to salvage what is left of their former practices.

"There are two groups towards which your prime interest should be directed. First, the physician who entered the service at the completion of his internship or shortly thereafter. They might falsely like the security the Armed services offer in peacetime and they should be honestly advised by you as to the many more advantages of civilian practice. Secondly, the older age group, who volunteered, will not have much time to re-establish themselves before old age appears without security. This is not too much of a problem, as this type of man is definitely in the minority from Worcester County.

"The physician in the middle age class will find very little trouble in readjusting himself without outside aid, if the Society incorporates these suggestions into its future policies.

"In conclusion, the reader should remember that I am only trying to present the viewpoint of your brothers in the service. Many of you, I know, will not concur in these opinions presented, but nevertheless the fact remains that there are many problems confronting us. These problems can only be settled by careful thought and planning. There is still plenty of time for consideration, as the end is still not in sight. It is the fond hope of those in the Service that the District Medical Society does not assume the Chamberlain attitude of trying to sidestep the real issue at hand. Rather let them face the true facts, trying to quench the fire at the beginning before the post-war conflagration has an opportunity to start."

This prophecy went unheeded by the District Society, which could have applied the unguent to heal the wound. To further the resentment of those absentees, it is recorded in the minutes of the September 1945 meeting the following: "The Committee received a letter from one of the members in the Armed Forces, asking the Society to transmit a resolution to our Representatives in Congress. The Committee after careful consideration revised the motion to read as follows:

"TO: Senators, David I. Walsh, Leverett Saltonstall. Representatives, Pehr G. Holmes, Philip J. Philbin.

"WHEREAS: 1. Many medical officers now in the Armed Forces of the United States have been absent from their homes and civilian practices for two years and, or more.

"2. Many communities in this section of Massachusetts are in urgent need of medical practitioners.

"3. It is reported that eligible recent graduates in medicine, who have been educated at public expense, are now being excused from service, by being placed on the inactive list instead of being sent to replace those who have fulfilled the obligations in good measure.

"BE IT RESOLVED: That the Worcester District Medical Society, in regular meeting convened, respectfully urge (1) that you exercise your influence to expedite the release from the Armed services of such veterans, who were taken from established practices, medical officers who have

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served satisfactorily two years or more, and who now are needed in their homes and communities. (2) That you similarly strive to rectify the apparent injustices called to your attention in paragraph 3, above."

After much discussion, including two members who were in the Armed Forces, it was voted to accept this motion. This, despite the fact that V-E day (Victory in Europe) was in May 1945 and V-J day (Victory in Japan) on August 14, 1945. The physicians in the service were to be inactivated on an unattainable point system and felt that the government, in gratitude for their services, was holding the Medical Corps within its supervision until the basic controls for federalized medicine were well executed.

Here it should be properly recorded that on December 10, 1947, the following non-members of the District, who died in service, were made members of the district Society. "Be it resolved that Peter Demeter, Joseph Godomski, Francis Robinson and Stephen Smith be admitted to membership posthumously to the Worcester District Medical Society and the Secretary be so instructed to inform the relatives of the deceased." The biographies of the war dead from the District are herein listed:

Raymond Anthony Dunn, Lieut. (j.g.) M.C., U.S.N.R., was born in Biddeford, Main in 1910. He received his medical degree at Tufts Medical School in 1935. He interned at St. Vincent Hospital in 1935-36, became a member of its staff, and was in general practice in Worcester from 1936 to 1942. He was a member of the Worcester District Medical Society, Massachusetts Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. In the fall of 1942 he received his commission in the Navy. During the invasion of Sicily he was lost aboard the U.S.S. Maddox on July 9, 1943.

Stephen William Smith, Jr., Lieut., M.C., U.S.N.R., was born in Hamden, Connecticut and graduated from Tufts Medical School in 1940. Upon completion of his internship at the Worcester Memorial Hospital in 1941, he entered the service. He was lost aboard the U.S.S. Ingraham in August 1942 in Atlantic waters.

Francis Clay Robinson, Lieut., M.C., U.S.N.R., was born in Ravenswood, West Virginia on August 27, 1915, and graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1940. Upon completing his internship at the Worcester City Hospital on June 30, 1942, he became Medical Resident, in which position he served until July 1, 1943, when he received his commission in the navy. While on detached duty as medical officer with the fourth Marine Division, he was killed in action on Iwo Jima, February 19, 1945. He is survived by his widow.

Paul Thomas Hayes, Capt., M.C., A.U.S., was born on May 3, 1909 in Taunton, Massachusetts. He graduated from Tufts Medical School in 1935 and interned at the Worcester Memorial Hospital from 1935 to 1936. He practiced in Milford and was on the staff of the Milford Hospital. He was killed by sniper fire in France on October 1, 1945. He is survived by his widow and three children.

Peter Leo Demeter, Capt., M.C., A.U.S., was born on July 12, 1914, in North Grosvenordale, Connecticut. He graduated from the Middlesex College of Medicine in 1938, and interned at the Columbus Hospital in Buffalo, New York, for one year. He then opened his office for the practice of medicine in Webster. He received his commission in the Army of the United States on November 1, 1942. He was killed by a landmine near Florence, Italy, on July 26, 1944. He is survived by wife and daughter.

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Joseph Anthony Gadowski, 1st. Lieut., M.C., A.U.S., was born on July 26, 1915, and graduated from the Boston University School of Medicine in 1943. After interning at St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester, from March 1, 1943 to November 30, 1943, he entered the military service; assigned to the 320th Medical Battalion, 95th Division, he went overseas in July 1944; he served in England, France, Belgium, and Germany; he was taken ill on January 1, 1945 and died suddenly on the following day. His parents lived at 15 Nashua Street, Clinton, Mass.

James Alexander Givan, Lieut. Comdr., M.C., U.S.N.R., was born in Somerville, Massachusetts in 1899. He graduated from Tufts Medical School in 1922 and interned at the Worcester City Hospital from 1922 to 1924. He was appointed to the staff of this hospital in 1925 and rose to the position of Assistant Orthopedic Surgeon. Entering the naval service in August 1942, he was assigned to the U.S. Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia, where he became Chief of the Orthopedic Service. He died suddenly at his station on November 14, 1943. He was a member of the Worcester District Medical Society, Massachusetts Medical Society, American Medical Association, Boston Orthopedic Society, a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. Surviving him are his widow, the former Thelma Brown and four children.

To these physicians, who answered their country's call and who paid the supreme sacrifice, we, the living, give thanks for their unselfish devotion and staunch loyalty, unequalled in the history of the Worcester District Medical Society.

In the record of March 14, 1946, the Veteran's Committee reported that a listing of names of returned veteran physicians in the daily papers had been accomplished.

The Hayes Education Fund was instituted on April 10, 1946, and is herein entered:

"It is therefore moved:

1. That a Paul T. Hayes Educations Fund be established by the Worcester District Medical Society.
2. That the fund be raised by a contribution of fifteen (15) or more dollars from each member of the Worcester District Medical Society. This is to be collected by the Society Treasurer, with the help of the Hayes Committee.
3. That the Fund so collected and any subsequent contributions for this purpose to be turned over to the Worcester Medical Library, Inc., to be invested and administered and spent by its Board of Trustees in such manner as the Board's wisdom and judgement may dictate, primarily for the higher education of those of the Hayes children that desire it and are considered by the Trustees to be worthy, and for any urgent help that in the opinion of the trustees may be required by the Hayes family, or any of its members.
- 4 During the operation of this fund, that the Board shall include in its Annual Report to the Medical Library, Inc., a statement concerning the affairs of the Hayes family and concerning the condition of the fund.
5. That if other resources shall be deemed adequate by the Board, or when it feels that the purposes of the Fund have been fulfilled, the Board shall return what remains of this Hayes Educations Fund to the Worcester District Medical Society for such disposition as the Society may determine.

Joseph Ashkins, Chairman,

Herbert E. Hedberg, Edward J. Crane, Joseph Millin,

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Henry L. Kirkendall, Andrew E. O'Connell

Amended: Subject to the advice of legal council and so voted."

It is noted that by November 1947, a total of slightly over \$5,000 had been contributed to this Fund and it was transferred to the Worcester Medical Library, Inc., for administration.

SEVENTEEN

THE POST-WAR YEARS

Postwar discontent was rumbling within the Society and with the publication of the April issue of the Medical News in 1946, the report of the Nominating Committee differentiated the classification of the members, by the appellation of "Vet" or "Veteran" following certain nominee's names, and carefully placed physicians in this category on positions without importance. The Annual Meeting date, May 8, 1946, arrived at the Wachusett Country Club, and instead of the routine of having the Secretary cast one ballot for the slate of nominations, a volcano erupted when the veteran physicians presented nominations from the floor. By method of a block vote and printing of a ballot of their own choice, which was declared legal (the Society had neglected to make similar preparations), the entire slate was swept into office, leaving in its wake the ashes of a stunned group of older members, who were amply warned of the coming cataclysm but ignored it as impossible. The reverberations were felt for many years within the Society, but those who were the causative factor in the occurrence, denied the guilt and placed it squarely on the shoulders of the Maddox Society. As time lessened the bitterness, it proved that this was the shot in the arm that the staid old graybeards needed, for concerted activity reached a new high, with harmony and peace descending again in our midst. The members knew not the history of our founding, born of rebellion against the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1794.

In October 1946, the record takes cognizance of the one hundredth anniversary of Dr. William Thomas Green Morton's demonstration of ether administration at the Massachusetts General Hospital on October 16, 1846. Dr. Morton was born in Charlton within the confines of our district and removed to Boston in the practice of dentistry.

At the February 11, 1948 meeting, there were two items of interest; the formation of a newspaper censorship committee on local medical news releases, and the vote to organize a Women's Auxiliary.

On April 14, 1948, the Patient Coverage Committee was formed. This later became the Emergency Medical Service Committee and made physicians available from a listing at the Chamber of Commerce for persons seeking medical service.

A National Medical Service Committee was appointed at this time; the purpose was to keep the Society informed in the future of any emergencies developing in the defense plans of this country. Through the efforts of our district, a State National Emergency Committee was formed in the fall of 1948. In December of that year, a Public Health Advisory Committee was appointed to work with the Commissioner of Public Health.

With the outbreak of hostilities in Korea in June 1950, the Society found itself in another war. Although the call for physicians was not large, due to the relatively small size of the forces involved, it received no mention at all in the minutes book.

On February 28, 1951, the Middlesex West District Society was formed within the Massachusetts Medical Society, and our members were

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Worcester Auditorium - MMS Meeting May, 1949

thereby reduced by eleven from Milford and two from Hopedale, which two communities were included in the new division.

The Worcester Chest X-Ray Program, under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Health, was conducted from July 9th to August 30, 1952. The District Society was actively engaged in this project and a complete account is presented for the record.

The preparation for this tremendous campaign was started in February of that year. Officials of sixteen occupational and service groups met in the Medical Library to consider the proposal of conducting a city-wide chest X-Ray program. It was to give Worcester adults a chance to find out whether they had tuberculosis or other chest diseases such as tumors, lung cancer, and certain heart diseases. The U.S. Public Health Service paid for the program along with about \$25,000 to be raised locally. There was no charge to anyone having an x-ray taken. The plan on the surface was quickly endorsed by three hundred representatives of civic, fraternal, veteran, religious, business and medical organizations.

The city of Worcester contributed \$13,700 for the mass X-Ray program, while civic and health groups added \$20,000 to this figure. The city found a use for its biggest white elephant, the Glenwood Building, on the corner of Franklin and Orange Streets, which became headquarters of the X-Ray Campaign.

Officers were elected, a Director named, and an eighteen member Executive Committee formed. Ten other committees were organized, each with a particular duty. Besides the Medical Committee, there were an Administrative Committee, a Business Labor and Industry Committee, and Committees for Schools, Finance, Location Planning, Nursing, Social Service, Volunteer Training, and Public Information. Never had so many people in our city worked together for so long for such a common cause. Labor, management, nationality groups, public health and medical groups, rich and poor, all broke bread at the same table. At the start of the program 3,500 men and women were assigned as volunteers.

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Meanwhile, the U.S. Public Health Service came to town with two million dollars in equipment, including eighteen x-ray trucks and sixty technicians. The hours of planning and effort never were tallied. But along with the 3,500 volunteers, it took half a million pieces of literature, hundreds of newspaper stories and pictures, radio commercials and programs, window displays and billboards, movies and meetings, to sell the program to the public. A record-smashing 153,510 x-rays were taken, exceeding the original goal by 22% and establishing the highest national average (97% coverage) achieved under the program anywhere.

The most important report was from the Medical committee, authored by Dr. Nicholas Scarcello. As Executive Chairman of the program's Medical Committee, he did much to steer its policies, handling the back-breaking task of compiling all survey statistics.

The report begins: "The Medical Committee has been unable to determine the birth and parenthood of the Worcester Chest X-Ray Program to date." And it ends: "This survey has not proven anything to us that we did not know already. It definitely has increased our mistrust of federal government undertakings, especially those in which Mr. Ewing (Oscar R. Ewing, Federal Security Administrator) has even a passing fancy. The Medical Society's entrance into the X-Ray Program was anything but unanimous."

Members felt that the Worcester Public Health Department, through Dr. Alexander Witkow, helped to push the survey into being before the Society had a chance to turn it down. For the first time in twenty-two city surveys, the local Medical Society took the play away from the U.S. Public Health Service in developing policy. The Society insisted that the survey be fact-finding and no diagnosis be made or implied. It insisted on setting up its own x-ray review panel of radiologists to read the 14x17 inch x-ray films instead of letting the U.S. Public Health Service handle this program. It insisted on deleting the use of the word "free" from all program publications and from the sides of the x-ray trucks. It insisted on a legal contract with the U.S. Public Health Service, saying that federal officials would not be entitled to any facts or figures unless released by and with the approval of the Society. The federal group had its own contract calling for specific information from the survey, but the Medical Society would not sign.

The facts showed that thirty-eight new active cases of tuberculosis were discovered, while 1,209 suspect cases were revealed. Final study found 117 cases of tuberculosis in one state of activity or another, including the 38 new active cases. The census at Belmont Hospital showed that the mass x-ray survey did nothing to change the patient load there from the previous year. Worcester stood in sixth place out of eighteen other cities that had community wide x-ray surveys. Thirty-one of the new active cases were Worcester residents and seven were from the county towns.

Only thirteen previously unknown heart cases were discovered out of 153,510 x-rays. The Worcester chapter of the American Heart Association contributed \$1000 from its collective pocket and took a lively interest in the city's project.

Seventy-four cancer suspects were revealed in this program. The suspects were only of lung cancer but the final figure was a probable twenty positives. This report mentioned a recent British survey with resultant study saying, "It is concluded the association between smoking and cancer of the lung is real."

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A brief analysis showed:

- (1) 2,095 individuals were recalled and had 14x17 inch x-rays taken.
- (2) 2,312 were referred to their family physicians.
- (3) 193 were referred to hospital clinics.
- (4) 1,796 or 77.6% of referred persons by October 14th had already reported to their physician of choice, as shown by returned reports, leaving only 109 who had failed to report, and 407 on whom returns are not back as of this date. Sixty-nine or 92% of suspected neoplasm cases had reported. Three hundred sixty or 92% of suspected cardiac patients had seen their physicians.

On Tuesday, June 9, 1953, at approximately 5 P.M., without any warning, the most disastrous tornado in New England history cut a swathe forty miles in length through Worcester County. The most lethal force of this twister hit in northern Worcester (Greendale section), Holden and Shrewsbury, in an assault of fifteen minutes' duration. It began in Petersham, travelled through Barre, Rutland, Holden, Worcester, Shrewsbury, Westboro and ended in Southboro; it forked in Shrewsbury with a portion of the storm going through Grafton and Upton. The death toll was 92 persons, and it caused injury to 1,310. The property damage was estimated at \$60,000,000. Smashed into shambles were 634 houses, while another 2,791 were partly destroyed, with a third requiring major reconstruction. A total of 10,000 people suddenly were homeless. Assumption College and High School, perched on the highest hill in Greendale, suffered damage estimated at \$3,000,000.

A state of emergency was immediately declared; Civil Defense quickly put its plan into action; the National Guard was on the scene before dark. The disaster area had the look of a war zone as uniformed guardsmen with rifles, and 140 State Policemen moved in. The hospitals overflowed with victims; Hahnemann treated 250, Worcester City, 240; Memorial, 228; Doctors, 124; and St. Vincent, 108. Other hospitals in the area gave additional service.

The Red Cross issued the following statement in their final tornado accounting, "In connection with our published annual financial statement and tornado accounting, one comment is added, even though it is unfair to single out any particular group of Worcester citizens for praise in their selfless assistance to the tornado victims. Of the medical and nursing expenditures of \$114,996.93, only \$467 went to doctors and this was mostly for home calls on long continuing cases. Even more difficult, from the doctor's point of view, than the services they rendered without charge, was the fact that hospitals could not take in other than emergency cases for some weeks, so that their regular income stopped. So many doctors were involved under the leadership of Dr. John B. Butts, head of the local Medical Society, that you can be quite sure that your doctor was one of those who made a substantial sacrifice. All of us, not the least the Red Cross, give credit to such marked devotion to assisting our citizens at a time when assistance was needed."

Our Society contributed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to the Central Massachusetts Disaster Committee.

The Hurricane in September 1938 in this area, had killed 17, injured 166 and caused \$5,000,000 property damage. But compared to the tornado, it was a mild muscle-flexing.

In March 1954, the Worcester Medical Library purchased the adjoining property at 55 Cedar Street from Becker Junior College.

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This history is now complete to May of 1954. The Worcester District Medical Society has a long and enviable past. The present finds no superior in the state. It will live on, surviving all changes, keeping fully abreast with all advances. Not only shall the abiding affections and veneration of its members, not only shall the confidence and support of the people for whose welfare it exists, ever be its guide and support, but also it shall increase and expand in honor and usefulness. If the Worcester District Medical Society shall be true to its history, and equal to the opportunities that await it, it shall receive its just reward in the invocation of the blessings of a grateful posterity.

APPENDICES

1. Meeting Places
2. Members who Served in Time of War
3. Presidents of the District Society
4. Presidents of the State Society from Worcester
5. Donors to the Medical Library and Society
6. Property Holdings of the Medical Library, Inc.
7. Contributors to the Cook Historical Room
8. Property at the American Antiquarian Society

APPENDIX ONE

MEETING PLACES

It is of great interest to follow the Society through the years at the places of the meetings, for it tells the story of the wanderings until finally a home to rest their tired meandering bodies was acquired by ownership, and the dream visualized and ardently hoped for by many of the prominent members through its history, became a reality.

In the original minute book, it was taken for granted that everyone knew the meeting place and hence there was no reason to put it in the record. We know that the Worcester Medical Society from its inception in 1794, in Worcester, met yearly and sometimes semi-annually. The first mention of a specific site was on June 8, 1802; the word "Rutland" made its appearance. Again on November 9th of the same year a similar note was entered, and on June 14, 1803, the Society met in the same town. But on June 11, 1804, specific mention of "house of Thomas Reed's, Rutland" pinpointed the meeting place in that town, and (sad to relate) investigation revealed that this house was a tavern on the post road, well kept and with a good name, but evidently the members intended to enjoy the meetings to their fullest. On September 26, 1804, "Capt. Daniel Heywood's Tavern" in Worcester was host to the meeting. So it is only correct to surmise that this was the spot where approximately forty physicians gathered in 1794 to form the Society, although Barker's Tavern and the United States Arms Hotel have been mentioned by various historians, without foundation, as the original site of the meeting.

According to local history, Daniel Heywood in 1722 opened a tavern on Main Street at what is now the northeast corner of Main and Exchange Streets. Here a thriving business was done with the growing population until 1805, when ownership was transferred and it became known as Chapin's Inn, with a succession of William Chamberlain, Samuel Hathaway and Alvin Robinson, until 1826, when it was called the C.S. Stockwell House. In 1832 the same site was named the Central Hotel, and in 1855 the Bay State House. This was a popular hotel which remained in existence until well into the early twentieth century.

So the early meetings were held in Rutland alternately at the tavern of Thomas Reed until 1803 and then in Worcester until October 3, 1838, at the site of Capt. Daniel Heywood's Tavern. On this date, mention was made of the transference of the meeting place from the Central Hotel to the American Temperance House, which was located at the corner of Main and Foster Street in Worcester. This remained the appointed place of meeting until 1856, when the Society returned to the original site of the meetings, now called the Bay State House.

In 1858, the teetotalers were in the majority because for the first time in its long history of meeting in taverns, a long step towards sobriety was recorded when the appointed place of meeting, "Hall of the Young Men's Library Association, in the Bank Block" was entered in the record. This was just around the southeast corner on Foster Street next to the Railroad Station. Here the meetings were conducted in this proper atmosphere until the City Library Building was erected on Elm Street and, on January 8, 1862, the first gathering was held in these sumptuous quarters. At this place the Society met exclusively until 1887 with a few peregrinations listed; October 20, 1865, special meeting at the home of Dr. Sargent on Main Street; September 13, 1882 Worcester Lunatic Hospital on Summer Street; and November 8, 1882 at the Worcester City Hospital to inspect the new buildings.

It was the custom following the morning meeting at the City Library, to

MEETING PLACES

adjourn to either the Lincoln House (now the site of Poli's Theatre on Elm Street) or the Bay State House to dine. In 1887, the Society graciously changed the meeting place to Insurance Hall, 240 Main Street, as the city Library was rapidly expanding and gradually the Medical Library was transferred to under the eaves.

On September 10, 1890, the record noted a change, to "parlors of the Bay State House". From 1891 until 1895, Grange Hall at 244 Main Street was the appointed place of the meetings. The Board of Trade rooms at 11 Foster Street was host to the September meeting in 1895. In 1896, the record stated that the April session was held at the G.A.R. Hall, 344 Main Street; and the September gathering at the G.A. R. Hall, 4 Walnut Street. In March 1897, the Bay State House was chosen and conviviality reigned until January of 1898, when the members returned to the G.A.R. Hall in the Day Building.

The State Mutual Building restaurant was the locus in January 1899, and it was here that the first night meeting was held in March of that year, the call to order being at 6:30 P.M. In September 1899 began the schedule of eight monthly meetings, on the second Wednesday of the month, with the call at 4:30 P.M. and dinner at 6 P.M.

In May 1900 the location was switched to the Day Building and, due to contractual difficulties or conflict of dates, November 1900 saw the Bay State House as the host; May 1901, the Lincoln House; and then a return to the Day Building in September 1901 to hibernate until 1904.

The annual meeting on May 11, 1904 demonstrated the robust appetite and virility of the members. At the adjournment of the session at the City Library, the dinner was held at the Overlook Hotel in Charlton, a feat of pedestrianism in those days, even though most of the travel was by means of electric cars. The City Library was utilized until March 1905, when the City Hospital furnished the quarters for the meetings.

The Thule Building was used for the appointed place from 1905 until City Hospital again entered the record on February 13, 1907. The members gathered in the Winslow Surgery Amphitheater and were treated to a talented display by the scalpel wielders.

The Odd Fellows Hall was then selected as the site of the sessions from May 8, 1907 until the dove of peace settled over the heads of the members. An unusual and fraternal union meeting was held with the Worcester North District on April 13, 1909 at the Sterling Town Hall. This was the first communion since the secession of fifty-one years before in 1858. The attendance numbered one hundred nineteen (119) and the transportation was by electric car. This meeting was considered quite a success and as the assembly was held on native soil in our district, it was voted to return the concession at some future date.

The annual meeting on May 12, 1909 was held at the Automobile Club, and the Society returned to the Odd Fellows Hall at 674 Main Street for the rest of the year. The Quinsigamond Boat Club on Lake Avenue entertained the members on May 11, 1910 at the annual meeting. From the fall of 1910 until 1914, the Society alternated between the Cotillion Hall and the Terpsichorean Hall, both located at 311 Main Street.

On January 14, 1914, the G.A.R. Hall at 55 Pearl Street, filled with medical memories, made its re-entrance into the record. This hallowed spot was utilized almost exclusively except for sporadic excursions until 1920. On May 14, 1914 the annual meeting was held at the Hotel Bancroft, then recently erected. On December 9, 1914 the members met at the Putnam Ward of Belmont Hospital to inspect the new tuberculosis unit. On February 15, 1915, due to a revival of faith, we met in the chapel at the Worcester State Asylum to ponder the question of the establishment of a Psychopathic Hospital at the Summer Street Extension. The annual meeting on May 12, 1915, was held at the Worcester Country Club. A joining of clasped hands occurred at the Sterling Inn on March 15, 1915, when twenty members of Worcester North District Medical Society united with forty-eight members of our District to discuss mutual problems. The Worcester State Hospital entertained with a psychiatric program in their auditorium on March 8, 1916. Due to a conflict of dates, the Society met at the Odd Fellows Hall on April 12, 1916. The Bancroft Hotel again was utilized for the annual meeting on May 10, 1916. On February 14, 1917, the Grafton State Hospital was a gracious host for the assembly. The annual affair was held this year at the State Mutual restaurant.

APPENDIX

It is of interest to note that on October 9, 1918, the scheduled meeting was canceled due to the influenza epidemic. The attendance during the war years was small, averaging between twenty and twenty-five members. The Worcester State Hospital provided the meeting place on April 16, 1919. The annual assembly graced the table of the State Mutual restaurant that year.

The memorable cleavage with the G.A.R. Hall occurred on May 14, 1920, when the Red Men's Hall, 19 Pearl Street, became the appointed place until 1921, except for a meeting at Memorial Hospital on January 12, 1921. On April 13, 1921, the members enjoyed the out-patient department of the Worcester City Hospital. The Tatnuck Country Club was host to the Annual Meeting on May 11, 1921.

On September 14, 1921, while in session at the Worcester State Hospital on Summer Street, it was voted to hold the meetings of September, October, November, March and April in the evenings, while those of December, January and February would be in the afternoon. Also it was voted to have one meeting each year outside of Worcester.

The pedagogic influence infiltrated the Society, or rather the display of an ostentatious atmosphere, in a union meeting with Worcester North held on October 12, 1921, in the Assembly Room of Clark College, at which the attendance was seventy-eight persons. On December 14, 1921, the members were invited to inspect the new wing at the Saint Vincent Hospital and listen to papers by the staff.

Red Men's Hall was utilized on January 11, 1922; Memorial Hospital on February 8th; University Club, 377 Main Street, on March 8th; and the chapel of the Worcester State Hospital on April 12th. On May 10, 1922, the journey to the Lancaster Mills Inn in Clinton was made to hold the annual meeting.

The University Club Rooms appeared in the record on September 13, 1922. The Society emigrated to the Burbank Hospital in Fitchburg on October 31, 1922, when twenty hardy souls from this district made the long journey to assuage the Worcester North members, in a union meeting.

The Society instituted a new policy in public relations and on November 6, 1922, held an open meeting in Horticultural Hall, 18 Front Street, on "The Prevention and Control of Cancer". Three hundred persons attended, and the first attempt was deemed moderately successful. On December 13, 1922, the G.A.R. Hall was utilized for the last time.

The first meeting of the year 1923, on January 10th, met with the obstacle of a heavy snow storm, and the forty-five members who finally ploughed their way through the drifts to the Worcester State Hospital, to arrive by the call at 4:40 P.M., were well rewarded after the adjournment. To quote from the record, "Adjourned at 7 P.M. to the dining room to a most beautiful and delicious lunch. The decorations of the room and the waitresses were most gorgeous. Instrumental music continued throughout the meal."

Not to be outdone by a sister institution, the Worcester City Hospital on February 14, 1923, was host to the meeting in the Out-patient Department with staff papers being presented. To quote again from the record, "After the staff papers the hospital trustees entertained at luncheon. For those who stayed after lunch, a real treat was in store in the form of music given by the Nurses Glee Club."

This type of royal entertainment came to an abrupt end on March 14, 1923, at the Saint Vincent Hospital, where seventy-five members enjoyed staff papers, followed by a lunch, served by the amply garbed nuns with no music.

Memorial Hospital continued with this type of a subdued meeting on April 11, 1923. The Tatnuck Country Club was the rendezvous for that year's annual meeting.

The University Club rooms were utilized in September, and on October 10, 1923, a union meeting with Worcester North was held at the Worcester State Hospital, with one hundred forty attending. Grafton State Hospital was the host in November and the Boston Store restaurant in December.

January 9, 1924 found the members at Saint Vincent Hospital; the February meeting was held at Memorial Hospital; Worcester City Hospital entertained in March. On April 11, 1924, at the High School of Commerce, a most successful public meeting was held with over eleven hundred persons present to hear the history of preventive medicine; Mayor O'Hara gave the address of welcome.

MEETING PLACES

Tatnuck Country Club was host for the Annual Meeting.

On September 10, 1924, fifty-six members journeyed to Beacon Park in Webster to attend the meeting. After sparring for the few years previous, it is sad to relate that the Society became a group of free-loaders, holding successive meetings at Rutland State, Grafton State, Worcester State, City, Memorial, and the Saint Vincent Hospitals. On April 8, 1925, Elks Hall was the site of the third public meeting, and one thousand attended to hear Dr. James J. Walsh of New York speak on "Funny Things That Cure". The annual gathering was held at the Worcester Country Club.

On September 9, 1925, our Society in its last magnanimous gesture of friendship, held a union meeting with Worcester North at the Worcester Country Club with seventy-two attending. Again Grafton State in October and Worcester State in November were the appointed places of the meeting. The Boston Store restaurant appeared in the record for the December call. January 13, 1926, saw the Worcester City Hospital as the host, while the February 10th meeting at the Saint Vincent Hospital was postponed by a severe snowstorm sine die. Memorial Hospital entertained on March 11th. The last public meeting was held at the Elks Hall on Elm Street on April 16th, with only two hundred appearing to hear Dr. E.H. Place of Boston speak on "No Diphtheria in Worcester by 1930". The Worcester Country Club was the host for the annual meeting.

The September meeting was at the Rutland State Hospital, and that of November at the Worcester State Hospital. On November 10, 1926, the spacious quarters of the Worcester Chamber of Commerce at 32 Franklin Street held the gathering, and after adjournment the members dined at the Bancroft. This practice continued until the March meeting of 1927 when the conclave was held in Knowles Hall at Memorial Hospital. In April the affair was at the Grafton State Hospital. The Worcester Country Club again was the site of the annual meeting.

The September call was at the new U.S. Veteran's Hospital in Rutland; back to the Chamber of Commerce in October; then to Hahnemann Hospital in November; the Society hedge-hopped back to the Chamber of Commerce for December, January and March; the February meeting was held at the Worcester State Hospital, and that in April at the Grafton State Hospital. The now usual site of the May meeting was the Worcester Country Club.

The circuit began in September 1928 at Rutland State, then to the Chamber of Commerce for October, November, December and January, to the Worcester State in February, Worcester City in March, Grafton State in April, and it ended in May at the Worcester Country Club. The January meeting of this year was unusual as the first joint session with the Worcester Dental Society was held with one hundred fifty persons in attendance.

The kickoff conclave in September 1929 was at the Worcester Chamber of Commerce; November in the Crystal Room at the Bancroft Hotel; December at Memorial Hospital; January at Worcester State; February at Hahnemann Hospital; March at Grafton State; April at Worcester City Hospital; and in May the Wachusett Country Club was selected for the annual meeting.

The fall of 1930 presented the same variant migration: September at the Chamber of Commerce; October at Rutland State; November at the Chamber of Commerce; December at the Saint Vincent Hospital; January at the Chamber of Commerce; February at Worcester State; March at Memorial Hospital; April at Grafton State; and May at the Wachusett Country Club.

September of 1931 found the members at Rutland State; October, November and December at the Chamber of Commerce; January at Worcester City Hospital; February at the Worcester State; March at Memorial Hospital; April at the Grafton State. The annual meeting on May 11, 1932 was at the Cohasset Country Club in Southbridge.

On September 14, 1932 the Society inspected the Putnam Ward at Belmont Hospital and held its meeting there; October at Grafton State; November at Hahnemann Hospital; December at the Chamber of Commerce, the last meeting listed in the record at this location; January at Worcester City Hospital; February at the Worcester State Hospital; March at Memorial Hospital; April 12th at the Rutland State Hospital, which one hundred forty-five attended, (and during which session the worst snow storm since 1888 commenced); May at the Worcester Country Club.

The Tatnuck Country Club was the site of the September 1933 meeting.

APPENDIX

October's was at Rutland State; November at Grafton State; December at the Saint Vincent Hospital; January at Worcester City Hospital; February at the Worcester State Hospital; March at Memorial Hospital; April at Hahnemann Hospital; and May at the Worcester Country Club.

The monotonous monthly schedule of the meetings is being listed yearly from the record because they vary slightly and for this reason it is felt necessary to complete the story. The September call in 1934 was at the Worcester County Sanatorium in West Boylston to give the members the opportunity of viewing this new tuberculosis institution; October at Rutland State; November at Grafton State; December at the Saint Vincent Hospital; January at Worcester City Hospital; February at Worcester State Hospital; March at Memorial Hospital; April at Hahnemann Hospital; and May at the Worcester Country Club.

During these years the country was in a marked depression; hospital beds were in a heavy surplus and the hospitals in the District were very anxious to play the host to the members, feeling, by this indirect method of advertising, that with the improvement of the times their census would be raised for their past kindnesses. The monthly schedule listed above for 1934-1935 remained the same, as regards the site and month, until October 1951 when the New Medical Library Hall in the rear of 57 Cedar Street then became the place of the monthly sessions. This has continued to the present writing.

The only variations in the hosts of the assemblies were the September and May meetings. September 1935 had the distinction of two calls; the first on the 11th at Fairlawn Hospital, and the second, a special meeting, on the 25th to inspect the new Holmes Building at Belmont Hospital. On September 23, 1936, Milford Hospital in Milford was the place of the meeting and, after adjournment, the members enjoyed dinner at the Community Hall in Hopedale. Following this, Belmont Hospital assumed a permanent spot for the September meeting until 1950, when in March the Society voted to omit the September session from the schedule.

The annual meetings in May were held at the Worcester Country Club until 1943, when the Grand View Country Club in Boylston was substituted. In 1944, the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary meeting and dinner was held at the Bancroft Hotel. The record stated that the wives of the members attended the banquet. This was the first time in the history of the Society that the fair sex were present in such numbers at the annual dinner; previously the affair was strictly stag except for an occasional brave female member's making her appearance.

In May 1945, the Society returned to the Worcester Country Club without distaffs. From 1946 through 1948, the Wachusett Country Club (formerly the Grandview Country Club) was the annual host. In May 1949, the members, in sorrow for the dereliction, held the affair at the Sheraton Hotel (formerly The Bancroft), at which their wives attended a cocktail hour, another innovation, and the banquet. As such the annual meeting and dinner have been held at the Sheraton Hotel to the present.

APPENDIX TWO

WORCESTER DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS WHO SERVED THEIR COUNTRY IN TIME OF WAR.

The War of the Revolution is not recorded in this roster for our parent Society was formed in 1794 and there is no true account of the previous conflict. The War of 1812 evidently was of small moment for no history of any activity of the members could be located.

Dr. Philip H. Cook in February 1947 published a listing of the members who served in the armed forces of the United States during the four wars in which this country was engaged, between 1861 and 1945.

HONOR ROLL (KILLED OR DIED IN SERVICE)

CIVIL WAR

Haven, Samuel F., Jr., Worcester
Hunt, Franklin L., West Boylston

WORLD WAR I

Beal, Howard W., Worcester
Phelan, Edward F., North Brookfield

WORLD WAR II

Demeter, Peter L., Webster
Dunn, Raymond A., Worcester
Gadomski, Joseph D., Clinton
Givan, James A., Worcester
Hayes, Paul T., Milford
Robinson, F. Clay, Worcester
Smith, Stephen W., Worcester

[A complete list of Worcester District Medical Society members who served in the Armed Forces during wartime from the Civil War through most of the Korean War is available at W.D.M.S. headquarters. -ed]

APPENDIX THREE

PRESIDENTS OF THE WORCESTER DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

John Frink	1794-1804
Israel Atherton	1804-1806
Oliver Fiske	1806-1807
Thomas Babbitt	1807-1813
Abraham Haskell	1813-1814
Jonathan Osgood	1814-1820
Abraham Haskell	1820-1825
Stephen Batcheller, Jr.	1825-1830
John Green	1830-1837
Edward Flint	1837-1840
Benjamin Franklin Heywood	1840-1842
Charles Woodward Wilder	1842-1844
Joseph Stone	1844-1846
William Workman	1846-1849
John George Metcalf	1849-1851
Benjamin Pond	1851-1853
Thomas Richardson Boutelle	1853-1855
Charles Miles Fay	1855-1857
Joshua Jewett Johnson	1857-1858
Alfred Hitchcock	1858-1859
Oramel Martin	1859-1862
Calvin Park Fiske	1862-1864
Joseph Sargent	1864-1866
Moses Daniels Southwick	1866-1869
Rufus Woodward	1869-1870
Chauncey Adams Wilcox	1870-1872
Thomas Hovey Gage	1872-1874
Joseph Thomas Odiorne West	1874-1876
Henry Clarke	1876-1878
Frederick Davis Brown	1878-1880
Emerson Warner	1880-1882
Edwin Bayard Harvey	1882-1884
Albert Wood	1884-1886
George Clark Webber	1886-1888
Joseph Marcus Rice	1888-1890
George Brown	1890-1891
George Ebenezer Francis	1891-1893
Franklin Whiting Brigham	1893-1895
Leonard Wheeler	1895-1897
Perley Pierce Comey	1897-1899
Wesley Davis	1899-1901
Edward Reed Wheeler	1901-1902
Samuel Bayard Woodward	1902-1903
Walter Prentice Bowers	1903-1904
Oliver Hurd Everett	1904-1905
Ephraim Wood Norwood	1905-1906
David Harrower	1906-1907
Ernest Varian Scribner	1907-1908
William Gilman Reed	1908-1909

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

Lemuel Fox Woodward	1909-1910
Albert Cobly Getchell	1910-1911
Charles Albert Church	1911-1912
John Thomas Duggan	1912-1913
Homer Gage	1913-1914
Frank Horace Clapp	1914-1915
Ray Woodville Greene	1915-1916
George Otis Ward	1916-1917
Michael Francis Fallon	1917-1918
William Louis Johnson	1918-1919
William Joseph Delahanty	1919-1920
Frederick Herbert Baker	1910-1921
James Joseph Goodwin	1921-1922
George Edwin Emery	1922-1923
Arthur White March	1923-1924
Leslie Raymond Bragg	1924-1925
Royal Phillips Watkins	1925-1926
Edward Henry Trowbridge	1926-1927
Frank Hall Washburn	1927-1928
Philip Howard Cook	1928-1929
William Edward Denning	1929-1930
Joseph William O'Connor	1930-1931
Ernest Leroi Hunt	1931-1932
Edwin Roy Leib	1932-1933
Walter Clark Seelye	1933-1934
Ernest Benjamin Emerson	1934-1935
William Francis Lynch	1935-1936
Roy Joselyn Ward	1936-1937
William Alvin Bryan	1937-1938
Charles Atsatt Sparrow	1938-1939
James Cornelius Austin	1939-1940
Joel Miller Melick	1940-1941
Ralph Sherburne Perkins	1941-1942
Gordon Berry	1942-1943
Andrew Edward O'Connell	1943-1944
Benjamin Harrison Alton	1944-1945
Charles Roger Abbott	1945-1946
Lester Mahan Felton	1946-1947
Frank Benjamin Carr	1947-1948
John Joseph Dumphy	1948-1949
Bancroft Cheever Wheeler	1949-1950
Thomas Hunter	1950-1951
Charles Eaton Ayers	1951-1952
Nicholas Salvatore Scarcello	1952-1953
John Berchmans Butts	1953-1954

APPENDIX FOUR

PRESIDENTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY FROM THE WORCESTER DISTRICT

Five members of the Worcester District Medical Society have served as President of the Massachusetts Medical Society:

1. Thomas H. Gage, Worcester, 1886-1888,
2. Edward Bayard Harvey, Westboro, 1898-1900,
3. George Ebenezer Francis, Worcester, 1902-1904,
4. Walter P. Bowers, Clinton, 1912-1914, and
5. Samuel B. Woodward, Worcester, 1916-1919.

BIOGRAPHIES

THOMAS H. GAGE

The biography of Thomas H. Gage is recounted in Appendix Four, Donors to the Worcester Medical Library and the Worcester District Medical Society.

EDWIN BAYARD HARVEY

Edwin B. Harvey (1834-1913) was born in Deerfield, New Hampshire, April 4, 1843, the son of Ebenezer and Rozella Harvey. He died of chronic myocarditis at his home in Westborough on September 28, 1913.

His early education was in the public schools of New Hampshire and he graduated from Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., in 1859. He was for two years principal at Macedon Academy, Macedon, N.Y., and was Professor in Natural Science at Wesleyan Academy, Wilbraham, Mass., for two years. Up to this period it had been his intention to make teaching his life's work, but his views changed. He graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1866.

With the intention of settling in the West, he went to Waukegan, Illinois, but was not satisfied, so he returned to New England, and made his home in Westborough, Mass. He was an acknowledged parliamentarian, and for many years acted as moderator at town meetings. Like many practitioners of early times, he maintained a drug store in town.

He joined our District Society in 1867. In 1872, he spent the year in European study in Leipzig and Vienna. He was a councillor for over forty years, being elected in 1869 and serving continuously until his death. He was President of the W.D.M.S. in 1883 and 1884, and for two years was president of the M.M.S.

From 1868 to 1900, Dr. Harvey served continuously on the Westborough School Board and was Superintendent of Schools from 1887 to 1900; he was Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Westborough Public Library, a trustee of the Westborough Savings Bank, a trustee of the reform school in that town, a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1884-1885, and a member of the Massachusetts Senate in 1894-1895. He was author of the bill for the establishment of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine in 1894, and a member of the Board of Registration in Medicine from 1895 to 1913.

Dr. Harvey was married in Concord, New Hampshire, on July 10, 1860, to Abbey Kimball Tenney and had no issue. In 1895 he gave up active practice.

Like all men of strong personalities, he often met opposition, both personal and official, which sometimes developed into enmity, yet he had one of the kindest of hearts.

A comment of the Secretary of the state medical society is worth recording: "He was a politician and used the arts of one in presiding and in his other acts; not

STATE SOCIETY PRESIDENTS

that he was unjust, but he strained his points in presiding and elsewhere to that end. He was said to be harsh, but he certainly was just and had the respect of the community in which he resided."

GEORGE EBENEZER FRANCIS

George E. Francis (1838-1912) was born in Lowell on May 29, 1838. He began the study of medicine in 1859 at the Harvard Medical School and Chelsea Marine Hospital. From June to September, 1861, he was assistant surgeon at Fortress Monroe. In May 1862, he was appointed house surgeon in the Massachusetts General Hospital. From August to October 1862, he was at the front as a volunteer surgeon. Receiving his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in May 1863, he was appointed assistant surgeon in the Navy. He served in the West, chiefly on the Mississippi River. He resigned his commission in October 1865 and settled in Worcester. When Worcester City Hospital was authorized by the city government he received an appointment to the original staff in 1871 and continued there until 1912. When Memorial Hospital was organized he was placed on the consulting staff. He was President of our district in 1891-1893.

The reminiscence of Dr. F.W. Goss, the Secretary of the state society is of interest: "Dr. G.E. Francis had, previous to his presidency, been the efficient chairman of the Committee on Ethics and Discipline. He was faithful in his work and carried on the Society with Vigor and Discretion. I enjoyed my service under him and shall never forget the happy time I spent in Worcester as his guest. His memory is very dear to me."

WALTER PRENTICE BOWERS

Walter P. Bowers (1855-1947) was born in Clinton, Mass., on May 19, 1855, the son of Charles Manning Bowers, a Baptist clergyman, and of Ellen Augusta Damon Bowers. His early education was in that town, and in 1879 he obtained his medical degree from Harvard Medical School. He settled in Lancaster in 1879 as a general practitioner and in 1880 accepted the post as Senior Assistant at the Worcester Lunatic Hospital, being forced to resign on account of impaired health in 1881. On January 28, 1880 he married Helen M. Burdett, daughter of Alfred A. Burdett of Clinton. Their marriage was barren. He began practice in Clinton in 1881 and became quite influential in that town, serving as selectman, member of the Board of Health, Vice-President of the Clinton Trust Company, and the President of the Clinton Hospital Association. On the establishment of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine in 1894, he was appointed a member and in 1913 became Secretary to the Board, a post he held until 1922.

He was President of our District Society in 1903-1904. In 1911 he was appointed a member of the Standing Committee on State and National Legislation and became Chairman in 1915. Public spirit, persistency, tact, devotion to the interests of the Society and tireless activity were some of the characteristics he displayed.

When the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal showed signs of disintegration during the second decade of the Twentieth Century, he championed the proposition for the Society to take it over and publish it. He finally consented to act as its managing editor, with all the labor that meant, beginning his duties on April 15, 1921, after the legislation passed a bill authorizing the Society to publish a journal. He revived the ancient weekly and made it the suitable mouth-piece for the state society. The journal is now known as the New England Journal of Medicine.

He was a prime mover in establishing the new Clinton Hospital, and when he died in 1947 at the patriarchal age of ninety-three, he willed his entire estate of over a hundred thousand dollars for that purpose.

SAMUEL BAYARD WOODWARD

The biography of Samuel B. Woodward is given in Appendix Four, Donors to the Worcester Medical Library and the Worcester District Medical Society.

APPENDIX FIVE

THE DONORS TO THE WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY AND TO THE WORCESTER DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

1845 - Daniel Waldo Fund (restricted), \$6,000 (Society)
1851 - Dr. Charles W. Wilder Bequest, \$500 (Society)
1888 - Harrison Bliss Bequest, \$1,000 (Society)
1936 - Hastings Drug Company, \$75 (Library)
1938 - Donald S. Adams Fund, \$200 (Library)
1938 - Leonard Wheeler Fund, \$1,000 (Library)
1941 - Dr. Samuel B. Woodward Gift, \$100 (Library)
1942 - Dr. John M. Fallon, \$200 (Library)
1942 - Dr. William J. Delehanty Bequest, \$1,000 (Library)
1943 - Edgar A. Fisher Fund \$500, (Library)
1945 - Dr. Edward B. Bigelow, \$25 (Library)
1946 - Dr. Samuel B. Woodward Bequest, \$25,000 (Society)
1947 - Aldus C. and Mary S. Higgins Fund, \$1,500 (Library)
1947 - The Women's Auxiliary of the Blood Bank, \$216 (Library)
1948 - Thomas H. Gage Fund (restricted), \$5,000 (Society)
1948 - Mabel Knowles Gage Bequest, \$20,000 (Library)
1950 - Dr. Albert A. Getchell Gift, \$1,000 (Library)
1950 - Dr. Louis A. Cottle Bequest (restricted), \$247,504 (Society)
1953 - Dr. Gordon Berry Bequest, \$100 (Library)
1954 - Dr. Philip H. Cook Bequest, \$20,000 (Library)
1955 - Dr. Roy J. Ward Gift (stocks), \$1,021.50 (Library)
1957 - Dr. Benjamin T. Burley Bequest, \$5,000 (Library)
1957 - Dr. Edward B. Bigelow Gift, \$200 (Library)
1958 - Dr. Frederick H. Baker Bequest, \$49,042.76 (Library)
1958 - Dr. John A. Maidney Gift, \$300 (Library)
1960 - Edgar Alexander Fisher Fund (restricted), \$2,000 (Library)
1961 - Dr. Edward B. Bigelow gift, \$800 (Library)
1964 - Gift in Memory of Dr. A. Wilson Atwood, \$500 (Library)
1965 - Gift in Memory of Dr. Charles E. Ayers, \$521 (Library)
1965 - Dr. F. Julius Quist Bequest, \$2,000 (Library)

DONORS

THE HISTORY OF THE ORIGIN OF THE FUNDS

HONORABLE DANIEL WALDO

Daniel Waldo came to Worcester, as a young man of nineteen with his father, Daniel Waldo, Senior, before the end of the American Revolution in 1782. The family, already an old one in the country, had under a false name escaped from Boston when occupied by the British in spite of General Gage's oath that no Waldo should leave Boston. Before coming to Worcester the family had lived in Pomfret, Connecticut, and in Lancaster. The vicissitudes of his time and his life must have interfered much with Waldo's education, which did not include any higher course. Father and son were merchants, in partnership, and among the very first in the country in wealth and enterprise. After the death of his father, the business was greatly extended and supplied a large part of this state and parts of neighboring states with hardware.

Among the qualities of the man (apart from business capacity) his solemn religious feeling ranked very high; he even built a church and supported it. His piety went deeper than this for he was ever ready to help the needy, privately and unostentatiously. Mr. Waldo was a self-educated merchant, occupying much of his leisure in reading and study. He was not ambitious of popular distinction and served only with unwillingness as state Senator and as a member of the famous Hartford Convention. It was after his reluctant acceptance of this very responsible office that Governor Lincoln, Senior, said "Thank Heaven, then all is safe, with such men as George Cabot and Daniel Waldo." Mr. Waldo, always a bachelor, was a primly neat man of medium height and strong physique, usually dressed in a black suit with a buff vest, his head partly bald, his countenance a well-featured, benevolent and manly one, indicating resoluteness. In his business habits, he was most punctual and industrious. The Palladium Newspaper, of policies opposite to Mr. Waldo, who was always a staunch Whig and Federalist, printed a very brief obituary a few days after his death: "Being one of the wealthiest men in Massachusetts, he was consequently one of the most respected of its citizens, as he had the means of associating his name with many of the religious and charitable institutions of the times."

His will disposed of \$180,000 in benevolent bequests, of which Medicine received \$52,000: \$40,000 to the Massachusetts General hospital, \$6,000 each to the W.D.M.S. and to the Boston Eye and Ear Infirmary. He was found dead in bed on the morning of July 9th 1845.

The following extracts from original documents on file at the Probate Office and in the Registry of Deeds show the origin of the Waldo Fund of the Worcester District Medical Society and the conditions, so far as they exist, by which their use is limited or restricted.

WALDO FUND

Extracted from the Will of Daniel Waldo, late of Worcester, deceased, allowed August 5, 1845.

"Sixteenth. I give and bequeath to the Massachusetts Medical Society, instituted and organized pursuant to the provisions of an Act of Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Sum of Six Thousand Dollars, to them and their successors forever to be called the WALDO FUND, and to be placed at Interest on good Security, the Interest thereof, only, to be appropriated from time to time, to the purchasing of Anatomical Preparations, Costly, but useful inventions for Surgical Purposes, and for Books treating upon Medical and Surgical Subjects, for the use and benefit of said Society, to the end that the Sciences of Medicine, Surgery and Anatomy may be illustrated and more fully understood, and the Community benefitted by able, enlightened and skillful Physicians and Surgeons. And the Bequest is made upon this express condition, namely, that said Sum of Six Thousand Dollars be kept unimpaired at Interest upon good Security, and the Interest thereof be applied in the manner aforesaid; and that whatever is purchased shall be placed and perpetually kept in some central and convenient Building in the Town of Worcester and County aforesaid and be at all suitable times subject to the use and inspection of the regularly Licensed Practitioners of Medicine and Surgery in the said County of Worcester, whether Members of said Society or not. And in case the said Society shall not

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accept the Bequest with the considers aforesaid, or shall at any time fail to comply with them, then the said sum of Six Thousand Dollars shall revert to my Heirs at Laws."

AVAILABLE RESERVED FUND

"Whereas the late Daniel Waldo, of Worcester, in the County of Worcester, Gentlemen, did, by his last Will and Testament, bequeath "to the Massachusetts Medical Society for the County of Worcester, a Subordinate Society, instituted and organized pursuant to the provisions of an Act of Legislature of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, the sum of Six Thousand Dollars to be called the Waldo Fund, and placed at interest on good security, the interest thereof, only, to be appropriated, from time to time, to the purchase of Anatomical Preparations, Medical and Surgical Books" and to other uses therein specified, said bequest, however, being made upon certain conditions therein named, and whereas it was provided by said Will that "in case the said Society should not accept the said bequest, upon the conditions, that the said sum of Six Thousand Dollars should revert to the heirs at law of the said Waldo;" and whereas the said bequest has been accepted by the said Society, and whereas the income of the same not yet expended for the purposes of said trust has accumulated, in the possession of said Society, to the amount of Fifteen Hundred Dollars, more or less; and whereas it is thought that the purposes of said trust, and the objects expressed by the said Waldo, in his said Will, would be better accomplished and attained by the appropriation of some portion of said sum so accumulated to defraying the expenses of taking care of the books, instruments and preparations purchased and to be purchased from said Waldo Fund:

"Now, therefore, we the undersigned, the heirs at law, of the said Daniel Waldo, do hereby consent and agree that the sum of One Thousand Dollars, or such part thereof as may be necessary, may be appropriated to the care of books, instruments, and so forth, purchased and to be purchased as aforesaid; the balance of the yearly income to be expended for the general objects of the bequest; said Thousand Dollars and the income thereof to be under the same charge and management as the rest of said Waldo Fund.

"And We Do, hereby, for ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, renounce and release all claim or right to any forfeiture of said bequest by reason of the appropriation and expenditure aforesaid, of said sum of One Thousand Dollars, part of said accumulated income and the interest thereof.

"In Witness Whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this twentieth day of November, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty-two."

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of James Estabrook to L. Lincoln, Hester Newton to R.N. and R.N.

Levin Lincoln

Rejoice Newton

Rebecca Newton

Worcester, SS., April 18th 1865, at 8:55 A.M. Received and Recorded in the Registry of Deeds, Book 699, Page 561.

By Alexander H. Wilder, Registrar

CHARLES W. WILDER, M.D.

Dr. Wilder was born in Ashburnham on December 30, 1790. His preparatory education was in the common school. He began the study of medicine with Dr. Abraham Haskell of Leominster and received his Doctor of Medicine at Dartmouth. He spent three years further with Dr. Haskell, then eleven years in a large practice in Templeton and a few years with Dr. Peter Snow in Fitchburg. He lived for many years at the end of his life in Leominster, where he allowed his public interests gradually to crowd out his professional work. His was a life full of hard work; it was successful professionally, financially and socially, for professionally he was of high standing in the State, financially he rose from poverty to, what was for his circumstances, wealth, and socially he rose from obscurity to a reputation widely known and respected. He was President of the Worcester District Medical Society in 1842 and 1843, and in the latter year was annual Orator of the Massachusetts Medical Society, making an able dissertation on "Pulmonary Consumption". He was a man of untiring energy and industry in and out of his profession, for he served a number of years as a member of the

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General Court, as a bank director and railroad president. Another favorite project of his, in character both professional and public, was the foundation of a Worcester County Hospital and he would have left \$20,000 for the purpose had it seemed to his friends advisable, but this amount was in fact given to the Massachusetts General Hospital instead. Bowditch in his History calls the gift, "The only instance of any bequest to that institution from a member of that profession, which, more than any other, is competent to fully appreciate the importance of this public charity, and to form an accurate opinion as to the judgement and fidelity with which its concerns have been administered." He died on February 12, 1851.

WILDER FUND

Extract from the will of Charles W. Wilder, late of Leominster in said County, deceased, allowed March 4, 1851.

"Nine. I give and bequeath to the Worcester District Medical Society within and for the District and County of Worcester, for the encouragement of Medical Science, in such manner as its members may direct, Five Hundred Dollars, to be paid to the Treasurer of Said Society for the time being, in such notes or bonds or stocks as are considered good at the time of my decease, and to be transferred by my Executors or whosoever may execute this Will within one year after my decease; to have and to hold the same to said Society and Their successors Forever."

BLISS FUND

In 1882, Mr. Harrison Bliss left a bequest to the Worcester Medical Library. The following is extracted from the will of Harrison Bliss, late of Worcester in said county, deceased, allowed September 5, 1882:

"Ten. I give and devise to the Worcester District Medical Society, the sum of One Thousand Dollars, the same to be invested and the income thereof only to be applied to the purposes of their library."

Harrison Bliss was born at Royalston on October 9, 1812 and died in Worcester on July 7, 1882. What education he received in school was obtained in his native place. He started out at the age of eighteen to make his own living. He landed in Worcester, as he used to say, with seventeen cents in his pockets. He went to work first for Dr. Oliver Fiske, the first Secretary of the Society, in 1830. He worked four years in the Worcester Post Office in the Union Block and in the Old Central Exchange Building. In partnership he opened a store in the Salisbury Block at Lincoln Square, dealing in groceries and flour. In 1857 he sold out to his partners. From that time on he was occupied with real estate and banking. He founded the Mechanics National Bank, with the Hon. Francis H. Dewey in 1848, of which he was president from 1860 until 1882. He was chief owner of the Oriental Powder Company, manufacturing gun powder, near Portland, Maine. He was city alderman and a representative in General court; president of the New Bedford and Taunton Branch of the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg Railroad Company. He married Sarah H. Howe in 1836, and left five children.

THE DONALD S. ADAMS FUND - 1938

Shortly after the death of Dr. Adams, his mother gave in his memory a sum of two hundred (\$200) dollars to the Worcester Medical Library for the purchase of books.

Donald Stansbury Adams was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, on March 22, 1892. He attended the public schools in that city and was graduated from the Virginia University Medical School in 1917, interning at the University Hospital there. He then completed a surgical internship at the Boston City Hospital and was commissioned in the Medical Corps of the United States Army. While stationed at Fort Devens, he met Dr. Homer Gage, Chief of Staff at the Worcester Memorial Hospital, who was in charge of the base hospital. Dr. Gage took a keen interest in the young physician and, at the close of the war, persuaded him to come to Worcester, where he became resident surgeon at the Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Adams remained at this post until 1923, when he began private practice, remaining on the staff as assistant surgeon. In addition he was consulting surgeon at the Masonic Hospital in Shrewsbury, Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge, and Webster District Hospital, Webster. He was a Major in the

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Medical Section, Officers Reserve Corps, U.S. Army.

On March 13, 1938, he died suddenly at his residence, 27 Westwood Drive, his mother being the only survivor.

He died just as he was approaching full maturity in the practice of surgery; loyal to his friends, adored by his patients and greatly respected by his colleagues. He was an enthusiastic sportsman and liked to explore the numerous trout streams of the county, usually in the company of some fellow practitioner.

THE LEONARD WHEELER FUND - 1938

Dr. Leonard Wheeler died on October 2, 1935. Careful perusal of his will (Probate #115859) showed nothing in either the will or codicils concerning either the Medical Library or District Society. But on October 12, 1938, the trustees of the Worcester Medical Library acknowledged receiving a sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) from the heirs for the benefit of the Library to be known as the Leonard Wheeler Fund.

Leonard Wheeler was born in Lincoln, Massachusetts, on August 31, 1845, the son of Abel and Charlotte (Bemis) Wheeler. His elementary education was obtained in that town. He received his A.B. degree in 1866 and M.D. degree in 1870 from Harvard University. After completing his internship at the Massachusetts General Hospital, he spent two years abroad in study at Vienna and Breslau. In July 1872 he came to the Worcester City Hospital as Superintendent, where he remained until 1874. He then opened an office for the practice of general medicine. He held an appointment at Memorial Hospital as surgeon from 1888 to 1900 and at the Saint Vincent Hospital as consulting physician in 1894. On November 21, 1897, he married Elizabeth Bancroft Cheever and to them were born four children; Bancroft Cheever, Leonard Jr., Eunice and Nathaniel. He lived at 12 Chestnut Street, and retired from the practice of medicine in 1912. he was President of our district society from 1895 until 1897.

THE JOHN M. FALLON GIFT - 1942

There is a notation in the minute book of the Worcester Medical Library, Inc., by the treasurer in 1942, that Dr. John Fallon had made another substantial undisclosed gift to the Medical Library and that the total to that date amounted to two hundred (\$200) dollars.

John Michael Fallon was born in Worcester on September 17 1901, the only child of Dr. Michael F. and Ella (Ford) Fallon. His early education was received at the Bancroft School and St. John's High School. He graduated from Holy Cross College in 1919 and Harvard Medical School in 1923. He began his medical career as an assistant in anatomy at the Harvard Medical School. He then interned at the Saint Vincent Hospital and the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston. He returned to the Saint Vincent Hospital as a surgical resident and then went to the Mayo Clinic as a fellow. He was director and surgeon at the Fallon Clinic and practiced surgery at Saint Vincent Hospital from 1929 until his death.

In 1942 he was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Science at Holy Cross College and held the appointment of a fellow research assistant in the Biology Department of that institution for the remainder of his life. In 1949 he was named a Fellow of the International Society of Surgeons because "of distinguished record and honorable standing among the surgeons of the United States."

He was a Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery, Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, Past President of both the New England Obstetrical and Gynecological Society and the American College of surgeons (Massachusetts chapter), delegate to the American Medical Association, Councilor of the Massachusetts Medical Society, trustee of the Boston Medical Library, Consulting Librarian of the Worcester Medical Library, and past president of the Alumni Association of the Mayo Foundation. During World War II he was appointed surgeon with the United States Public Health Service with duty at home. At his death he was President of the Staff at Saint Vincent Hospital and Orator-elect of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

Dr. Fallon died suddenly at this home, 2 Prospect Street, Shrewsbury, at 11 P.M. on June 21, 1951, from coronary thrombosis. Surviving was Mrs. Frances H. (Lohbauer) Fallon and six children, Johns., Michael F., William C., M. Cathleen, Peter and Francella.

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Dr. Fallon was a prolific writer who published numerous papers on surgery, gynecology, surgical photography and medical history. He was especially interested in endometriosis and had exhibits at medical conventions of state and national societies.

Always a highly regarded member of our Society, Dr. Fallon did yeoman work in the Worcester Medical Library. He was one of the incorporators, acted as Librarian for many years, and through his knowledge of books was invaluable as a consultant.

His time and labor spent for our advantage could not be calculated, and with his departure the members will search in vain for a replacement.

THE WILLIAM J. DELAHANTY BEQUEST - 1942

William J. Delahanty was born in Fitchburg in 1858 and acquired his preliminary education there. He entered Dartmouth Medical School, graduating in 1883. He did post-graduate work at New York University and in 1884 settled in Worcester. He was a member of the City Hospital Staff from 1890 until his death. In 1893, when the Saint Vincent Hospital came into existence, he was one of the incorporators and remained a member of the staff as physician, until his life terminated. He was on the board of trustees of the Worcester State Hospital for twenty-six years, for twenty of which he was the president.

He always remained a bachelor and lived with his mother and sisters, all of whom died before he did. His charity, kindness and unselfishness were extraordinary. He was President of our Society in 1919-1920. He was active until a few weeks before his death, and actually drove himself to the Saint Vincent Hospital in his beloved Model T Ford for his final admission of arteriosclerotic gangrene of the feet. He died in that institution on May 10, 1942.

Probate #148398 Clause 8: "To the Worcester Medical Library of Worcester, Mass., the sum of one thousand (\$1000) dollars."

THE EDGAR A. FISHER FUND - 1943

Mrs. Mary Fisher, in February 1943, established a fund of five hundred (\$500) dollars, with no restrictions, for the Medical Library in memory of her husband, Dr. Edgar A. Fisher.

Edgar A. Fisher, the son of Elisha and Charlotte (Gardner) Fisher, was born on the island of Nantucket, January 31, 1866. His early life was spent in New Bedford where he attended both grammar and high school, graduating from the latter in 1883. He continued his studies at the Boston University School of Medicine, graduating in 1896, and served as an intern in the Massachusetts Homeopathic Hospital in 1887. That same year he began his practice in Worcester. On February 14, 1893, he married Miss Mary Baker of Worcester. In 1897 he continued his work for several months with Dr. Kelley of John Hopkins in Baltimore, and later made frequent trips to the Mayo Clinic for further study.

He was one of the founders of the Worcester Hahnemann Hospital, which started as a dispensary in 1895. The successful development and growth from this modest beginning to the present modern hospital of high standard was due largely to his constant efforts and ability as a physician, a surgeon, and an executive.

At the time of his death, on April 18, 1938, he was Vice-President of the Board of Directors, member of the Governing Board, and Chief of the Surgical Staff. Hahnemann Hospital as it stands today reflects the character and influence of Dr. Fisher; to many the two names were synonymous.

Outside interests were his farm in Shrewsbury and his house in Nantucket, which had belonged to his grandfather, for many years a captain of whaling ships.

Being extremely modest and retiring, he was known intimately to but a very few.

WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY, INC. - February 1960

RE: Estate of Mary B. Fisher:

"To the WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY, INC., the sum of Two Thousand (\$2,000) Dollars, the income only therefrom to be used, preferably for the purchase of books for its library. It is my wish that this gift be known as the 'Edgar Alexander Fisher Fund' in remembrance of my late husband."

THE SAMUEL B. WOODWARD BEQUEST - 1946

The life of this prominent member of our Society is inscribed in this book in

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remembrance of his princely gift.

Dr. Samuel Bayard Woodward (1853-1946), grandson of Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, the first superintendent of the State Lunatic Hospital and son of Samuel Woodward, a Worcester merchant, was born in Worcester on August 24, 1853. He graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1878 and interned at the Boston City Hospital. The following two years were spent in European study. He then settled in Worcester, married Margaret Perley, daughter of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of New Hampshire, and had no issue. The activities of his life were varied; medicine claimed his chief interest, having been associated with the three hospitals of the city. He was pathologist and visiting surgeon at Worcester City from 1883 to 1902, visiting physician and surgeon at Memorial from 1882 to 1909, and visiting surgeon at the Saint Vincent Hospital from 1896 to 1901. He held every office of our District Society, was President of the Massachusetts Medical Society for three terms (1916-1919), was affiliated with four banks as director, was a Trustee of the Worcester Insane Hospital and Memorial Hospital, historian par excellence, particularly on medical history in Worcester, a crusader for vaccination, and a writer on a plethora of subjects, which produced a flood of information, defying systematic listing. He died on January 29, 1946.

Probate #148398

"Clause 5: I give to the WORCESTER DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY the sum of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) dollars to be used, principal and income in connection with a building and its contents to be erected or acquired, for occupancy by the Society. If such a building has already been provided or if not then until it is provided, I direct that the principal of this gift shall be kept intact and the income used for any of the Society's purposes that meet the approval of the Society."

THE ALDUS C. AND MARY S. HIGGINS FUND - 1947

Upon purchase of the property at 57 Cedar Street from the Worcester District Community Center for Aiding Transfusions, Inc., in 1947, a donated fund of fifteen hundred (\$1500) dollars was under their jurisdiction. The purpose of the donation was lost with the sale, and Mr. Aldus C. Higgins transferred the fund to the Worcester Medical Library, Inc., to be used for educational purposes. This is now called "The Aldus C. and Mary S. Higgins Fund" and has been used principally to purchase the audio-visual equipment now in the Medical Library Hall.

Aldus Chapin Higgins was born in Worcester, December 7th 1872, son of Milton Prince Higgins, who was one of the founders and the first president of the Norton Company, founder of the Worcester Trade School, a member for many years of the faculty of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and actively connected with the industrial and civic affairs of the city. Katherine Elizabeth (Chapin) Higgins, mother of Aldus C. Higgins, was a leader in educational, social and religious activities, prominent in the Young Women's Christian Association and Daughters of the American Revolution, and as President of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

His ancestry on the paternal side traces back to Richard Higgins who settled in Plymouth in 1633, and to descendants of Elder William Brewster, who came in the "Mayflower". On the maternal side, the ancestry is of old American stock, dating back to Deacon Samuel Chapin, who was one of the earliest settlers of Springfield, and whose descendants have been among the leaders in the development of that city, being numbered among its oldest and best-known families.

Having passed through the grade and high schools of Worcester, Mr. Higgins was graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in the class of 1893 with the degree of Bachelor of Science. In 1896, he received from the National University Law School, Washington, D. C., the degree of Bachelor of Laws and later, from the same institution, the degree of Master of Laws. The honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering was conferred upon him by Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1931.

After completing college, his first occupation was as an assistant examiner in the United States Patent Office in Washington where he remained for three years. His admission to the Worcester County Bar was confirmed in 1896, in

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which year he engaged in the practice of law, successfully pursuing his profession in private practice for a number of years.

It was in 1901 that he became associated with the Norton Company, giving all of his time to its legal affairs and to those of its allied corporations, and subsequently being made manager of the abrasives plants. He was appointed Secretary and General Counsel in 1913, and not long thereafter was elected Treasurer and a director of the company, which position he held until January 1933, when he was elected President of the Norton Company. He was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors in 1941, and in January 1946 he became Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Mr. Higgins, on March 13, 1914, was the recipient of the John Scott Medal, which is awarded for exceptional achievement in the field of mechanical arts. It was established under the will of John Scott, chemist of Edinburgh, in 1816. Custodianship of the legacy is in the Corporation of the City of Philadelphia and the award was made by the Board of Directors of City Trusts of Philadelphia to Mr. Higgins for his electric furnace, in which Alundum Abrasive is made commercially.

He was a life trustee of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, President of the Worcester Art Museum, and a member and Councillor of the American Antiquarian Society. He held the chairmanship of the Worcester Republican City Committee in 1909. He was a trustee of Worcester Memorial Hospital, serving in later years on its Building Committee and devoting much time and energy, and of his own financial resources, to its recently completed expansion program. He was vice-president of the Worcester Children's Friend Society and a trustee of Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology.

He was chairman of the first World War fund-raising campaign in Worcester, the Red Triangle War Work Campaign, November 11-19, 1917. After the war, he was one of the founders of, and always prominently identified in, the Golden Rule Fund campaigns. During the World War period, he was chairman of the New England Section of Industrial Training for the War Emergency Committee, and participated as Chairman and member of the Executive Committees in the various patriotic drives and campaigns of his district. He also served on the Council of National Defense.

On December 7, 1947, he was decorated by the King of Sweden, through the Swedish consul-general, with the insigne of the Royal Swedish Order of Vasa, first class, with rank of Chevalier.

He was affiliated with the Worcester County Bar Association, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants, National Advisory Board, Metropolitan Junior Achievement, Inc., Foreign Policy Association, Worcester Chamber of Commerce, Newcomen Society, Bohemians, Worcester Historical Society, Worcester Natural History Society, and the Worcester Republican Club. His clubs were the Worcester Club, University Club, Union Club of Boston, Worcester Economic Club, Players Club, Odin Club, Tatnuck Country Club, Odd Volumes Club of Boston, American Club of Paris, Lake Placid Club, and the Century Association of New York. He was a member of the First Unitarian Church.

On June 6, 1889, Mr. Higgins married Edgenia Bosius of Washington, D.C.; she died on September 24, 1911, leaving a son, Milton P. Higgins, and a daughter, Elizabeth B., wife of Ernest Angell of New York and Connecticut. On January 16, 1914, his second marriage was to Mary Sprague Green of Worcester, who survives him. His residence was 1 John Wing Road. His death occurred on September 10, 1948.

A successful inventor, industrialist and philanthropist, he had been most generous to the City of Worcester, Memorial Hospital, the Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology and Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

THOMAS H. GAGE FUND - 1938

This bequest was received in 1948 at the death of Mrs. Homer Gage.

Thomas H. Gage was born in Waterford, Maine, on May 22, 1826 and died at his home in Worcester, September 17, 1909 of cardiac disease. He was the fourth child of Dr. Leander and Ann Sargent Gage, who had a family of eight children. Due to the premature death of his father, his schooling was interrupted,

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but by perseverance he graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1852. After completing his surgical house officership at the Massachusetts General Hospital, he briefly opened an office in Upton. He became associated with Dr. Kendall of Sterling and remained in that township until 1857. He then became assistant physician at the Worcester Lunatic Hospital, remaining one year before establishing himself in this city.

He was an active member of our Society, filling all the offices in succession; for forty years he was a councillor of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and was President of our parent society in 1886 and 1887. In 1880 he delivered the annual address before that body on "The Prevention of Typhoid Fever". Dr. Gage was associated with the City Hospital for more than thirty years, nine years a member of the visiting staff and twenty-two years a member of the Board of Trustees. He was a Trustee of the Worcester Lunatic Hospital, a Trustee of the Washburn Fund, and was on the executive committee to build Memorial Hospital where he became the president of its board in 1891. Dr. Gage married Anna M. Lane of Boston in 1860; two sons and a daughter were born to them.

His first born, Dr. Homer Gage, died in 1938 and the following bequest was left in his will: "Probate #123882, Clause 3: All the rest and residue of my estate, real and personal, and whatever situate, I give to the Trustees herein after named, in trust, to hold, invest and reinvest the same as a trust fund and to pay the income thereof to my wife, Mabel Knowles Gage, during her life and at her decease I direct my Trustees to dispose of said trust estate as follows:

(f) I give the sum of Five Thousand (\$5000) Dollars to the WORCESTER DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY to be held by said Society and known as the 'Dr. Thomas H. Gage Fund', the income only thereof to be used and applied for the benefit of its library."

MABEL KNOWLES GAGE BEQUEST - 1948

This bequest was made in the will of the widow of one of our most prominent members and a short biography of his life is recorded.

Dr. Homer Gage was born in Worcester on October 18, 1861, and died at his summer residence in Shrewsbury on July 3, 1938. He was a graduate of Harvard College and then the Harvard Medical School in 1887. He interned at the Children's Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital and the Boston Lying-in Hospital. Dr. Gage opened an office in Worcester in 1888, beginning a career destined to receive distinction in surgery, in finance, in public service and in business enterprises. He saw service in World War I as Chief of the Surgical Division at Camp Devens. He was a surgeon of note in the three Worcester hospitals, namely Worcester City, Memorial and Saint Vincent. Dr. Gage served as Medical Director of the State Mutual Life Assurance Company, President of Crompton and Knowles Loom Works, a director of the First National Bank and the Old Colony Trust Company, both of Boston, a director of the Worcester County Trust Company, and a trustee of the Worcester Community Chest for years. He was also interested in education and charitable organizations in France.

In 1893 he married Mable Reynolds Knowles and had one son, Homer Gage, Jr., who served through World War I in France, and died in 1927 at the beginning of a promising business career.

Mable Knowles Gage died on May 16, 1948.

Probate #157110, Clause 68: "To the Worcester Medical Library, Inc., of said Worcester, Twenty Thousand (\$20,000) Dollars."

THE ALBERT COLBY GETCHELL GIFT - 1951

Albert Colby Getchell was born in Waterville, Maine, in 1857 and graduated from Colby College in 1878. He received his M.D. degree from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia in 1885, and did post-graduate work at the Philadelphia Polyclinic Schools and Harvard Medical School. He interned at Worcester City Hospital, and was appointed to the staff of that hospital in 1888. A pioneer in the treatment of tuberculosis, he received an appointment at Belmont Hospital, where he served faithfully until his retirement in 1944. He was the founder of the Worcester Tuberculosis Relief Association. He was a prominent otolaryngologist for many years. In 1886, he married Edith Loring Pierce. He was the Librarian of our Medical Library for many years and was the author of the first history of this branch of our Society.

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He died on October 1, 1950 and the only survivor was his daughter, Mrs. Margaret Parsons. At ninety-three years of age, he was the last surviving member of the "Twelve Apostles".

Probate #165483, Clause 1: "To the WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY, INC., situated at 34 Elm Street, Worcester, Mass., the sum of one thousand (\$1,000) Dollars."

The will was disallowed on February 19, 1951, but his daughter carried out the instructions in his will by giving the sum of one thousand (\$1,000) dollars in his name, with no restrictions.

IN MEMORIAM, DR. F. JULIAN QUIST

From "Worcester Medical News" February 1949:

"Dr. F. Julius Quist died at St. Petersburg, Florida, on December 20, 1948, at the age of 74.

He was born in Sweden and came to this country at the age of six with his parents who settled, in Nebraska. After finishing his preliminary schooling, he entered North Park College. Upon his graduation from there he went to Alaska where he spent three years as a teacher. When he returned he entered the University of Chicago and graduated from Rush Medical College in 1905. The following summer in the year of 1906 he attended the Harvard Post-Graduate Medical School. After completing his course he studied at the Berlin and Vienna Clinics during 1906 and 1907. Dr. Quist began his general practice in Worcester, December 1907. He soon developed a very extensive practice which continued until 1912, when he became President and Treasurer of the Domestic Vacuum Cleaner Co. the product of which was one of his own inventions.

"During 1916 he studied in Boston and New York in the Ear, Eye, Nose and Throat specialty. Dr. Quist opened his professional office again in 1917. From this time up until his death he served in many positions.

"He served in World War I with the rank of Captain, stationed at Camp Dix until the war ended then he was transferred to New York to take charge of disembarking soldiers from overseas.

Dr. Quist was appointed by Governor Calvin Coolidge to serve on the Board of Registration in Optometry from 1919-1925. He served as a Director of the Worcester Public Library, on the Committee of the Worcester Medical Guaranty Bank & Trust Co., and as President and Treasurer of the Hedlund Coal Co.

"Dr. Quist was an important factor in developing the Fairlawn Hospital in 1923. He served on the Worcester City Hospital and Memorial Hospital Staffs and on the Fairlawn Hospital Staff since its beginning.

"His hobby was reading; he also played golf and bowled which he did very well. He was in demand as a public speaker in his community and throughout the state. He belonged to many fraternal and civic organizations in the city.

"Those who were intimate with Dr. Quist admired his keen, philosophical mind and good judgment in many fields. He will be greatly missed by many of us."

Will of F. Julius Quist: "Upon the death of my said wife I direct that the said trust be dissolved and the principal and income to be distributed as follows:

"EIGHT: I give, and bequeath to Worcester Medical Library, Inc., the sum of Two Thousand (\$2,000) Dollars."

THE LOUIS ALBERT COTTLE BEQUEST - 1950

Louis Albert Cottle was born in Somerville on March 6, 1874, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1899, interned at St. Joseph hospital, Providence, R.I. in 1899-1900; interned at the Boston City Hospital 1900-1901. In 1902, he came to the Worcester Emergency Hospital at 50 Orange Street, where he remained as President of the Corporation until his death. He was associated with Dr. Alston H. Lancaster in the same offices and building for forty-eight years. He was staff physician at Fairlawn Hospital for twenty years. He married Olive S. Davis of East Douglas in 1940, and made his home there. Of this marriage there was no issue. He died on June 21, 1950, and burial was in Salem, Massachusetts.

Probate #164527, Clause 6: "All the rest and residue of my property shall be converted into a trust fund, the income from which shall be paid my wife during her life, unless she marries again. After the death of my wife or the remarrying of

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said wife, the income of this trust shall be paid to the children, Richard Cottle and Mary Cottle Benedict, Jr., of my said brother, Arthur P. Cottle, share and share alike during the life of either of them. On the death of one of the children, the entire income of the trust fund shall go to the other child. On the death of the last surviving child of said brother, Arthur P. Cottle, the income of the trust shall be paid to the Worcester County Medical Society to be used in such a manner as they see fit, preferably for a home for dependent members, if such a home shall exist. I name the Worcester County Trust Company and my wife to be Co-Trustees of the above Constituted Trust Fund."

His estate was valued at \$247,504 and at the death of the persons mentioned, the income of the trust will be paid to our Society. This is many years in the future, and at the present writing, litigation is in process with the Internal Revenue Service of the United States Government, who have subtracted the sum of over \$18,000 from the trust in payment of inheritance taxes, as our District Society is not considered exempt from such an assessment, being a part of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

At the present writing, the permanent address of Mrs. Louis A. Cottle is: Avon Dale Estates, Box 437, Atlanta, Georgia.

DR. BENJAMIN THOMAS BURLEY

From "Worcester Medical News" - September 1956

"Dr. Benjamin T. Burley died suddenly May 16, 1956 while staying at the Worcester Club. Dr. Burley was born in North Epping, New Hampshire, eighty-one years ago. He was graduated from Harvard College in 1897, and received his medical degree, cum laude, from Harvard Medical School in 1901. Dr. Burley's active practice in Worcester began in 1904 after internships at City Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital and the old Boston Floating Hospital. Though subsequent years found him in graduate training in his specialty abroad, Dr. Burley's very substantial accomplishment as a neuro-psychiatrist were enjoyed for almost fifty years in Worcester, where he lived at 51 High Street. In 1952 the doctor entered semi-retirement, living in Cohasset, but frequently returning to Worcester to maintain his keen rapport with his former active medical interests and associates.

"As a neuro-psychiatrist Dr. Burley had been on the medical staffs of City Hospital, Belmont Hospital, and the Memorial Hospital as well as the Southbridge and Webster Hospitals. He is credited with establishing the departments of neurology at both City and Memorial Hospitals, and at the time of his death was still an honorary member of the City Hospital Staff.

Dr. Burley's professional associations included a charter membership in the Research Society in Neuro-Psychiatry. In addition, he held memberships in the Worcester District Medical Society, the Massachusetts Medical Society, the American Medical Association, Boston Neurological Society, New York Academy of Sciences and New England Psychiatric Society. In 1938 he became a Fellow of the American Board of Neuro-psychiatry. During World War I he held a commission as Captain in the United States Army Medical Corps, and later served as neurologist with the United States Veterans Bureau.

"Dr. Burley leaves his wife, Mrs. Angelyn Burley; a sister, several nephews and a niece. To his family, his medical associates, his friends and former patients, we tender our deep sympathy, and count our loss as great."

June 26, 1957 Bequest of Benjamin T. Burley: "SECOND (a) To the Worcester Medical Library, Inc. of said Worcester, the Memorial Hospital of said Worcester, the Harvard Medical School of Boston, Massachusetts, Phillips Exeter Academy of Exeter, New Hampshire, The First Parish Church of said Cohasset, each the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) in my memory."

THE GORDON BERRY BEQUEST - 1953

Gordon Berry was born in Okayama, Japan, on March 7, 1880, son of Dr. John Cutting and Mary Elizabeth (Grove) Berry, and died on March 17, 1953 at Memorial Hospital from a cerebral hemorrhage.

His early education was received in Japan, where his father served for twenty-five years under the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. He graduated from Worcester Academy in 1898; received his A.B. degree from Amherst college in 1902, and his M.D. degree from the University

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of Michigan in 1906. He served internships at Worcester City Hospital, the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, and the Massachusetts General Hospital. He was engaged in the practice of Otolaryngology here since 1911. He was chief of Otolaryngology at Memorial Hospital and consultant at Worcester City, Worcester Hahnemann, Fairlawn, Worcester State, Worcester County Sanatorium, Rutland State, and hospitals in Baldwinsville, Leominster, Whitinsville, Southbridge, and Putnam, Conn. He was founder of the Worcester Hearing League in 1930. He was President of our Society in 1942-1943. He served in World War I as a Major in the Medical Corps.

He married Leslie Sawtelle on June 6, 1925, and had one daughter.

Probate #174050. "Clause 2: If my wife, Leslie Sawtelle Berry or my daughter, Margaret Winthrop Berry, or any child of hers shall survive me by 30 days or more, then I give and devise as follows:

8. The sum of One Hundred (\$100) Dollars to the Worcester Medical Library, Inc., of said Worcester."

PHILIP HOWARD COOK BEQUEST - 1954

Philip H. Cook was born in Portland, Maine, on February 2, 1878, the son of Edward B. and Mary Frances (Sawyer) Cook. He was educated at Harvard University: A.B., 1899, M.D., 1903. He interned at Worcester City Hospital in 1903-1904, where he became interested in radiology. One of his duties was escorting ambulatory patients down to the office of Dr. Farnum for x-ray diagnosis, for no hospital in this vicinity was yet equipped. Because of fear of burns, Dr. Farnum donated his machine to the hospital and Dr. Cook received the appointment of "Skiagrapher", shortly after completing his houseship. This staff appointment was later changed to Roentgenologist and later still to Radiologist. Being the first of the specialty in this vicinity, he became Roentgenologist at Memorial Hospital, 1906-1929; Worcester County Sanatorium and Worcester State Hospital, 1922-1945; Fairlawn Hospital, 1923-1944; Hahnemann Hospital, 1923-1944. He was a Diplomate of the American Board of Radiology, 1935; President of New England Roentgen Society in 1926; Fellow of the American College of Radiology; member of American Roentgen Ray Society. He was a councillor of the Massachusetts Medical Society for eighteen years and President of our District Society 1928-1929.

Dr. Cook was one of those few who was intensely interested in our Society and through his efforts many projects were launched. The "Worcester Medical News", Inc., had its birth in the Publicity Committee of which he was chairman. The Worcester Medical Library had been his special concern. He had seen it emerge from the dusty eaves of the Worcester Public Library and from years of homeless wandering to its gracious quarters at 57 Cedar Street. He was a trustee in this organization for many years, and in 1947 he was appointed Librarian, a post he held until the day of his death.

An associate editor of "Medical News", he contributed vastly to our history of yesteryear, recording early Society activities, earlier hospital practices and events in the medical life of Worcester. He had compiled a bibliography of the writings of Dr. Samuel B. Woodward and a list of the names of physicians who served in our wars from the Civil War through World War II, the title of which is "War Efforts of the Worcester District Medical Society".

Dr. Cook had done a masterly piece of work in assembling a museum, which he well designated as the "Trophy Room" in the Medical Library. He gathered together strange, interesting instruments and implements, used in the early days of medicine in Worcester and the neighboring towns. This room, so dear in his interest, is now called "The Philip H. Cook Historical Room".

He enjoyed telling stories from his rich store of memories and but for his inspiration and guidance, this present history would never have been written.

After a morning's work at the Library proof-reading the "Medical News", twenty minutes later he met sudden death from a cerebral hemorrhage in his favorite morris chair at his home, 19 Somerset Street, on March 25, 1954.

True to his Society and ever thinking of our welfare, he remembered us in his will with a beneficent bequest. This took some doing on his part because for many years he had definitely decided to leave his entire estate to Harvard Medical School to establish a Chair of Radiology. His estate amounted to some \$375,000.

He grew mellow with age and, after a period of doubt, recognized the true

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worth of the veteran physicians of World War II and placed his trust in them. While other members still rankled over the rebellion, within the W.D.M.S., the cause of which lay within themselves, his vision was farseeing, while theirs was limited to the narrow bigotry of serenity despite a knowledge of guilt.

He was my true friend and magnanimous of our Society with out the trumpet of self praise so common in our midst.

Probate #177791. "Clause 5: "To the Worcester Medical Library the sum of Twenty Thousand (\$20,000) Dollars." (Note: Will not allowed. Returnable May 4, 1954) This legacy will be received by the Medical Library some time in 1955.

DR. FREDERICK H. BAKER BEQUEST

In late 1958 the Society received a letter containing these paragraphs:

"By the terms of her will Mrs. Grace C. Baker, who died in the latter part of 1954, left the residue of her estate in trust for her sister. Her sister died on October 11, 1958, so that further provisions of the will now become effective. The will provides that, upon the death of the sister, certain specific legacies be paid to named individuals and organizations and then provides as follows:

'The remainder of the property held in this trust in equal shares to the three following organizations in which (or in the purposes of which) my husband, Dr. Frederick H. Baker, was particularly interested:

WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY, INC., of Worcester, Massachusetts;

PHILLIPS EXETER ACADEMY, of Exeter, New Hampshire;

THE WORCESTER FOUNDATION FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY, of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts.'

The bank as Trustee has substantially completed the liquidation of assets held in the trust. After providing for funds to take care of these specific legacies, there is a sufficient balance of cash to permit a partial distribution to the three residuary legatees at this time. We are pleased to enclose a check for \$40,000 payable to your organization and representing a payment on account. We ask that you please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as a receipt for this check."

From the December 1958 "Worcester Medical News":

"FREDERICK HERBERT BAKER (1867-1939)

"The Worcester Medical Library, Inc. has recently been notified of a legacy of forty thousand (\$40,000) dollars, which was released by the death of Miss Sarah F. Casey of Cambridge, Massachusetts. The final account of the trust is expected to add another twenty thousand (\$20,000) dollars to this figure. This sum, which is the largest to date received by the Medical Library, is due to the prosopience of Dr. Frederick H. Baker, well known among the older members of the Medical Society as the pathologist at Worcester City Hospital.

Among the membership of the Worcester District Medical Society, there is only an occasional physician who has the foresight and wisdom to realize that the greatest benefits to the medical profession will be obtained only by making a local bequest to the Worcester Medical Library, Inc. ...The Board of Trustees can very readily put this money to work on enlarging property holdings or expanding community services. It is vital to local medicine that a group of dedicated physicians have the necessary financial backing to improve public opinion in relationship to the medical profession. This objective can only be attained through progressive expansion of property holdings to house the voluntary health agencies and through increased public service, which will pyramid the stature of the District Medical Society. Dr. Baker must, of necessity, have had these thoughts in mind when he was executing his final document."

Dr. Baker was born on a farm in Billerica, Massachusetts, in 1867. His ancestors migrated from England in 1825 and settled in Billerica, building the farmhouse where he was born. He was educated at Phillips Exeter Academy and Yale University and graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1891. The following two years he interned at the Worcester City Hospital and the Boston Children's Hospital. In 1893, he opened an office on Pearl Street and was appointed pathologist at the Worcester City Hospital. This position he held until his death in 1939. In 1894, a municipal bacteriological laboratory was established at City Hall as an aid to physicians in the diagnosis of diphtheria. This was the first of its kind in the country and Dr. Baker was the bacteriologist. In 1895, Dr. Baker gave the first does of diphtheria antitoxin in this community. Dr. Baker continued as the Director of the Diagnostic Laboratory of the Worcester

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Department of Public Health until 1933. In 1935, he was appointed Medical Examiner of the Worcester District and remained until his retirement in 1937.

Dr. Baker was well schooled in pathology, toxicology and medico-legal work. He made medico-legal investigations in more than 12,000 cases involving sudden or violent death and performed over 4,000 autopsies.

He was a lovable, thoughtful person, gruff in manner with a soft interior. He had the courage to overcome his affliction, the loss of vision in one eye. He had the foresight to think of you, the members of the Medical Society, when he establish his trust. His widow, Grace C. Baker, died in 1956 and his sister-in-law, Sally F. Casey, in 1958.

Dr. Baker was a member of the Twelve Apostles, an allied medical group at the turn of the century. Akin to St. Luke, he should be revered in the memory of the local medical members of the profession. His humanitarian interests should be the goal of all of you. "Go thou and do likewise for it is only by their deeds that you shall know them."

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SIX

HISTORY OF THE PROPERTY HOLDINGS OF THE WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY, INC.

[In 1978 the Society sold its real estate holdings and moved to offices in Mechanics Hall on Main Street. -ed]

57 CEDAR STREET

This lot was part of the Sterns, Sever, Lincoln Farms, as were the lots of 55 Cedar Street, 101-103 Merrick Street, and 31 Sever Street. Although all this property does not come under the direction of the Medical Library, it is intimately connected in the development of the parcels through the years and will be considered in part or whole in this portion of the history. The information recorded here is from the files of the American Antiquarian Society, compiled by Albert G. Waite, who has written the complete histories of homes, street by street, in the downtown area of Worcester. The works are minutely complete and are voluminous; only principal extracts are noted. It is an interesting highlight in these collections that individual photographs of hundreds of homes are recorded.

The first house on this site, the east corner of Merrick and Cedar Streets was a double house with two apartments on each side, and was number 57 and 59 Cedar Street. The corner lot on which these two houses stood contained 4,500 sq. feet. This double house was built in 1886. The first occupants of 57 Cedar Street were Frank B. Durfee, bookkeeper at the Whitcomb Envelope company, and his mother, Betsey C. Durfee; number 59 was occupied by Ella M. Warden. On September 7, 1894, Mr. William H. Burns, President of the William H. Burns Company (women's underwear) of 69 Park Avenue, purchased this property through a real estate dealer, James D. Morton, by two deeds, and an additional irregular shaped empty tract of land, 15,242 sq. feet behind the front lot, from the William S. Lincoln heirs. The sale was rather confusing because at this time Mr. Burns lived at 31 Sever Street and the three deeds were recorded in the name of James D. Morton, who resold the whole to Annie F. Burns, wife of William H. Burns, on the same date of September 7, 1894. The Burns family then moved into 57 Cedar Street. In 1895, he moved the double house back onto the south side of this land and turned it around to face west. At this time Merrick Street between Elm and Cedar Streets was called North Merrick, and the portion next to Cedar Street was known as Cedar Terrace. These houses then became 57 and 59 Cedar Terrace and by 1896 were 101-103 Merrick Street.

In 1896 Mr. Burns built a large and handsome mansion at 57 Cedar Street. It was Georgian colonial type, two full stories, with dormers on the third floor, built of wood on a dressed granite foundation, clapboard sides with a slate roof. The side entrance on Merrick was more ornate than the front on Cedar Street. There are numerous fireplaces, with four large chimneys, and the interior woodwork was the finest obtainable. He erected a large two-storied stable in the rear which was built along the lines of the house. this was reached by a horseshoe shaped drive, with a wide expanse of lawn in the center, from Merrick Street. The first assessment in 1898 was \$21,000 for the building, and \$3,800 for 7,500 sq. ft. of land. This did not include the stable which was assessed with the other property at 101-103 Merrick Street. The Burns family lived here until 1905 and due to business reverses, Mr. Burns was declared bankrupt on March 8, 1905. By this time the equity in the property was growing more confusing due to a mortgage of \$26,000 granted by the People's Savings Bank on April 29, 1904, and a second mortgage on the third parcel on July 29, 1904 for \$7,000 at 6% by John E. Day. To complete the picture of chaos, on May 20, 1905, William Woodward, Trustee

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in bankruptcy of William H. Burns, sold for \$100 to Charles A. Kabley, all the right title and interest (that is the equity) of these three parcels of real estate. Mr. Kabley thereupon immediately conveyed the property to Annie F. Burns. During this period of intrigue and clutching at straws, the People's Savings Bank on June 2, 1905, released from under their \$26,000 mortgage the mansion house property at 57 Cedar Street and the stable lot in the rear. On the same date the titles passed from Annie F. Burns to Alexander Bowler, millionaire brewer of Worcester. The assessment in 1908 was buildings, \$21,000, and 13,119 sq. ft. land, \$5,200. In 1907, Mrs. Burns sold the double house at 101-103 Merrick Street to Granville M. Stoddard. The assessment on this property in 1908 was building, \$7,500 and 9,623 sq. ft. land, \$2,400. Mr. Stoddard in 1918 then sold his holding to Mr. Bowler, who then had the original three deeds back among his possessions. The boundaries are confusing and the deeds intricate in detail, with a right of way, width 6.5', along the south side of the stable, adding to the potpourri. The property lines involved with the buildings in the three deeds and the adjacent #55 Cedar Street can best be explained by diagram from the map of 1901, which is on an insert in this account.

By the deed of 1905, although all land south of the line of 57 Cedar Street went with 101-103 Merrick Street, Mrs. Burns granted Mr. Bowler a right of way to the second tract (the stable lot) over a strip of land 4.5' wide extending from Merrick Street east along the entire south boundary of said second tract of land and preserving to the grantor a similar right of way over a strip of the grantee's premises 2' wide adjacent on the north to the above mentioned strip (thus a total width of 6.5').

On September 30, 1937, Ruth B. Bowler sold 101-103 Merrick Street to Celia Laskoff and on August 25, 1939, Celia Laskoff transferred the property to the Lenox Realty Corporation of Worcester.

Fire gutted the rear of the mansion, believed to have been caused by the cerebral palsied daughter of Mrs. Bowler, so she purchased the Hill property directly across the street and on July 27, 1942, the property was purchased by the Worcester Country Center for Aiding Transfusions, Inc., commonly known as the Blood Bank.

This transaction was only accomplished after considerable difficulty as the area had to be rezoned, and this was allowed over the objections of several neighbors. The sale price recorded was \$6,005; in addition to this Mrs. Bowler received a settlement from the fire insurance companies of from \$12,000 to \$15,000. The Blood Bank had to spend a similar amount to repaint the house. After the renovations it was occupied by that organization and by the Worcester Medical Library, Inc., who purchased a one-seventh interest in the property. With the ending of World War II, the reason for the Blood Bank disappeared and the corporation was dissolved upon the sale of 57 Cedar Street to the Worcester Medical Library, Inc., in 1947.

The deed of June 2, 1905 is herein recorded as it marks the present property lines. BK. 1806-563. Annie F. Burns to Alexander Bowler two parcels of land with buildings thereon at 57 Cedar Street and the stable lot, establishing a new line. 75' of land on Cedar Street at the S.E. corner of Merrick Street with a depth of 100, on Merrick Street; the same premises acquired by deed from James D. Morton, BK 1450 - 578 - 80. The stable lot is bounded starting from a point in the east line of Merrick Street 100' south from the intersection of Cedar Street, thence S. 72 degrees 30' E. by the rear line of tract one and land of the Church of the Unity 127.5' to a stone monument; thence s. 18 degrees 45' W. by the land of the Church of the Unity 44' to a point; thence N. 72 degrees 30' W. 127.5' to a stake on the E. line of Merrick Street; thence N. 18 degrees 45' E. by Merrick Street 44' to the point of beginning.

The entire transactions of these properties are recorded by date, book and page number at the Registry of Deeds.

55 CEDAR STREET

The house on this lot was built in 1892 by the Church of the Unity as their parsonage. The land was purchased from the Lincoln heirs. There is a restriction in the deed as well as in that of #57 Cedar Street: "Upon said land no building or part of a building other than door steps or open piazzas shall ever be erected or maintained nearer to the S. line of Cedar Street than the face of the dwelling house

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heretofore erected by said William S. Lincoln at the corner of Cedar and Sever Streets."

The first occupant was Rev. Calvin Stebbins who remained until 1899. In 1894 the assessment was building, \$6,000 and 8722 sq. ft. of land, \$3,900. Rev. Frank L. Phalen came in 1900 and lived here until 1905, when he was succeeded by Rev. Charles B. Elder, who occupied the property until 1910, when a smaller parsonage was built on Chalmers Road. The title then passed to Jacob Horowitz, a real estate operator, who moved in with his family. In 1910 the assessment was building, \$6,000 and 8722 sq. ft. of land, \$3,900. In 1916, Luther C. Brown, owner of #31 Sever Street, sold his driveway 10.2' wide and stable to Jeanne B. Horowitz. In 1917 Mr. Brown sold #31 Sever Street to Edith R. Nye with a depth of 109.8' on Cedar Street. During the depression Mr. Horowitz met with business reverses and the People's Saving Bank, who held a mortgage of \$7,750 on the property, foreclosed in December 1938. When foreclosure was inevitable, Mr. Horowitz sold the stable and driveway, which was not under the mortgage, to Mrs. Arthur E. Nye of 31 Sever Street, thus restoring the line of her property to its depth of 121 feet on Cedar Street. Mrs. Nye then converted the stable into a three-car garage. Beginning June 13, 1939, the People's Saving Bank did overhaul the house thoroughly and in September 1940 sold it for \$9,900 to James L. Riley, who worked for the Massachusetts Protective Insurance Company. He lived here with his family until 1945 and then the property was purchased on April 11, 1945 for a sum of \$11,000 by the Becker College of Business Administration, who utilized the building as a Girl's Dormitory, housing approximately thirteen girls and a house mother. In June 1953 the house was vacated for a larger and more suitable dormitory and in May 1954 title passed to the Worcester Medical Library, Inc.

The lot was part of the Sterns, Sever, Lincoln Farms.

31 SEVER STREET

Although this property is not now within the Worcester Medical Library, Inc., holdings, the intimate relationship to the parcels demand brief mention. The house was built in 1879-1880 upon land of the W.S. Lincoln estate by one of the Lincoln family, remaining in this group until 1904, then it was sold by the Elizabeth J. Lincoln heirs to Luther C. Brown, Assistant Manager and later President of Denholm and McKay Company. The occupants were listed as: 1880-1883, Charles E. Tainter, partner in Stowe and Tainter Boot and Shoe Manufacturing Company; 1883-1889, Frank A. Knowlton, Jeweller; 1884-1894, William H. Burns, manufacturer of Womens Underwear; 1894-1900, Walter S. G. Kennedy, singing teacher and Charles Alvan Williams, manager of M. Steinert & Sons; 1904-1917, Luther C. Brown; 1917 - present, Arthur E. Nye, partner in J. Russell Marble & Company, 18 Foster Street, which became in 1920 the Marble-Nye Company. Mr. Nye purchased the property from Luther C. Brown in 1917. He died on October 4, 1928 at the Phillips House of the Massachusetts General Hospital following a heart attack in a Boston hotel. His wife was Edith Richardson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Richardson of 37 Harvard Street and a sister of Mrs. Chandler Bullock. One daughter, Anne Elizabeth, graduated from Radcliffe College. Mrs. Nye in 1938 purchased 29 Sever Street, demolished the dwelling and graded the land into a lawn. She is still living in the house at the present time.

APPENDIX SEVEN

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE PHILIP H. COOK HISTORICAL ROOM

[Though the Cook room, which was located in the Society quarters on Cedar Street, no longer exists the listed items are still in the Society's possession. -ed]

O. Draper Phelps, M.D.

- (1) Holden Hospital staff picture
- (2) Wooden splints

Miss Mable Gage

- (1) Bronze statuette of Dr. Ambroise Pare

Estate of Homer Gage, M.D.

- (1) Oil painting - "Physician With a Skull"
- (2) Oil painting of Dr. Homer Gage
- (3) Bookcases of Dr. Gage

Worcester Historical Society

- (1) Memorial to Dr. Haven

Philip H. Cook, M.D.

- (1) Worcester City Hospital staff picture
- (2) Memorial Hospital staff picture
- (3) Owls Club picture
- (4) Practitioners Club picture (1935)
- (5) Ivory auscultation and percussion set
- (6) Mouth gage
- (7) Artificial leech
- (8) Eye set
- (9) Ear set

Mrs. Arthur W. March

- (1) Practitioners Club picture (1917)

Estate of J. I. Lindsay, M.D.

- (1) Druggist's Scales

Mervin Fossner, M.D.

- (1) O'Dwyer intubation set

Ernest L. Hunt, M.D.

- (1) Letter written by LARREY

Royal P. Watkins, M.D.

- (1) Artificial leech

Gordon Berry, M.D.

- (1) Bronze plaque of Oliver Wendell Holmes

Marshall Colcord, M.D.

- (1) Relics of Dr. Jacob Corey of Sturbridge, Mass.
- (2) Medical diploma - Worcester Medical College

Estate of Napoleon R. Thibert

- (1) Old static machine (first x-ray in Worcester)

James Picker of New York

- (1) Old x-ray tubes

Roy J. Ward, M.D.

- (1) Old quill pen and old pen knife

Mrs. Albert W. Rice

- (1) Framed picture of Louis Pasteur with his first patient (hung in Dr. Homer Gage's office for years)

- (2) Framed invitation to 50th anniversary of the first use of anesthesia; card of admission and seal. Property of Dr. Thomas H. Gage.

APPENDIX EIGHT

PERSONAL PROPERTY DEPOSITED AT THE AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

1. Worcester District Medical Society Secretary's books, Volumes I-V.
2. Quit claim deed from Blood Bank, August 1, 1947.
3. Certification of title.
4. Papers of incorporation (Worcester Medical Library) 1934.
5. Agreement of Association (charitable and other purposes) December 5, 1934.
6. Carbon copy of letter from Director of American Antiquarian Society to Philip H. Cook, acknowledging receipt of papers, September 20, 1948.
Deposited on May 25, 1954.
7. Papers concerning purchase of #55 Cedar Street
 - (a) Agreement with the Becker Business College.
 - (b) Certificate of title.
 - (c) Quit claim deed; April 26, 1954 - BK. 3585:159.
 - (d) Letter from Whipple removing deed restriction.

For purposes of easy location of these above items at the American Antiquarian Society, the following description is given: The personal property is stored on the second floor in the north-east room, direct center aisle from the doorway to the window casement; to the right on the bottom shelf are the Worcester District Society Secretary's books, Volumes I to V; to the left on the second shelf from the top in a green cardboard box, Marked Worcester, which upon opening is filled with cardboard files; the bottom file is marked, "The Worcester District Medical Society", and the above noted items are in this folder.