

**A necrology of the physicians of Lowell and vicinity, 1826-1898 : prepared for the Massachusetts North District Medical Society / By David N. Patterson.**

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A NECROLOGY  
OF THE  
PHYSICIANS OF LOWELL AND VICINITY  
1826 - 1898

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DAVID N. PATTERSON, M. D.



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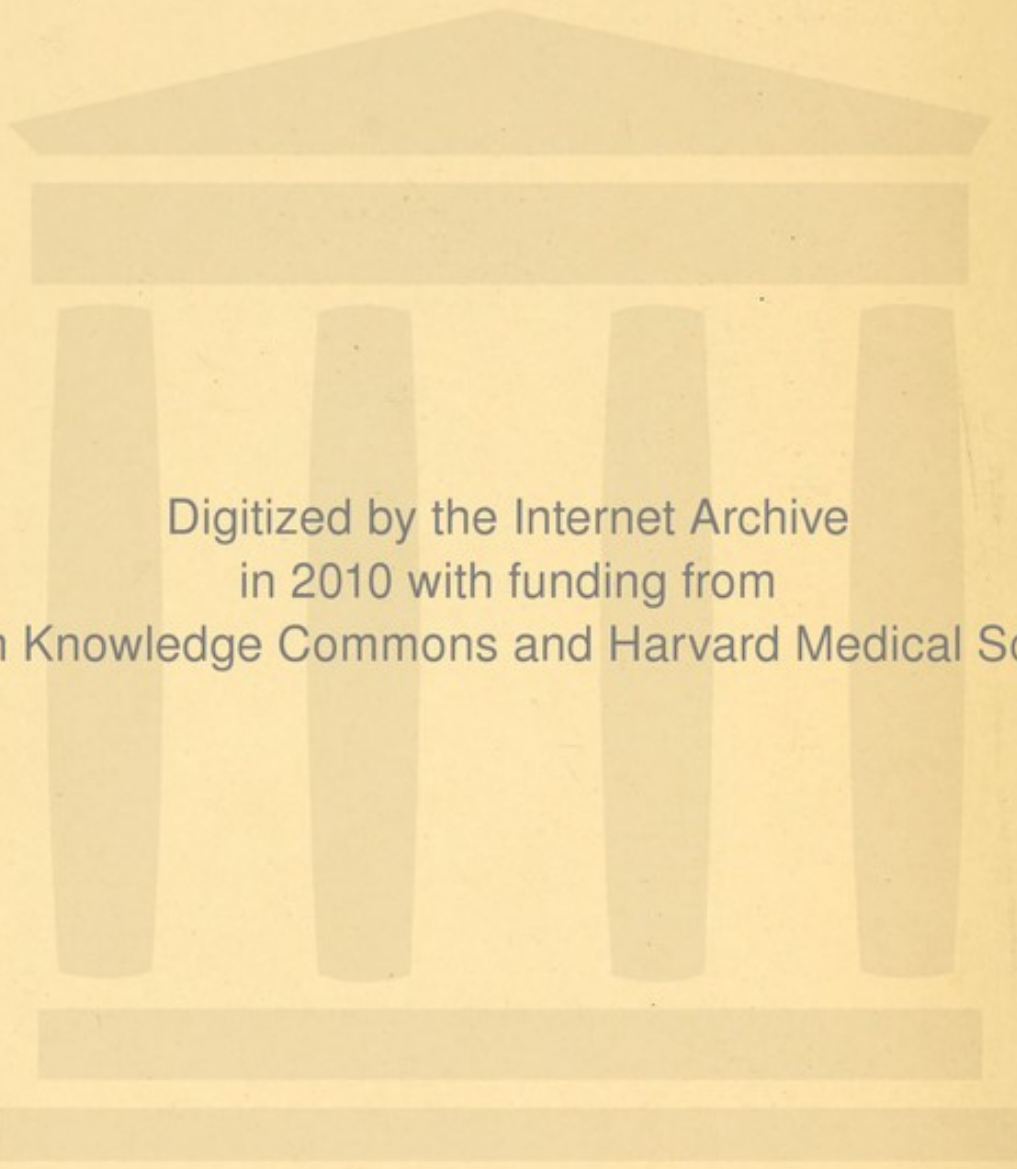


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# A NECROLOGY

OF THE

Physicians of Lowell and Vicinity,

1826-1898,

Prepared for the Massachusetts North  
District Medical Society

...BY...

DAVID N. PATTERSON, M. D.

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LOWELL, MASS.  
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY.  
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## INTRODUCTION.

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The early history of our local Medical Society is so interwoven with that of an association which preceded it, that in a review of its history a brief sketch of the earlier organization is in place.

In 1829 the first Medical Association in Middlesex County was formed. Its origin can best be stated in a printed notice, copies of which were sent to the subscribers to the association. It reads as follows:

WALTHAM, May 9, 1829.

SIR—At a meeting of a number of physicians in September last, a committee was appointed to procure subscribers to a Medical Association, whose further duty it should be to call a meeting of the subscribers as soon as forty-five signatures should be procured.

The requisite number having been obtained, the committee appoint a meeting of the subscribers to be holden in Lexington, at Chandler's Tavern, on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at 11 o'clock A. M. As the Association is to be organized at this meeting, it is important that it should be a full one; and your attendance is particularly desired.

J. BARTLETT,  
H. ADAMS,  
B. CUTTER,  
A. HOOKER,  
J. M. WHITTEMORE,  
*Committee.*

The meeting was held at Lexington, according to notice, and an association was organized. Dr. Josiah Bartlett of Chelmsford was chosen president, and Dr. S. S. Hurd secretary. The physicians of Lowell who were present at that meeting were Drs. Green, Huntington, Crosby and Bartlett. Unfortunately the records of that association have been lost.

Through the courtesy of the late Dr. John O. Green of this city, who kindly furnished extracts from his private



papers, the following facts are derived, which are of special historical interest:

The first annual meeting of this association was held May 19, 1830, and Dr. John C. Dalton of Chelmsford delivered an address on "Certainty in Medicine." All of the distinguished gentlemen from Lowell attended this meeting and participated in its exercises.

May 18, 1831, the association met at Billerica. Dr. Zadok Howe of that town delivered the address on "Fear in Connection with Medicine." This address is said to have been a very able one, and highly characteristic of its author. It was printed in full in the *Monthly Journal and Medical Student's Gazette*, published in January, 1832, and edited by Dr. Elisha Bartlett.

The next annual meeting was held in Lowell, May 16, 1832. The address was delivered in the City Hall by Dr. Abraham R. Thompson of Charlestown, on "Cholera." The interest and profit of the occasion were supplemented by an association dinner, which inaugurated what has since been a custom in similar gatherings of the profession.

The fifth and last annual meeting of the association was held at Charlestown. Dr. John O. Green of Lowell delivered the address on this occasion. Though cholera had been the subject of the last address, the prevalence of the disease in portions of the country induced the doctor to renew the discussion, and he embraced in his paper the report drawn up by him as a member of a delegation consisting of himself and Drs. Bartlett and Huntington, who had been appointed and sent to New York by the Selectmen of Lowell, one of whom was Dr. Josiah Crosby, to investigate and report the nature, remedies and preventives of cholera. It is well remembered and often referred to by our older citizens in connection with the history of that time, that a good deal of alarm had been awakened in our city by the rapid and fatal spread of the disease, and by the cases which had occurred in Boston.

In 1833 the association was dissolved on account of loss of time and the expense incurred by the members in going by stage to and from their then distant places of



meeting. For several years there was no formal organization of physicians in this immediate vicinity.

But the old association had awakened a spirit that demanded for each the advantages to be derived from the aggregated knowledge and experience of all. To meet this demand the members of the profession in this city and neighboring towns, who had largely increased in number since the organization of Lowell under a city charter in 1836, established the custom of holding occasional meetings at each other's homes, for social converse, literary improvement, and the exchange of fraternal courtesies.

Doubtless this suggested a more permanent relationship, as, after several meetings with these objects in view, a special meeting was held March 8, 1839, at which it was voted to form the Lowell Medical Association.

This voluntary association continued to grow in interest and increase in number, until, five years later, a charter was granted by the Massachusetts Medical Society for the establishment of a District Medical Society. At a meeting held in Lowell, November 2, 1844, consisting of the physicians of this city and twenty adjoining towns, it was voted "that they organize and form themselves into a District Medical Society." At an adjourned meeting the society adopted the name of the Middlesex District Medical Society.

In 1850 a slight change was made on account of the re-districting of the State. By the new arrangement, Middlesex County was divided into three districts, viz.: east, north and south. This city and eighteen neighboring towns were included in the north district, and the name of the society changed to the Middlesex North District Medical Society, which name it has since retained.

From that time until now, this society has had a kaleidoscopic existence. The up-to-date street expression, that "any old thing will do," aptly describes the place of our meetings, which for several years were held in any small room that might at the time be vacant in the third story of the Mechanics Building on Dutton Street. At the period of which I write, and for some years after, there was not the "hail fellow well met" feeling which



pervades our circle today. If those venerable walls could speak, or if the veterans of the society would speak, they could, I fancy,

"A tale unfold."

But those walls are dumb, and certainly I do not wish to break faith with my contemporaries of two decades ago, and so I will fall back upon the advice of our Aesculapian poet, that there are some things that are better

"Hushed up among one's friends."

Suffice it to say, that the meetings were poorly attended, frequently no quorum was present, but few papers were read, dissensions among the members were often long and loud, and at one time things came to such a pass that had it not been for our legal connection with the State society, our district association would have been abandoned. The late Dr. Edwards, in his able historical address in 1880, tersely sums up the situation in these words: "Lowell, such a year, month and day. Society called to order by the president, vice-president or secretary, as the case might be. The records of the last meeting were read and approved; no quorum being present the meeting adjourned." Happily the days of no quorum meetings of this society are passed.

The oft-repeated expression that the way to a man's heart is by his stomach is the keynote to the revival of this society. A free lunch always draws, and when, in 1879, it was voted to hold our meetings at the rooms of Nichols & Hutchins, to be followed by a supper, the attendance soon greatly increased and an interest was awakened that has never since departed. Upon the dissolving of that popular and well-known firm, the meetings for a few years were held at the St. Charles Hotel. Subsequently, a transfer was made to the American House, where, with the exception of our July meetings, they are now regularly held. The custom, for a few years past, to have our summer meetings take the form of an outing, is, I believe, much appreciated and enjoyed by all.

It may truthfully be stated that during the last ten or twelve years the action of this society has been most harmonious; its papers able and instructive, and, with



hardly an exception, its members have each in his turn contributed his share to make the meetings both interesting and profitable. Fortunately the Commissioner of Trials has had but little to do, except "to adorn the office and draw his pay."

Thus briefly have I placed on record the history of the Middlesex North District Medical Society, from its earliest conception until now.

The following papers, which have been prepared on different occasions, are here collected together, and present a nearly complete memorabilia of the physicians who have practiced in this vicinity for nearly a century.

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Prominent among the earlier physicians stands the name of

#### DR. ISRAEL HILDRETH.

Dr. Hildreth was born in Dracut, February 28, 1791. The house in which he lived during his long and useful life is still standing, and its sacred associations have been perpetuated in a beautiful poem, written by one of his daughters, entitled "The Homestead."

It was customary in the early days for the youth of New England to receive much of their early education at home. It was from that source that the early training of Dr. Hildreth was drawn.

Certainly no one could be better fitted by nature or intellectual acquirements to give instructions and lay the foundation of studious habits than was the father of Dr. Hildreth. He was a prominent man in the town, a justice of the peace, a man of sterling worth, and is reputed to have been one of the finest scholars of his day. One who knew him well later in life, and who until recently was the only counsellor living who practiced before him, says: "Justice Hildreth was a man of stalwart proportions, of sound, vigorous mind, and of an age which enabled him to preside with much dignity. He then held a justice court in the sitting room of his house, on the right hand side of the road as you pass over toward the Hillside



Meeting-house in Dracut. The reason why he held this court, was that there was no justice of the peace in Lowell who would act in that capacity."

After choosing his profession Dr. Hildreth showed a wise discernment in the selection of his instructors. He commenced his studies under the direction of Dr. Thomas of Tyngsborough. Subsequently he studied with Dr. Wyman of Chelmsford, who will be remembered as the able and efficient superintendent for many years of the McLean Asylum. He afterwards attended a full course of medical lectures at Boston, and received a license from the Censors of the Massachusetts Medical Society, to practice medicine and surgery.

In 1815 he commenced the practice of his profession in his native town. It was not long, however, before his practice extended for many miles into the surrounding country.

From his residence, which stood upon a slight elevation, he saw the rise and progress of this city, in which he soon had many families among his patrons, and where for many years he enjoyed as large a practice as many physicians whose homes were within the city limits. Progress with him was duty. Being a diligent student and a close observer of the phenomena of disease, he became acquainted with the principles and methods of treatment which are still considered of recent date. He did not fall into the prevailing custom of those days in the use of drugs, which were given more frequently and in larger doses than is the practice of later years. He sought rather to ascertain if the cause of any prevailing sickness was not due to the neglect of proper sanitary conditions of the house and its surroundings, and by their removal to bring about a return of health through a proper regard of the laws of hygiene.

This, together with the use of simple remedies, he considered of more importance than the increase of medicines, either in kind or quantity. In this respect he was certainly in advance of his time. In the sick room, he was ever kind, thoughtful and considerate. Nothing was allowed to escape his notice which could in any way be made subservient to the comfort and improvement of his patients, while anything which he observed that he



thought detrimental to their best interests, he was prompt and fearless in stating. He was ever ready, however, to give the reason which justified his action.

That he was frequently called to consult with his professional brethren in cases of severe sickness, or under trying and difficult circumstances, is one of the strongest proofs of his skill and reputation as a successful practitioner.

Notwithstanding the demands made upon his time as a physician, and the amount of study which must have been necessary, during a long period of exceptional practice for nearly forty years, he yet found leisure for literary pursuits, which to him were always a source of special enjoyment and improvement. From surviving members of his family it is learned that when at home he was always busily engaged in reading some useful and interesting book, the contents of which were often the subject of conversation at the table, and made of special interest by his rare conversational powers. He could concentrate his faculties with the force of a powerful lens upon whatever he had read, and could so express his reflections as to leave a lasting impression upon his children and those who temporarily enjoyed the hospitality of his home. This improvement of the intercourse of the home circle should be specially noted, as it was a habitual custom with the doctor, and one which, it is feared, is too often neglected at the present time.

He was well read in history, both ancient and modern, and was perfectly familiar with the best works in English literature. He was very fond of the poets, too, and frequently gave recitations from the plays of Shakespeare.

But it was as an orator he achieved a distinction not often reached by the quiet conversation of the sick chamber or in the consulting room at the office. Had he chosen any of the professions which would have called forth the constant application of his efforts in this direction, he would doubtless have ranked with the finest orators of his day.

He inherited his father's physical proportions, and was possessed of a mind strong in conception, rich in resources, and rapid in execution. He was able to hold



the attention of an audience with a grasp that is given only to the few. He had a fine personal appearance. His manner was self-possessed, full of grace and dignity, and, what was far better, he had at all times, and under all circumstances, the complete control of his mental powers. His voice, though sonorous, was yet soft, and, when touched by his ardent nature, it became sympathetic, and fell upon the ear like music. His manner of delivery was deliberate. He used but few gestures, and those few were always significant, the very embodiment of dignity and conscious strength. A gentleman who had frequently heard him speak has said, "His greatest perfection was his style; his sentences, though apparently prompt and unpremeditated, were in a classical mould that no meditation could improve." His speeches were mostly of a political nature, and of course characteristic of the period in which he lived.

It was in 1818 or 1819 that a political division occurred in Dracut, and for many years the two parties known as the Whigs and the Federals, passed through a crisis which is described as being of a most bitter character. Dr. Hildreth early connected himself with the Federal party, and to it he gave his best efforts. Though in a minority, on no occasion was he ever known to prove false to the principles that he advocated, and in which he firmly believed. In gathering reminiscences of his life no one instance of his political career is more often referred to than his reply to a speech made by Hon. Abbott Lawrence during the presidential campaign of 1848. Both of these speeches were made in the Centre Meeting-house in Dracut, and within a few evenings of each other. The reply of Dr. Hildreth is said to have been "one of the most crushing and effective rejoinders conceivable." It was soon after repeated in Tewksbury before a much larger audience, where, if possible, the enthusiasm it created exceeded that on its first delivery in Dracut. On several occasions he delivered the oration at the anniversary of our national independence in the towns in this vicinity.\* As an orator on such occasions his services were highly

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\* In 1829 he delivered a Fourth of July oration in the Universalist Meeting House then standing on Chapel Street in this city.



prized, and rarely did he fail to do justice to himself or the principles he then proclaimed.

As a member of the Masonic fraternity he was held in high esteem. In an able address delivered by one of the highest officers of that order, Mr. Solon W. Stevens, on the seventy-fifth anniversary of Pentucket Lodge, in alluding to his connection with that order, spoke as follows: "Dr. Hildreth was elected Master of Pentucket Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, October 28, 1819. He was a man of remarkable ability,---among the foremost of his profession as a physician, and noted for the dignity of his demeanor, the elegance of his manner, and the persuasiveness of his speech. His reputation as a presiding officer is among the traditions of the lodge. On public occasions, whenever he spoke, the melody of his voice and the distinctness of his utterance produced that charm upon the listener which may be felt but cannot be described. In the words of another, 'He was born a gentleman and an orator.' He served as Master for five consecutive years, and, on his declining another re-election, the lodge voted him 'thanks for his long and meritorious services.' "

It is not surprising, therefore, that his remarkable executive ability was early recognized by his friends and townsmen, who repeatedly urged him to accept positions of honor and trust at their hands. These, however, he persistently declined. The only office that he would accept was that of a member of the board of superintending school committee. . It was only the deep interest that he took in educational matters that induced him to fill the duties of that office, which he did to the perfect satisfaction of the people of the town. During his long period of service the schools attained a high degree of success, which was due in no small degree to his earnest, intelligent and conscientious endeavors in their behalf. At "town meeting" Dr. Hildreth considered it his duty to be present, and the occasion was rare that found him absent. His well informed mind enabled him to speak intelligently upon almost any subject. In the heated discussions, he was always sure of the closest attention. To him the weak and undecided looked for a clear, straightforward statement, which would enable them to obtain a



more intelligent view of the question than the confused representations of previous speakers had given. By such help the most unlearned man in the assembly was able to define his position, having taken his bearings from a source which to him was as welcome as an observation of the sun is to the mariner after days of obscurity. His opponents were often driven to seek new ground for defence, as their previous positions had been effectually overthrown.

Having abundant means, and not being dependent upon the income from his profession, he gradually relinquished it, and during the last years of his life retired from active practice. This enabled him to pass the evening of life in the quiet of his home, surrounded with all its comforts, and the loving care of children. Age did not dim his mental faculties, which he retained in a remarkable degree.

Thus, even in declining years he was able to some extent to continue his habits of study and enjoy his last days with the best works of literature as his companions.

Having always possessed a strong, vigorous constitution, and having seldom experienced illness, he gave little heed to those symptoms which in another he would have considered with serious concern.

At the last he was confined to his house but a few weeks, and to his room not many days, with a disease that was somewhat complicated in character, its real nature never being known, which terminated his life April 6, 1859, at the age of 68. His memory will long be cherished by those who knew him best, while his rich and varied qualities of mind and heart will not soon be forgotten.

---

This paper will recall the practice of a father and son continued through nearly three-quarters of a century,

#### DRS. AMOS AND PELEG BRADLEY.

Dr. Amos Bradley was born in Dracut, October 2, 1762. He was the son of Deacon Amos Bradley, who will be brought to mind in connection with an item of local history as the gentleman for whom "Bradley's Ferry" was named.



Dr. Bradley spent his earliest years in the usual occupations of a farm. His father then owned a large farm in Dracut, which is now Centralville, covering nearly all of the side hill east of Bridge Street, having the river on one side, and what is now Tenth Street on the other. The market of Mr. John K. Kingsbury is located in a portion of the old house in which he was born, and which is, doubtless, one of the oldest buildings in this city. His opportunities for an education were limited, and it is not known with whom he studied medicine. He commenced practice about the time he was married, which was in 1785. Soon after this he purchased the farm now owned by Mr. Charles Hamblett in Dracut, where he lived the remainder of his life.

There is a varying tradition that for fifteen or twenty years Dr. Bradley was the only resident physician in the town. He had a large practice, and was a perfect type of the country doctor of olden time. He made his daily tour of professional visits, through the town and surrounding country, on horseback. When in the saddle, he wore a pair of felt leggings to prevent his trousers from being soiled by the mud or dust of the road. In their accustomed place he carried the ever-memorable saddle-bags, which, when opened at the bedside of the sick, revealed a curious medley of well-filled phials of medicines, various instruments, and other paraphernalia of his profession. The circuit over which, for so many years, he travelled in the discharge of his professional duties, may be briefly stated as follows: On leaving his house in the morning, and after having made his calls in the immediate vicinity, he would cross over the river at "Bradley's Ferry," into that part of Chelmsford which is now Lowell, and continue on through Middlesex, North Chelmsford and Tyngsborough, where he would re-cross the river by "Tyng's Ferry," thence he would proceed through the northwestern portion of Dracut to Pelham, N. H., returning to his home by the turnpike road through that section of Dracut known as "Black North."

There was scarcely a day for many years that he did not travel over portions of the above route, and rarely a week passed that he did not complete the entire circuit. In each of the towns mentioned he had many families.



These long rides, made in all kinds of weather during summer and winter, and often extending late into the night, to be again commenced before the break of day, required a strong and rugged constitution and an indomitable will, both of which he fully possessed.

It is related of a physician that, when on his death-bed, he gave explicit directions in regard to the care of his horse, which had been his faithful servant for many years. That such a request would not have been inappropriate for the subject of this sketch, may be inferred from a statement made by one who is a relative of the family, who says "that on several occasions, late in the night, the first intimation to the family of the doctor's arrival, would be the whinnying of a horse in the yard, and on going to the door to ascertain the cause, the doctor would be found sitting in his saddle sound asleep," his faithful horse having brought him safely over many a mile while he was obtaining that rest in sleep which he so much needed.

As a man he was honored and respected. His traditional reputation is that of a skilful, conscientious physician, who was faithful to his patients, and ever mindful of his own professional honor. He continued in practice for forty-five years, and left as a legacy to his son, who succeeded him, a practice which he had built up by steady and persistent efforts, the income of which had enabled him to meet the reasonable wants and necessities of a large and growing family.

He continued in practice until within a few months of his death, which was caused by paralysis. He was confined to the house but a few weeks after the fatal shock. His death occurred May 6, 1817. His funeral was largely attended by people coming long distances, and who mourned the loss of one whom they had learned to love as a kind and sympathizing friend.

Dr. Peleg Bradley, son of the subject of the preceding sketch, was born in Dracut, May 26, 1792. He received his education at the town school and at the Academy in Westford. For several terms he taught a winter school at Pelham, N. H., and at Salem in this State. He studied his profession in the office of his father, attended medical lectures at Boston, and received a license to practice from the Censors of the Massachusetts Medical Society.



In 1813 he commenced practice in Dracut, and, until his father's death, was in company with him. The confidence which had been given to the father was not long in being transferred to him. It is to his credit that his fidelity to the profession which had been his father's pride and the object of his tireless efforts did not lose any of its fascinations, but rather gained new importance, as the opportunities of a larger practice opened before him. In company with his father, he travelled over the circuit already described, and soon extended its limits by including the towns of Methuen, Andover, Billerica and Tewksbury. Lowell, both as a town and city, contained a considerable number of his best families.

It was natural that his method of practice, at first, should conform somewhat to that of his father, though it was afterwards modified to meet the demands of modern thought and experience. During the first years of his practice he obtained all of his medicines from Boston, and at his house he kept a small apartment where he compounded his mixtures, made his pills, and prepared his ointments and plasters.

He inherited an adaptedness for his profession, and was always happy when busily engaged in its active duties. He was a careful physician, and gave attention to methods of obtaining knowledge from experience. He kept an accurate record of his most important cases, giving careful thought to the details of aetiology, pathology, diagnosis and treatment. He was thus enabled to classify and arrange under their appropriate heads the different diseases, and to arrive at better methods of treatment than an absence of such a method could have given.

He also kept an accurate descriptive account of his obstetrical cases, which he arranged with great care, and which is still preserved in his family. The wisdom of such a course has been demonstrated by the frequent reference which has been made to its pages by the respective clerks of this city and the neighboring towns. No little amusement has been quietly enjoyed by the surviving members of the family who possess this record, when they have overheard the remarks made occasionally by certain of the fairer sex of "uncertain age," who have



confidently declared that no one could tell how old they were, as the family record had accidentally been destroyed.

Although not in practice as long as his father, the younger Bradley, during a period of thirty years, accumulated some property. When it is remembered that his charge for office advice, with medicine, was only twenty-five cents, and for visits to the house fifty cents, and allowance is made for various deductions and losses which are always incident to the practice of medicine, something as to the extent of his practice may be inferred. Although he took a watchful interest in political questions of the day, yet he cared for no public honors, being content to cast his vote, and to fulfil the quiet duties of a citizen.

In 1845 he built the house on Third Street which for many years was occupied by the late Mr. Daniel Stickney, where he lived during the few remaining years of his life. He did not possess the strong and rugged constitution of his father, but was frequently subject to gastric troubles which temporarily confined him to the house. These increased in frequency and severity during the last year of his life, and at length became complicated with ulceration of the bowels, and after several weeks of great suffering he died, September 26, 1848, at the age of fifty-six.

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In 1824, two years before the incorporation of the town of Lowell, there came into this place a young man of ripe mental culture, scholarly attainments, and possessing traits of character unusually promising. These and other excellent qualities were united in the person of

### DR. ELISHA HUNTINGTON,

who was destined to fill a place in the early history of Lowell that even the most sanguine admirer could not anticipate.

Dr. Huntington was born in Topsfield, Essex County, Massachusetts, April 9, 1796. He was the son of the Rev. Asahel Huntington, for nearly twenty-five years the devout and faithful minister of the town. His mother



was the daughter of Dr. Elisha Lord, a distinguished physician of Pomfret, Connecticut, and was a woman of superior intellect, high culture and great moral worth.

Under their instruction and influence he was trained in correct habits, and imbibed those sterling principles by which his future life was controlled. He was fitted for college under the direction of his father, who made it a part of his occupation to fit young men for college, and his adaptedness for that work was shown by the scholarship and number of students who were instructed by him, many of whom afterwards occupied important places of trust and responsibility. Mr. B. A. Gould, for many years master of the Boston Latin School, was among the number.

He entered Dartmouth College at the age of 15, and graduated in the class of 1815. He studied medicine with Dr. Bradstreet of Newburyport, and attended medical lectures at Yale College, taking his degree in 1823. In 1824 he came to Lowell and entered at once upon a career of professional and official duties such as it is rarely the fortune of one man to experience. As in other pursuits, so in the practice of medicine, time, circumstances and surroundings have much to do in directing the course and shaping the destinies of men. It was fortunate that Dr. Huntington did not choose one of the specialties in medicine or surgery to which to devote his thoughts and his hours of study, for subsequent events, in which he was so actively engaged, and the duties of which he was so eminently fitted to discharge, would have made it necessary for him to sacrifice the studies of the one or the obligations of the other.

But as a general physician he was eminently successful, and when not interrupted by the duties of his official position, he enjoyed a large practice. If we may presume to speak of his professional worth in a more sacred relation, it may be stated that as a family physician he enjoyed the confidence and high regard of a large number of families in this community, who retained his services as long as he lived. During the early years of his practice, Lowell was being rapidly populated by individuals and by large and enterprising families. The excellent opportunities and inducements offered by this



growing city had considerable influence in drawing within its limits a large number of the latter.

The relations which a physician sustains to the families by whom he is employed have been so beautifully expressed by an eminent writer, and apply so forcibly to the subject of this sketch, that they are here appended without change: "Warm and generous in his friendships, none could surpass him in his sympathy for the afflicted and suffering, and thus controlled, his attentions were unremitting. To skill, that was seldom baffled, there was added this essential qualification of a successful physician---a benevolent heart; a heart that feels his patient's pain as if it were his own; that looks on the woe-stricken countenance of a wife, and resolves that, if possible, she shall be saved from the desolation of widowhood; that looks on weeping children, and resolves that no energy shall be spared in saving them from the orphan's destitution; that looks at a father's and mother's anguish, and resolves that, with God assisting, he will save their child."

This, which was said of another, expresses with special emphasis the characteristics of Dr. Huntington. He was faithful to those who were intrusted to his care, sparing not himself in his endeavors to allay the sufferings of the sick or the anxiety of their friends. Especially to the poor was he very considerate; and ready to give his time and his skill, which were often supplemented by pecuniary aid. An eminent writer has remarked that "great men and great events grow as we recede from them; and the rate they grow in the estimation of men is in some sort a measure of their greatness."

A generation has grown up in our city since Dr. Huntington finished a municipal career which has never been excelled in our local history. While Lowell was yet a town, he served two years as one of the Selectmen and four years as a member of the School Committee. After its incorporation as a city, he served three years as a member of the Common Council, two terms of two years each as a member of the School Committee, which, with the period he served as a member of the board by virtue of another office, gave him a prominent position on that educational board for sixteen years.

He was three times elected an Alderman. and in 1839,



during his second year as President of the Common Council, he was elected to fill the office of Mayor, made vacant by the death of Hon. Luther Lawrence, only a few weeks after entering upon his second term of office. He was re-elected to fill that office in 1840, 1841, 1844, 1845, 1852, 1856 and 1858---a period of eight years, which is more than twice as long as held by any other incumbent. With these facts before us, and knowing that on several occasions he positively declined a re-election, what must be the verdict in respect to the position which he held in the minds and hearts of the people of Lowell? Can it be any other than that of unlimited confidence and respect? A confidence and respect that early in his municipal career won for him the entire support of our citizens, and were a passport to his re-election, until the word re-election well nigh lost its significance, so often was it used in connection with him. It was only on one or two occasions that he was defeated, and on no occasion was his election so questionable that a recount of votes was necessary. The fact that party animosity and political chicanery were not as prevalent then as now will not account for the doctor's long retention in office.

The foot-lights gave a clear view of the stage on which the political actors moved, and the lifted curtain often revealed as intense and varied popular excitement as characterizes the local elections of the present day. What, then, were the essential elements of his success, and wherein lay his power, which was so unmistakably recognized? Perhaps in no better way can they be studied than by reference to some of his inaugural addresses. That he felt the responsibility and dignity of the office may be inferred from his address on one occasion when he said: "I cannot fail to consider the matter in all seriousness, and to feel that a great duty is laid upon me---a duty that I am to discharge without fear or favor and with perfect impartiality towards every member of the community."

It is believed that during the administration of Dr. Huntington, he faithfully and with honest purpose carried out in act what he had proclaimed in word. It was because of that honest endeavor that the citizens of Lowell felt a degree of security when Dr. Huntington pre-



sided at the head of our municipal government. During his long period of service as mayor, his deportment was correct, his judgment sound, and the success of his administration universally admitted. The only charge that was ever brought against him was his liberality to the poor. If that was a failing, it was a God-given one, and the care and attention bestowed upon that unfortunate class will be approved in a higher court than that of popular prejudice.

In one of his inaugurals he gives considerable attention to the subject of the care of the poor. It is fortunate that this was done, as it enables us to judge of his motives in this work. These are his words: "Our whole duty to the poor is not discharged by relieving their immediate and pressing necessities. The great object that should never be lost sight of is the prevention of pauperism, and this is to be accomplished in various ways---by teaching the poor habits of temperance, industry and economy; encouraging and aiding them in self-dependence and self-respect." There are abundant proofs that by such methods did he seek practically to aid this unfortunate class.

When, in 1856, he entered for the seventh time upon the duties of mayor, it would seem from the tone of the opening sentences of his address, that in his own mind he did not intend to again accept the responsibilities of that office. In his exordium he briefly reviews his period of service in the municipal history of this city with these words: "You may readily imagine, gentlemen, how difficult, nay impossible, it is for me to find fitting words to express the feelings of my heart on this occasion. To have received so many tokens of the generous confidence and kindness of the people among whom I have lived for more than thirty years, and not be deeply moved thereby, would prove me wanting in ordinary sensibility." At the next election he positively refused to allow his name to be used as a candidate for re-election.

But the following year---1857---will ever be remembered in the history of our country as the year of the "great panic." Almost every business community within its borders was more or less affected, and this city was not excepted. When the time came in the fall of that year to nominate a candidate for mayor for the ensuing year, the



utmost concern was felt that the choice should be made wisely and with care. There was a feeling that no party issues were at stake, but that a responsibility rested upon each man's shoulders that he dare not cast off without regarding its consequences. Then it was that the citizens of Lowell unanimously nominated Dr. Elisha Huntington, and by a large majority elected him for the eighth time as their honored and beloved mayor. They knew his worth, and to him they entrusted the interests of this city, when, if ever within its history, there was needed a wise, judicious and Christian man at the helm.

If in coming time this city should again be involved in financial depression and doubt, and the highest city official should wish to stimulate the citizens of this community with hope, activity and enterprise, he can do no better than refer to the calm, thoughtful and enlightened views which are contained in the eighth and last inaugural address of Dr. Huntington. His political honors were not confined to his own city, nor his executive ability employed in her behalf alone. In 1852 he was chosen Lieutenant-Governor of the State on the Whig ticket with Governor Clifford.

For two years he was president of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and also for two years served as president of the District Medical Society, having held all of the minor offices of that society. The resolutions passed by that body on the occasion of his death testify to the reverence with which he was regarded by his professional brethren, and "that his ambition for professional success never betrayed him into dishonorable practices; and whose desire for self-improvement, which made him an accomplished man in his profession, also made him a zealous supporter of everything conducive to its honor and welfare." He was a most active member of the Middlesex Mechanics Association, and was chairman of the lecture committee for several years. His interest in education was of the practical kind. It might be supposed by some that a life so active and full of various occupations would prevent him from obtaining that knowledge from books, the pursuit of which the student so much enjoys. But an incident occurring only a few months before his death



will, we think, correct the idea that he had lost his love for the studies of his youth.

Daniel Webster said in his master plea for his Alma Mater, before the learned court at Washington, "It is a small college, as I have said, and yet there are those who love it," and in describing that scene, one has remarked, "that not a man among the strong-minded men of that assembly thought it unmanly to weep with the great orator alumnus over her glory and peril." That Dr. Huntington might be placed among the number that had not forgotten the debt he owed to Dartmouth College, may be inferred from the fact that during the last summer of his life he paid a filial visit to his Alma Mater. Although his health was seriously impaired at this time, he attended the commencement exercises, it being the fiftieth anniversary of his graduation.

The last public act of his life was to attend as a bearer at the funeral of his friend and associate, Dr. Campbell. This, like many other duties, was performed at a time when his physical condition would hardly admit of such service. On that occasion he contracted a severe cold, which, added to his somewhat impaired health, produced a severe shock to his system, and on December 13, 1865, this good man passed away, confident in that faith which had been his stay and support through all the years of his life. The grief felt at the death of Dr. Huntington was universal, and his loss to the city felt to be irretrievable. But so long as the fame of this city shall survive, the public services of Dr. Huntington will live upon its records, and his name occupy a prominent place in its history.

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Located in the neighboring town of Billerica, there stands a building of noticeable proportions, upon whose front walls appears in raised letters—"HOWE SCHOOL." It is with a brief sketch of the founder of that school,

#### DR. ZADOK HOWE,

that this paper is concerned. To say of him that he was a bundle of eccentricities would not exaggerate



the oddity for which he was noted. Concerning his birth, early history, family connections, or future purposes in life, he would reveal nothing. Not until after his death was it known by his townsmen and friends that he had any relatives living. Some time after his decease a gentleman was found who proved to be his brother, from whom reliable information regarding the doctor's early life was obtained. Of matters of personal history, and especially with reference to his age, he was ever most reticent. His birth is believed to have been at Bolton, Tolland County, Connecticut, February 15, 1777. His education, which was quite limited, was obtained at Foxborough, Massachusetts, where his father, for whom he was named, and who was of Revolutionary fame, died November 17, 1809. Whether the peculiar and varied circumstances which followed each other in rapid succession for a number of years had any influence in shaping his future eccentric career, can only be surmised. At the age of sixteen he went to Hartford, in his native state, where he learned the trade of watch-making, which he followed for several years. Here, also, he developed considerable fondness for the brush and easel.

It was late in life that he commenced the study of his profession, under the direction of Dr. Miller of Franklin, Massachusetts. He began practice in Concord, New Hampshire, where he remained a few years, acquiring in the meantime considerable professional business and a growing reputation. But for some reason he became dissatisfied, and in 1814 he entered into partnership with his former preceptor, Dr. Miller, and for two years they carried on the business of an infirmary for the cure of cancers. This not proving lucrative, "the partnership affairs were adjusted and divided." When he was next heard of he was located in Boston. He remained there but a few weeks, when, one day after dark, he took in his sign, and again embarked on the troubled waters of uncertainty.

The next place to which he directed his steps was the town of Billerica. Whether in previous places he had not received that encouragement which he needed, or whether the surroundings were not suited to his tastes, may be



questioned, but certain it was that in Billerica "his talents and worth soon became appreciated, and secured for him an extensive business."

Referring to his eccentricities, one who knew him well has remarked "that it was impossible for him to do anything that was not odd." Yet that very peculiarity stamped him as a man of more than ordinary genius. His writings, of which there are known to be twelve publications, are noted for a degree of zeal and diligence in pursuit of knowledge pertaining to his subjects, and for perspicuity in narration. On one occasion, in preparing a report of several important cases, he says, "I am fully aware that the reports of many cases, important in themselves, lose much of their interest when drawn out in minute details; and taking for granted that no one cares to be informed whether the patient took a spoonful of laudanum at night, or a bowlful of guel in the morning, I shall abstain from the discussion of any such matters; and in my descriptions shall only be solicitous to make myself clearly and distinctly understood." It may be safely stated, without fear of contradiction, that whoever has had occasion to refer to any published reports of his cases, has been saved the trouble of wading through several pages of useless material.

In a previous paper, reference has been made to his able address on "Fear in Connection with Medicine," which he delivered before the Middlesex Medical Association in 1831, and which was published at that time. Its introduction was marked by the characteristic peculiarities which have been noted. "The privilege of choosing a subject for discussion," he says, "and the ample time allowed me for preparation are circumstances which I have turned to very little account. Man is an indolent being; he requires the stimulus of necessity to prompt him to exertion. Give him a whole year for time, give him all creation for the choice of a topic for the discussion of a single hour, and, after all, he will probably come forward with a hasty production, because he could always postpone the consideration of his subject 'to a more convenient season.'" He then proceeds with a discussion of his theme, entering with diligent and careful search into the



mythology of the Greeks and Romans, the earliest writings of ancient history, theology and medicine, referring occasionally to the mysteries of the dark ages, and then closing with quotations from the writers of his own time. Although nearly seventy years have elapsed since that address was published, it would still be read with interest if it were reprinted.

His address on "Quackery," delivered before the State Medical Society, is considered by some as his best production, though when compared with the one on "Fear," many would prefer the latter.

Opening with the remark that "This topic has engaged the attention of philanthropists through a long succession of ages," he proceeds to consider the arts of quackery as they prevailed in the days of Henry VIII. He then ingeniously conducts his hearers through a somewhat circuitous line of attack upon quackery, which he declares still survives, "not only in England, but, what is of more importance to us, the demon of Empiricism still hovers over the land of the Pilgrims." Numerous selections from that address might be given to show the mingling of his brilliant sallies of wit with the scathing utterances of sarcasm. But one only must suffice, which reads as follows: "It is to be regretted that even in these days of medical light and knowledge, the line of demarcation between the scientific practitioner and the professed quack is not always so clearly defined as it should be. The following case, which occurred a few weeks since, will afford an illustration in point: I was called to examine a tumor upon the neck of a gentleman from a neighboring state. Upon removing his cravat, which partially concealed the tumor, I discovered a ten-cent piece attached to a cord, which passed around his neck, together with a string of gold beads hanging in festoons over the tumor. I first made inquiries touching these 'deposits of the precious metals,' and was informed by the patient that he had consulted a seventh son, who presented him with the ten-cent piece, to be constantly worn about his neck; but that the gold beads had been subsequently directed by a regular practitioner, who informed him that the silver



was a very good application, but that in real scrofulous humors the gold was more powerful."

Dr. Howe's talents and success as a surgeon will be handed down to posterity, and be as enduring as the genius of his literary productions. He was careful and conscientious in his methods of procedure, and took much pride in saying "that he never performed an operation when he thought he could do no good." Many of his instruments he made himself, and, doubtless, to his professional ingenuity many owed their lives. His method of removing a hay-hook from a boy who, in sliding down from a mow of hay, had struck upon the pointed end of the hook, which had penetrated his body at the lower part of the abdomen, and protruded from his body but two inches below the umbilicus, was original and characteristic. "It was an iron hook, two inches across the point of the barb (which is not unlike that of a fish hook) and rather long in proportion to its width, with a wooden handle attached to it by a socket." The doctor saw his patient two hours after the accident, he having been sent for in consultation. The sufferings of the boy may be better imagined than described, and he was evidently sinking under the intense pain and shock to his nervous system. Whatever was to be done must be decided upon quickly. The course which he adopted was most ingenious, and was as follows: That it could not be extracted in the same way as it entered will be readily seen from the shape of the hook. He therefore procured a blacksmith's vise of the largest size, and securing it to the floor and the bedstead in a substantial manner, he brought his patient into a favorable position with the lower limbs bent and supported by an assistant. He placed the rod in the vise and gave the screw a strong turn. Then with a cabinet-maker's fine saw, running in oil, the rod was separated between the socket and vise. On making an incision of desired length, the iron was removed, and the patient ultimately recovered.

The above is but one of many operations which he performed under equally as trying and difficult circumstances. As a physician he was eminently successful, and during his long residence in Billerica he enjoyed a large



practice, while the esteem with which he was regarded by his professional brethren may be inferred from the statement that his consultation practice was very large, frequently extending not only in the immediate adjoining towns but in more distant parts of the state.

His eccentricities were as varied and changeable as the pictures in a kaleidoscope. At one time when the "tobacco question" was creating considerable discussion in medical circles, the doctor gathered the names of the oldest men, whether living or dead, within the circle of his practice, going back in his researches for twenty years. Of course the names of the living were easily obtained, while those of the dead he gathered from family tombstones and bills of mortality. He then proceeded to ascertain how many of that number were or were not in the habit of using tobacco. This information he obtained mostly from the store-keepers who sold that article. He then presents the result of his investigations as follows: "The list contains the names of 67 men from 73 to 93 years of age; average age 78 and a fraction.

"After patient inquiry, never having received a guess as evidence, I arrived at the following result, viz.:

Smokers or chewers . . . . .	54
Non-consumers of Tobacco . . . . .	9
Doubtful, or not ascertained . . . . .	4
	<hr/>
	67

How much longer these men might have lived without tobacco, it is impossible to determine."

On another occasion, while staying a few days in the village of Canterbury, New Hampshire, he was much interested in what was to him a new process of unloading hay, the most marked feature being the rapidity with which it was done. He therefore placed himself in a favorable position to observe the *modus operandi*, and then took out his watch and timed the proceeding, which occupied only six minutes. The time, together with a detailed account of the process, he recorded in his journal.

When he purchased the "Everett lot," on which the schoolhouse now stands, the conjectures of his friends occasioned no little amusement to the doctor, who would



not satisfy their curiosity by answering questions as to his future use of the grounds, but rather excited it by building a durable and handsome fence in front of the lot, and adorning it with trees.

After his friends had tired of asking in regard to its future use, they settled down with the belief that he selected the spot for his last resting place. Although this lot was purchased twenty years before his decease, yet so well did he keep his secret that it was not known until after his death for what purpose it was designed.

Although he never married, yet he was noted as quite an expert in the way of matrimonial match-making, often eclipsing the efforts of those who are supposed to know the peculiar workings of that mysterious business. He had a pleasant manner of introducing a young lady and gentleman to each other, and frequently by his eccentric remarks made them better acquainted in a few minutes than more fashionable methods, the formality of which often defeats their purpose, could have brought about in as many weeks. No one enjoyed a joke at a family's expense better than he, but when seriously speaking of the sacred relations of marriage, he treated them with great reverence and respect. Whatever might have been his disappointments in early life, he never allowed them to lower his belief in the sacred and Christian offices of marriage.

As in every duty which he performed he aimed to be practical, so in his religious life this element was not wanting. He had his theories concerning the teachings of the Bible, and they may have differed from those of other men, but whatever they were, he exemplified them so closely in his daily life, that there could be no doubt that they had their seat in the heart.

That he should have accumulated a large estate is accounted for from the fact of his making careful collections, and, having no family, he lived very economically. Soon after settling in Billerica his ingenuity was displayed by the following manner of collecting his charges:

Most of his patients being farmers, and not always having ready money, were inclined to make a long payday. Dr. Howe adopted this expedient: At the beginning of every year he prepared notes with receipted bills, and,



calling on his patrons, proposed settlement of accounts by their signing these notes—saying he did not want the money, they could pay whenever convenient, but that it would greatly oblige him, as he would then have no further trouble in his accounts or bills. It will be seen at once that these notes on interest proved of far more value than any old or disputed bills.

He generally enjoyed good health and possessed a constitution capable of enduring great labor and fatigue. During the last years of his life he was troubled with obscure symptoms of heart disease, which finally developed into the form known as angina pectoris, which finally caused his death quite suddenly, March 8, 1851, at the age of 74. "By his will he bequeathed three thousand dollars to the Bible Society, and the remainder of his property, amounting to about thirty thousand dollars, to erect and maintain an Academy in Billerica, 'for instruction in the higher branches of English education, and such other studies as are required of young men preparatory to entering college.'"

The academy was erected as provided, and will perpetuate for generations, in the history of that ancient town, the name of the good "old bachelor" doctor.

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A reverend gentleman on one occasion said: "There is a beautiful cathedral built by one of the princes of the Old World, which, as you look at it from one side, fascinates you with its splendor, and you exclaim, 'Nothing can be more grand!' But when you step to another side and look at it in another light, it speaks with a new beauty not seen before. As you go to still another side, another vision bursts upon the gaze, seemingly more grand than the others. But you change your position yet once more, and another equally fascinating view fills the eyes." So it is with the life and character of

#### DR. ELISHA BARTLETT.

Approach it by whatever avenue you may, it fascinates while it instructs, and you desire to know more of him of whom it has been said, that "his childlike simplicity, his



sweet and loving disposition, his purity of life, his gentleness of temper and conduct, his honesty and uprightness were all mirrored in his face, and so strongly marked and so beautifully blended that a stranger even could not mistake his character."

Dr. Bartlett was born in Smithfield, Rhode Island, October 6, 1804. His parents possessed the unostentatious virtues and correct habits of the Society of Friends, of which they were active and consistent members. Although he did not receive a collegiate education, the loss was more than supplied by a highly finished and classical training, received at seminaries and institutions at home and abroad which rivalled the most famous universities of his time.

His medical education was pursued under several distinguished physicians. Among these were such men as Dr. Wheaton of Providence, Dr. Willard of Uxbridge, and Drs. Green and Heywood of Worcester. He attended medical lectures in Boston and Providence, and was graduated as Doctor in Medicine at Brown University in 1826. After his graduation, he spent nearly a year in Europe, and during several months' sojourn in Paris he placed himself under the most distinguished teachers of the healing art in that metropolis. His visit to Italy at the same time was one of the most pleasant remembrances of his life, and he ever held in vivid and grateful recollection the experiences he there enjoyed. Returning to this country late in the fall of 1827, on the fifteenth of December of that year, when only twenty-three years of age, he came to Lowell, and entered at once upon his professional career.

Never in the history of this city has there lived a more studious, faithful and conscientious physician than was Dr. Bartlett. Of elegant person and accomplished manners, with rare conversational powers and an entire absence of affectation, he became at once a universal favorite, while his pure and exalted principles gave him a place in the hearts of the people and left an impression upon society which will live as long as memory shall survive, and a marked influence for good which shall reach to succeeding generations. The object of this paper will in some degree be realized if, though in a humble manner, it shall enable the citizens of Lowell---to some it may be for



the first time, and to others yet once more---to catch a few glimpses of the life and character of that rare man, concerning whom Dr. Oliver W. Holmes, when speaking of his death, remarked that his loss was a "national calamity."

As a physician, he stood among the foremost this side of the Atlantic. Having enjoyed superior advantages of medical training, he was prepared to take advanced ground, and by continuous study and application to the duties of his profession, he reached a position among the medical faculty which caused him to be recognized as a leader in the onward march of the science and practice of medicine. His method was not routine in its character, nor was it confined to medicinal treatment alone. While he was well versed in *Materia Medica*, and understood perfectly the nature and action of drugs, he yet was a firm believer in the recuperative powers of nature, and condemned a loose and indiscriminate use of medicines as showing a lack of judgment on the part of the practitioner, as unworthy of the profession as the ignorance displayed by those who are timid and undecided in the presence of disease. His discriminating and sagacious mind went deeper than the practice that rested with prescribing medicines. He went back of that. He looked for the cause---and sought by removing or modifying that, to obtain the more important object of practical medicine, viz.: the prevention of disease. This he strongly believed in, and on one occasion firmly declared it to be "the great mission which now lies immediately before us." "This," he said, "is to constitute the great work of the next and succeeding generations." It was such original views and fearless conduct that placed Dr. Bartlett far in advance of his times, as a medical practitioner and writer.

Although a resident of this city only a little over a decade of years, he was called to fill many offices of honor and trust. It is an honor to the medical profession that one from her ranks was first chosen to fill the position of Mayor of our city. There could be but one first Mayor in our municipal history, and it was a mark of special distinction that this responsible trust should have been bestowed upon Dr. Bartlett when only thirty-two years of age. Doubtless both parties were eager to secure the



advantage and the honor of the position, and put in nomination their best and most popular men. In this contest the doctor's opponent was Rev. Eliphalet Case, an able and respected citizen, of large experience and culture, and who had been a clergyman of considerable distinction. To have triumphed in such a contest is evidence of great popular favor. Dr. Bartlett was not a politician in the usual acceptance of the term, and the duties of his official position were not altogether congenial to his studious habits and literary pursuits. But having been elected, by a respectable majority, to fill the office of chief magistrate of the city, he felt the responsibility to be a sacred trust, and taking his place at the helm, he ably and judiciously guided the new enterprise out into the untried waters of municipal government, and, after two years of wise administration, gave the keeping of that trust into other hands. It was not in an official capacity only, but also as a private citizen that he was ever ready to exert his influence on the side of justice, truth and right. The occasions were numerous that found him exercising his voice and pen in behalf of the helpless and the unfortunate.

By frequent lectures on matters pertaining to health he sought to confer upon the people of this community the results which were to be obtained by careful attention to those conditions of sanitation and hygiene which he knew so well how to explain to the apprehension of others.

Our older citizens will recall an effort made by Dr. Bartlett in behalf of the working people of this city, which bound him to their hearts with ties never to be broken. It is well known that during the first ten or fifteen years of the industrial history in this city, the condition of those employed in our mills was peculiarly exceptional. The operatives, especially the female portion, nearly all belonged to our New England families. They had been brought up in our country towns, and, with hardly an exception, were girls of good health and moral character. Many of them, by laboring here for a few years, laid by a comfortable sum which was generally put to most worthy uses. Some were thus enabled to relieve the anxiety of aged parents, by removing embarrassments that rested on the old homestead. Others were providing for younger brothers and sisters. Many young men who afterwards



occupied places of responsibility and honor, owed their success in no small measure to the aid which their sisters gladly furnished, while they were laying the foundations of future usefulness by courses of study in the seminary, college and professional school. It seemed brutal and well-nigh sacrilegious to impugn such a state of facts, and yet a series of articles appeared in two of our leading Boston papers at that time, containing a most ferocious attack upon the "manufacturing population," asserting that factory girls were obliged to live in boarding houses erected and controlled by the corporations; that the sanitary conditions of those houses were most unhealthy, that the girls were ill-fed and charged an exorbitant price for board; that the bills of mortality of the factory girls were largely increasing, showing a most unfavorable condition of their life and surroundings, and not being content with such slander, made gross charges respecting their morals and general character.

Then it was that the kind-hearted Dr. Bartlett voluntarily stood forth as a champion in their behalf, and, in a number of articles which were first published in the Lowell Daily Courier, and afterwards printed in pamphlet form and widely circulated, gave to each specific charge a careful and thorough investigation, and proved beyond all controversy, by reliable evidence and unquestioned statistics, that those charges were grossly false.

On another occasion his interest in the welfare of the youth of this city was shown in an address which he made to the boys of the High School on the evil effects of tobacco. This address was a friendly talk, rather than a prepared speech, was given in an earnest, kindly manner, so that even the youngest could but see that he spoke to them as a father talking to his children, so interested was he in behalf of their physical growth and moral improvement.

It is a matter of record that his early efforts as a lecturer, in which he attained a world-wide reputation, especially as a medical lecturer, were made in this city.

In 1828, at the age of only twenty-four, he gave a lecture in this city, before the Lowell Lyceum, on Contagious Diseases. Again, in 1835, he delivered the address at the dedication of Mechanics Hall on Dutton Street.



In 1836, an honor which was only given to the few was bestowed upon him by an invitation to deliver an address, which he did, in the Odeon Building at Boston, the Odeon being at that time what Music Hall is today. He was also the orator on the 4th of July, 1828. This oration was delivered at Whipple's Grove, the place usually selected for such occasions. In 1836 he delivered a course of lectures on Physiology, which were largely attended by the most intelligent people of the city.

But it was in his more public duties as a medical teacher that he fulfilled the mission for which he was pre-eminently fitted by nature, and by the discipline of study and experience. It was to that work which he brought his varied and brilliant talents, his profound scholarship, and his unsurpassed gifts of eloquence. He was a master in his profession, and had been taught at those sources of knowledge to which the faculty as a rule seldom have access. Thus equipped, he stood as an interpreter and a daysman between the teachings of the fathers of medicine and the disciples of later times. Scientific truth, as stated by Dr. Bartlett, seemed to have something of the power of demonstration as it fell from his lips. His influence over students, also, was magnetic. It was stronger than the fascination of pure intellect. It seemed to result from the force of a powerful mind ennobled by character and fired by professional enthusiasm. A kind of mesmeric influence, at once elevating and inspiring, seemed to go forth with his words. One who sat under his teachings has said, "Here were gathered sixty young men so rude, so wild, so rough, that no professor could in quiet order deliver his lecture; but no sooner did Professor Bartlett enter his lecture-room than perfect order immediately was obtained, and a profound silence was maintained until he had finished." His appearance while standing at the desk, during his lectures, is said to have been most pleasing, and his manner of delivery easy and impressive. His voice was clear and musical and seemed to be an essential part of what he said.

It was a characteristic of Professor Bartlett to awaken within the minds of his students the higher and nobler purposes of life, and to inspire them to reach out after something better than simply following their profes-



sion as a trade, or only for mercenary purposes, and it would seem that the dullest member of the class must have caught something of his enthusiasm as he led them on with the zeal of a veteran warrior into that path which he himself so eloquently describes as the one "which was trodden by the Sydenhams, the Hallers, and the Hunters. It is the path which led Harvey to the most brilliant achievement in the annals of physiological science. It is the path which led the more fortunate Jenner to that discovery which has embalmed his name in the gratitude and the love of all peoples and of all tongues. It is the path which led Newton up to the loftiest pinnacle ever reached by uninspired humanity---a pinnacle crowned with light of ineffable brightness, where the vail was rent which, from the creation of the world, had hung before the universe, hiding its wonder and its mystery, and man was suffered to look, for the first time, out upon the beauty, the majesty, the unchangeable order of the handiwork of God. Into this path be it our effort and our happiness to enter."

The amount of good accomplished by this earnest teacher and scholar in his quiet but effective way cannot be estimated, as for many years he continued to sow, throughout the extent of this broad land, the seeds of sound medical education, and to incite his pupils to aspire to the higher walks of the profession. That influence is still expanding in the community, and, like the beams of the morning sun, gilding and brightening whatever it touches.

In 1832, when but twenty-eight years of age, he entered upon his first professorship, at Pittsfield, which he held for several years.

For some time he occupied a chair in the medical department of Dartmouth College, and another also in Baltimore. During six consecutive years he held the position of Professor in Transylvania University, Kentucky, and for one year in the Louisville University. A professorship was also offered to him in the medical school at Woodstock, Vermont, in 1828, which he declined, but that school afterwards obtained his services. He lectured there eight years and at the same time held his position in Kentucky. His last position was in the cele-



brated College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. There, associated with such men as Parker, Gilman, Clark and other kindred spirits of equal eminence, he reached a height worthy of his ambition, and one which he was every way fitted to adorn.

He also attained great eminence as an author, both as a medical and miscellaneous writer. His first efforts with his pen commenced when he was seventeen years of age.

While he was a resident of this city, amid his many and arduous duties, he started a monthly journal entitled "Medical Literature and American Medical Students' Gazette," which was published here in 1832 and afterward in Boston. This journal was most ably conducted, and contributions were sent to it by the best writers of that time.

Dr. Bartlett's editorial ability was recognized by that celebrated and accomplished writer, philanthropist and statesman, Horace Mann, who engaged him to revise for him "Paley's History of Natural Theology." This involved considerable labor, as it extended through five or six volumes.

It was while living here, as he says in his dedication of the work to Dr. John O. Green, that his material was obtained for his excellent book on "Fevers," which to this day is a standard authority on that subject in the medical schools of this country. This work, together with his "Essay on the Philosophy of Mental Science," have placed his name high in the annals of medical literature, both in this country and in Europe.

He was a constant contributor to our standard medical journals, and his published books and pamphlets, both professional and miscellaneous, are numerous. It seems impossible that one man could accomplish in so short a life more than what has been ascribed to Dr. Bartlett, yet he added another to his graces---that of poetry.

To enter that inner sanctuary was hardly the privilege of his friends when living, and certainly intrusion into the sacred place must not be made now. But our own poet, Dr. Oliver W. Holmes, who was a lifelong and intimate friend of Dr. Bartlett, has permitted us for a moment to catch something of the beauty of Dr. Bartlett's



poetic nature, as he describes that little offering written during the last year of his life, and entitled "Simple Settings in Verse for Six Portraits and Pictures from Mr. Dickens's Gallery." Of that offering Dr. Holmes says: "When to the friends he had loved there came as a farewell gift, not a last effort of the learning and wisdom they had been taught to expect from him, but a little book with a few songs in it, songs with his whole heart in them, they knew that his hour was come, and their tears fell fast as they read the loving thoughts that he had clothed in words of natural beauty and melody. The cluster of evening primroses had opened, and the night was close at hand."

Would that a life so pure, so noble, and so self-sacrificing for others might have had an easy and painless exit. But this was not to be his lot, and for many months he was a great sufferer from an inexorable disease which laid hold upon the central springs of his life.

But during the long weeks of suffering he was ever patient, and ready to meet his intimate friends with that cordial welcome which had been characteristic of his manner during health, but which then was seen to be an effort of his strong and indomitable will.

His Christian faith grew stronger and his hope brightened, as during the brief respites from suffering, which the nature of the disease allowed him, he engaged his strong and vigorous mind in contemplating those great problems of man's eternal destiny, the realities of which he was soon to enter upon, and, having sought that peace which alone can satisfy in the final hour, he "found rest under the shadow of Calvary," and on the 19th of July, 1855, at the age of fifty-one, in the prime of life, he left it for a higher and a better.

Truly it may be said of him,

"His life was gentle, and the elements  
So mixed in him, that nature might stand up  
And say to all the world, 'This was a man.'"



The adjoining town of Chelmsford has not been without her representatives in the medical profession, who have ranked among the ablest physicians of Middlesex County. Among the physicians who have practiced in Chelmsford, the name of

### DR. JOHN C. BARTLETT

stands prominent. This gentleman was born in Charlestown, Massachusetts, October 5, 1808. His academic training was received at Pembroke Academy, New Hampshire, and his collegiate education at Bowdoin College, Maine, where he graduated in the class of 1828. Dr. Bartlett received his medical instruction under the direction of Dr. Thompson of his native town, and attended lectures at Harvard University, graduating in 1831. Soon after receiving his degree he settled in Chelmsford, where he continued in practice for forty-six years. During his long residence of nearly half a century in the town, he held the confidence and esteem of his townsmen and the public to a remarkable degree.

As a practitioner, Dr. Bartlett possessed those qualifications which are essential to a successful physician. His mind was active and discriminating; he was a good student, a careful observer, and interested in all matters pertaining to the advancement of the profession. Against quackery and all forms of imposition, when practiced either by regular members of the profession or by those outside of its ranks, he was very decided, and would never tolerate the use of those preparations which are generally known as "patent medicines," because he was unwilling to employ drugs that he was not allowed to know the constituents of, and so be able to judge, on scientific principles, whether or not they were suited to the disease which it had been stated they would cure. In his manners he was the type of a gentleman, and his presence in the sick room was always welcomed.

It may be said of Dr. Bartlett that he was a many-sided man, yet his talents were not only marked in their character, but they also manifested themselves in a variety of ways. He was much interested in the business of husbandry, and for many years was a member of the



State Board of Agriculture. He was also interested in educational matters, being at one time a member of the School Committee of the town, also a member of the Board of Trustees of Westford Academy, and for many years held the honorable position of President of this board. In the Unitarian denomination, with which he was connected, he was an active member, and for several years was president of the North Middlesex Unitarian Conference. He was a fine musician, served as chorister for many years, and was a musical composer of considerable reputation.

During the last few years of his life Dr. Bartlett retired from active practice. A short time before his death he removed to Boston, where, after a brief illness of a few weeks, he died of paralysis, January 13, 1877, at the age of seventy-two. The esteem and respect in which he was held by his professional brethren will be seen by the following extract from the fitting testimonial prepared by a committee, of which Dr. John O. Green was chairman, and adopted at the next regular meeting of the Medical Society after the doctor's death:

"Above pretence and show, above the arts by which so many, half as well prepared, thrust themselves into notoriety, as a physician he was esteemed by those who had an opportunity to know his worth. He made no claim to extensive medical lore, he attempted no difficult surgical operations, but he had what all the schools of medicine cannot of themselves supply, an observing mind, a retentive memory, a good judgment, and a high sense of responsibility. His standard of professional honor was high, and he never descended to mean and petty tricks. For forty-six years he held the position of a medical man in a small country village, so different from that of a city practitioner. The division of labor and responsibility in large towns very naturally shuts the physician up to his chosen appropriate sphere; but the country physician will find many opportunities and calls to do good, for which the faculty, as such, have no prescriptions. Happy is he who has the power and disposition to meet such calls, and no better evidence of Dr. Bartlett's claims upon the



respect and confidence of the community in which he so long lived could be wished for and seen than were manifested by the large gathering at his funeral and grave."

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Another physician whose name is not so familiar as Dr. Bartlett's, but who practiced medicine some time in Chelmsford and became distinguished in the profession, is

### DR. RUFUS WYMAN.

Dr. Wyman was a native of Woburn, where he was born July 16, 1778. He received his early education at the town school, and at the age of twenty-two entered Harvard University, graduating in 1799. For some time after his graduation he was engaged in teaching, both in his own and adjoining towns.

In 1810 he commenced his medical studies with Dr. Brown of Boston, receiving at the same time clinical instruction at the almshouse in Leverett Street. But, owing to the illness of Dr. Brown, it became necessary to make a change of preceptors, which proved most fortunate to him, as, after completing his studies under the direction of that able and widely known physician, Dr. Jeffries of Boston, and upon receiving his degree in 1813, he was invited into partnership by his distinguished teacher. This invitation he accepted, and the pleasant relation continued for nearly a year, when, owing to a pulmonary difficulty, Dr. Wyman thought it best to seek a location farther inland. He therefore selected the town of Chelmsford, where he at once settled, and by his professional attainments, and the watchful care and interest which he always manifested in behalf of his patients, he won and retained the name of the "beloved physician," which clung to him in after years when engaged in a wider and more active field of usefulness.

Although but a few years in practice at Chelmsford, yet his experience there and the knowledge gained by his habits of study and observation proved of great value as preparatory to his more public professional life work elsewhere. It was while in practice in Chelmsford that he interested himself in the education of young men in the



profession. Several of his students attained high rank as physicians. One, who will long be remembered by the citizens of Lowell and Dracut, and who was the subject of our first paper, was Dr. Israel Hildreth.

It was also while living there, that a case occurred in his practice which will illustrate his success as a surgeon, the circumstances of which have been kindly furnished by Dr. Charles Dutton of Tyngsborough, and are as follows:

"The late Mr. Francis Parker, who was a well-known and highly esteemed citizen of Chelmsford, when quite a lad, was kicked by a horse, the blow being received on his head. The accident occurred late in the afternoon, and early in the evening Dr. Wyman saw his patient, and, after making a careful examination, he decided to remove a piece of the bone by the process known as trepanning. Not having a trephine in his possession, he started early the next morning and rode on horseback to Boston, purchased the instrument and returned the same day, and the next morning he performed the operation, which was successful. The patient recovered and lived nearly seventy years after that event. At his death, which occurred about a year ago, an autopsy was held, and this peculiarity was observed, which may be of interest to the profession: The aperture had not been covered by new bone, but in the place of it there was a firm elastic substance, which, during all these years, had performed all the requirements of the original bone."

When, in 1847, the buildings of the McLean Asylum at Charlestown (now Somerville) were in progress, it became necessary to appoint a physician and superintendent. There were many factors to be carefully considered in that appointment, in order that the beginning of such a project might be successful. In the first place it was a new enterprise, and, of course, subject to discouragement and lack of co-operation from certain members of the profession, and to no little prejudice from the public. Another drawback was the unfinished state of the buildings, the plans of some of which had not been drawn. These things, together with the character of the inmates for whom the asylum was designed, made the choice of a physician and superintendent one of more than ordinary difficulty and importance. It would seem nat-



ural that the choice should have been made from among the able and scientific medical men whose homes could be seen from the elevation on which the institution was to stand. But no! Others, perhaps of equal merit, were passed by, and from a little, quiet town in another and distant part of the county was selected the man who was to fill that most important position---that man was Dr. Wyman.

By his removal the town of Chelmsford lost a worthy citizen, an able physician, and a Christian gentleman, but the asylum over which he presided as executive officer for nearly twenty years, gained a wise and judicious superintendent and a thoughtful and conscientious physician. That Dr. Wyman felt the responsibility thus entrusted to him, may be inferred from the fact that soon after his acceptance of that position he visited all of the more important hospitals in this country, for the purpose of gaining all important information possible with regard to the best arrangement in the construction of such buildings, and the best methods in the management of the inmates. By this means he was enabled to render valuable assistance to the architect who had the charge of the work. When the buildings were completed and he was fairly settled in his new position, he gave to it his whole care and attention, and during the first twelve years of his service he was absent from the institution but one night. If this was not devotion to his work, where shall we find it? At one time during his connection with that asylum, an additional and larger building was erected for the accommodation of the male boarders. This building was erected under the sole supervision of Dr. Wyman. Both the architectural and working plans were drawn by his own hand.

His success in the care and treatment of the unfortunate class under his care was exceptional, and, after seventeen years of service in that capacity, he resigned his position, and removed to Roxbury, intending to relinquish his practice, and seek that rest and quiet to which the trying and peculiar duties of his responsible position, and which he had so faithfully discharged, certainly entitled him.



But this was in a measure denied him, as repeated and urgent requests for his advice and treatment with reference to the insane induced him to "receive into his house for treatment and cure, many of this unfortunate class of sufferers, up to within a few weeks of his death."

Dr. Wyman held many offices in the Massachusetts Medical Society, in which he was an active member. For several years he was a counsellor and censor, and, in 1840-1841, he was President of the society. In 1830 he delivered the annual discourse, his subject on that occasion being "Mental Philosophy as Connected with Mental Disease." He was also a strong temperance man, and at the time of his death was President of the Norfolk Temperance Society.

His death was unusually quiet and peaceful, being so calm that, after life was extinct, it is said a glass of water which he held in his hand, was removed unspilled.

He died June 22, 1842, at the age of sixty-four, of bronchial disease, leaving two sons, Morrill and Jefferies Wyman, who have also become eminent in the profession of their father.

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Chelmsford, the mother town of our city, has had not only many able and skilful physicians within her borders, but is specially fortunate, that she may claim the honor of having been the early home of one who has reached eminent distinction elsewhere in the profession of medicine.

#### DR. WILLARD PARKER,

though yet living, at the advanced age of eighty-three, has been so long absent from his early home, and has reached so high a position among the medical faculty of New York, that no apology is needed for adding a few words in reference to him in these memorabilia of the eminent physicians of the past. The ancestors of Dr. Parker were of the good "English Puritan stock," and he was consequently endowed with a sound mental capacity and a



strong physical constitution. He was well fitted by nature for the long life of laborious usefulness which it has been his privilege to enjoy.

Until he was nineteen years of age he worked on his father's farm in Chelmsford, which, it is said, is now owned by the doctor. During a part of these early years he taught a district school, and thus obtained means to pursue his education.

He entered Harvard at the age of twenty-three, and graduated in the class of 1826. While in his freshman year, an incident occurred which turned his attention to the choice of surgery as his profession.

Having pursued his medical studies under the direction of Drs. S. D. Townsend and John C. Warren, and having acceptably filled the position of house physician in the United States Marine Hospital at Chelsea, and a similar position in the Massachusetts General Hospital, he graduated at Harvard Medical School in 1830.

Early in his medical studies his ability as a lecturer was recognized. During the summer of 1829, nearly a year before his graduation, he was invited to deliver a course of lectures on anatomy in the medical school at Woodstock, Vermont, which he did the year immediately following his graduation. In rapid succession he was appointed to fill respectively the chair of anatomy and the chair of surgery in the Berkshire Medical Institution at Pittsfield, Massachusetts, lecturing twice daily. At the same time he continued to hold his place in the school at Woodstock, Vermont. In 1836 the chair of surgery was filled by him in the Cincinnati Medical College. Soon after this appointment he visited Europe, where he spent considerable time in the English and French hospitals. Returning to this country, he was called, in 1839, to the chair of surgery in the College of Physicians in New York. It is not in that city alone that Dr. Parker stands at the head of the medical profession, but his reputation extends throughout the country as well. He was one of the originators of hospital clinics, and also one of the founders of the Academy of Medicine, of which he was at one time president. It was from the Academy of Medicine that the New York Board of Health originated, and the amount of work of which he has been the leader in this



connection, may be estimated from these words: "This board has inspired most of the legislation upon hygiene, reforming our building laws, giving us improved sewerage, checking the adulteration of food, demonstrated the necessity of pure water and proper ventilation in all parts of our dwellings; it has fought manfully for the preservation of our public parks, the lungs of the city; it has stimulated tree planting, and aided in beautifying the city in a variety of ways."

The town of Chelmsford may well feel not only honored with the record of these physicians who have practiced within her borders, but may also justly be proud of this eminent son, of whom the following pen pictures are fitting words for our close:

"As a teacher Dr. Parker enjoyed the highest reputation. With a fine personal presence, and a courteous and affable manner which wins the personal regard of his pupils, he also rivets their attention by his direct and lucid manner of unfolding the principles of his art, and the unexcelled, simple and common-sense character of his operations and general treatment."

"With an erect carriage and elastic step, and an eye and features kindling with animation, he is one of the best examples of the preservation of a splendid physical and mental organization by the observance of those laws of health which he has so long and so ably advocated."

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To mention the name of Crosby in this vicinity the public mind turns at once with feelings of great respect to the late venerable and highly esteemed citizen, Hon. Nathan Crosby. But as you cross the border of this State into that of New Hampshire, the name of Crosby is found to be associated with the brightest names in the medical history of the "Granite State."

In April, 1828,

### DR. JOSIAH CROSBY

came to this city, by the advice and recommendation of Samuel Batchelder, Esq., the first agent of the Hamilton Manufacturing Company. Dr. Crosby, who was a brother



of the judge, was born in Sandwich, New Hampshire, February 1, 1794. His opportunities for acquiring an education were much the same as those enjoyed by many of the New England lads of those days. But the opportunities he had were improved, and he made rapid progress in his preliminary and academical studies. He first attended the town school, and afterwards received private instruction from Rev. Mr. Hidden of Tamworth. He was also a pupil at one time at Amherst Academy.

During those years he gave special attention to penmanship, being a careful student of Gifford's system, which at that time was very popular. By such attention and steady practice he became an elegant penman, and often aided himself pecuniarily by giving private lessons in writing. He also taught several terms in the country schools. His profession he studied with his father, Dr. Asa Crosby, who was one of the pioneers in the practice of medicine in the "Granite State," and distinguished as a surgeon throughout New England. He attended three courses of lectures at Dartmouth Medical College, and spent "a year reading and riding with Professor Nathan Smith to learn his practice." In 1816 he received his medical degree from Dartmouth, of which Dr. Nathan Smith was a distinguished professor.

In 1828 he came to Lowell, where he remained five years. During his residence in this city he was active in organizing and carrying on several of our institutions which have since become permanent. He was one of the founders of the Appleton Street (now Eliot) Congregational Church, in 1830. His connection with that early church was marked with the same earnest and conscientious endeavor that was characteristic of his whole Christian life.

In 1831 he was chosen one of the Selectmen of Lowell. It was during his term of service that the cholera raged so fearfully throughout the country, and on its near approach to this city a meeting was called by the selectmen, and on the advice of Dr. Crosby it was voted to send a delegation, consisting of medical gentlemen, to New York to ascertain the best means of prevention, and the nature and treatment of that disease. The medical gentlemen appointed as members of that delegation were



Drs. Green, Bartlett and Huntington. After their return the report of this committee was published in the Lowell Courier for general information.

Dr. Crosby was also one of the early members of the Middlesex Medical Association, a detailed account of which was given in the first paper of this series. It was here in this city that, by careful study and close application to the duties of his profession, he laid the foundation of his future eminent career as one of the most distinguished surgeons in New Hampshire.

In the fall of 1832, he was induced to leave Lowell and enter into a manufacturing enterprise of considerable promise, but it not proving successful, he turned again to his profession, and, in 1844, removed to Manchester, New Hampshire, where he remained in successful practice for thirty years. It was while living in Manchester, in 1853, and again in 1860, that his genius as an inventor placed his name high upon the roll of benefactors, of whom the medical profession has contributed a liberal share. By one of these he gave to the profession "the method of making extension of fractured limbs by the use of adhesive strips." The benefit to be derived from this method was at once recognized, and it was adopted by the members of the profession, and today it is the only one that is generally used.

His other invention, which, by its very nature, is more widely known outside the profession than the one just considered, is what is termed the "invalid bed."\* This bed is simple in its construction, and so substantially made that it will not easily get out of repair, and its arrangement is so easy of comprehension that a child twelve years of age can manage it. Perhaps the following description will enable all to understand the construction of it: Take an ordinary bedstead, and in place of the slats use as many or more strong bands, which are held in position by pins or hooks. Underneath these

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\*The Crosby bed has been in use in this city more than twenty years. In 1868 one was procured, with some difficulty, on the occasion of Dr. S. L. Dana's accident, which proved of so much comfort and convenience that he desired, after his death, it should be given to the Lowell Dispensary for the use of any sufferer. It has been in almost constant use, and the Dispensary has added another for its patients or any others who may need. St. John's Hospital has now three, and an agency for its sale has been established with our well-known Messrs. Adams & Co., on Central Street.



bands is placed the bed proper, of smaller size, and so adjusted that it can be raised or lowered by simply turning a crank at the head of the bedstead. It will readily be seen that the bed can be brought into position under the bedstead and raised to a sufficient height to take the weight of the patient entirely from the straps, while he lies as upon an ordinary bed. A reverse turning of the crank lowers the bed, which can be taken out and the linen changed, and at the same time the patient will be resting upon the bands, which, when the bed is in place, remain perfectly loose and unnoticed. There is no kind of disease, even the most prostrating, in which it cannot be used, while in cases of fractures, and where lotions or ointments are applied to the body, it is indispensable. The acknowledged merits of this bed are shown by the large numbers which are now in use and by testimonials from all the leading surgeons in the country. It has been generally adopted in all our public and private hospitals. The poor and suffering in our hospitals have been spared much pain and discomfort by this invention. It was by the use of the Crosby bed that the lamented Garfield was relieved when suffering from the effects of the assassin's bullet. Those who devote their genius to the relief of human suffering deserve and win the tribute of gratitude from the popular heart. It has well been said of Dr. Crosby, "the skilful physician, the Christian gentleman and sympathizing friend were combinations of character in him rarely excelled."

As Dr. Crosby's medical career was passed principally in New Hampshire, it may be well to notice what was his standing in that state and how he was regarded by the profession. Dr. Crosby joined the New Hampshire Medical Society in 1818, ten years before he came to Lowell. In 1850 he was chosen President of the society, and in 1857 he was elected Vice-President of the American Medical Association, and was also made an honorary member of the Massachusetts Medical Society. A committee, appointed by the society to draw up some expression of their high esteem of his professional worth, reported as follows:

"During the fifty years that he has been a fellow of this Society he has often filled positions of honor, trust and responsi-



bility. He was one to whom in every emergency we were inclined to turn. During this long period we feel assurance in saying these responsibilities have been discharged alike honorably to the record of this Society and of his own. Every honest worker in the profession had his hearty sympathy, no matter how young or inexperienced. Such an one could go to him feeling that he could lay bare his heart, and that no unkindly criticism would be made on account of his inexperience. On the contrary, he was sure of obtaining the rich results of a well-stored mind.

"Dr. Crosby had those qualities that made him a superior surgeon. Possessed of abundant resources, he was able to meet the emergencies of any case however complicated, and upon the failure of ordinary methods of treatment he could readily supply their place by his inventive genius, and thus all of his operations were complete. His contributions to medical science were of a character that reflected the highest honor upon him as a physician and skillful surgeon, and placed him in no mean rank as a benefactor of his race."

At a meeting of his associates of Manchester the following were among the resolutions which they adopted:

*"Resolved,* That we mourn the loss of one who was eminently qualified for the practice of medicine, by nature and early training and association, to which natural advantages were added, in time, an education and universally clear judgment, enlightened by a familiarity with the opinions and practice of the most eminent authorities.

*"Resolved,* That he advanced his profession by his original researches and by his inventive genius, and adorned it by exhibiting in the practice of it the honor, dignity, courtesy, self-sacrificing spirit and benevolence which have caused it to be respected by the wise and good in all ages."

This sketch would be incomplete did we not in a word note the Christian character which was so marked in the person of Dr. Crosby. In 1844 he assisted in founding the Franklin Street Church in Manchester, and was one of its most efficient supporters till the hour of his death. "His religious life," said Rev. Dr. Tucker of Andover, his late pastor, "was simple, real, true; with him there was no pretence; he had no beliefs except those which were thorough; no little question vexed him; he loved God, trusted his Savior, and worked for the welfare of his fellow men.



Such was his record from first to last. He looked with a calm, clear eye into the future, and, so far as we know, was troubled with no doubts."

Those were the words spoken at his funeral, and in a letter received from the reverend gentleman within a few weeks, in referring to the influence which Dr. Crosby exerted in the city where he lived, among other things he says: "Dr. Crosby was a man of great energy and decision. He had the power of making large plans and of carrying them out with painstaking detail. He took the careful oversight of whatever was entrusted to him, and he always brought out a given work in season. He was remarkable for promptness. There was a nobility of endowment in mental and moral qualities which made him a conspicuous citizen and a most influential Christian. Men esteemed him for his worth, his charity, his positiveness, his public spirit, and his natural and sincere piety."

Dr. Crosby in his early years had poor health and gave little promise of long life; but after his recovery from typhoid fever while living in Concord, he enjoyed general good health until the last two years of his life. On Saturday, the second day of January, 1875, he dressed a broken arm in the morning, and in the afternoon sat, in his own parlor, for the finishing touches of the portrait painter, in his usual cheerfulness of spirits; but fifteen minutes after the artist had left him, at three o'clock P. M., he was stricken with paralysis, from which he did not rally, but passed away on the seventh, at four o'clock in the morning, at the advanced age of nearly eighty-one years, leaving a son, Dr. George A. Crosby, who is at present an eminent practitioner at Manchester.

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At the quarterly meeting of the Middlesex North District Medical Society, held in this city, January 31, 1883, Dr. John O. Green exhibited to the members of the society the State medical diploma of

#### DR. CALVIN THOMAS.

This diploma, bearing the date 1824, and which was quite large, measuring twenty-nine inches in length, by



twenty-six in breadth, was of curious workmanship and design, having prominently displayed at the top a figure representing Aesculapius, the god of medicine, together with the coat of arms of the State, and at the bottom the seal of the Massachusetts Medical Society, made in red wax, and placed upon a circular piece of tin, which had been securely fitted to the parchment. It was not only a curiosity, when compared with those of the present day, being in size nearly six times as large and of more elaborate pattern, but possessed additional interest, as having engraved upon its face the name of Calvin Thomas, M. D., of Tyngsborough, who is still remembered as a man of sterling integrity, great public worth, and high professional standing.

The gentleman to whom this diploma belonged was born in Chesterfield, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, December 22, 1765. On the death of his parents, which occurred when he was quite young, he was placed under the care of an uncle then living in Rowe, Massachusetts, but afterwards returned to his former home in Chesterfield, where he worked on the farm until he was seventeen years of age. He then learned the trade of a carpenter. But ill health compelled him to relinquish it, and at the age of twenty-four he commenced his medical studies with Dr. Josiah Goodhue, of Putney, Vermont, remaining with him for four years, during the last one of which he was associated with his preceptor, in practice.

"It is the intelligent eye of the careful observer," says a writer, "which gives these apparently trivial phenomena their value," of which history furnishes many examples.

It was the swinging lamp suspended from the roof of the cathedral at Pisa that suggested to Galileo the pendulum---the subsequent use of which has placed his name on the imperishable page of history. It was as simple a thing as the floating seaweed that enabled Columbus to assure the sailors in his ship that land could not be far off, and, with this assurance, to quell the mutiny that had arisen among them. So the most ordinary occasions will often show the influence by which a future life shall be directed, and in some measure controlled.

It was so with Dr. Thomas. Leaving the home of his former teacher, he started on horseback to seek a place



where he might settle and pursue with reasonable encouragement his chosen profession.

It is not known that he had any place in view, and in all probability he had no previous knowledge of the town of Tyngsborough, until, in the course of his journey, he rode through it and stopped at the tavern for dinner, or perhaps a night's lodging. Be that as it may, he went no further, but at once settled there and entered into a practice which he continued uninterruptedly for fifty-six years. The personal appearance of Dr. Thomas is said to have been very striking. He was quite tall---a little over six feet in height---of florid complexion, having a large and compact frame, his usual weight being nearly two hundred.

It is difficult in these days to picture definitely the varied conditions under which the physicians of our New England towns labored, and the hardships to which they were exposed in the sparsely populated districts of fifty years ago. The experience of the subject of this sketch was no exception to the rule.

The town of Tyngsborough was small, and the number of inhabitants during the best years of his practice did not exceed eight hundred people. Like that of other physicians of his time, his labors were not confined to his own town, but included those adjoining, often reaching great distances.

Among the towns in which Dr. Thomas largely practiced, in addition to Tyngsborough, were Dunstable, Grotton, Westford, Chelmsford, Dracut, and Pelham, New Hampshire.

His own town was peculiarly situated, and entailed upon him an amount of extra labor which was very exceptional.

The town is nearly equally divided by the Merrimack, which, until within a few years, and long after the doctor was dead, was passable at that place only by a ferry, so that a ready and prompt means of crossing the river was not always available. At certain seasons of the year, especially in the spring, the river being full of floating ice, the ferry could not be used, and at other times the ice was not sufficiently strong to bear a person upon it.



These facts, with the accidents and delays to which ferry-boats in those days were liable, made it necessary for the doctor during a large portion of the year to come down to Pawtucket Bridge, a distance of seven miles, and, crossing the river at that place, he had to travel up on the other side an equal distance, which, with the return trip, made a distance of twenty-eight miles to visit patients in his own town. This does not present a very pleasant retrospect, especially when the condition of the country roads in March or April is taken into consideration. Had such extra labor been of rare occurrence it might be passed without notice, but upon reliable information it is learned he had a large practice on the east side of the river, which required his attention almost daily, and the aggregate number of weeks in the year when it would be impossible to cross the river by any means other than a bridge the reader can easily estimate.

As a physician he ranked second to none. His educational advantages had been somewhat limited, yet from observation and experience he had learned those lessons which are full of practical knowledge, and when studied with fidelity, reveal much useful information. One peculiarity in the practice of physicians in those early times, was that they not only kept all their medicines, but prepared or compounded them for use. This involved a great amount of labor and skill. As an illustration of Dr. Thomas' skill in this direction, he compounded a certain cathartic pill, which, from its excellence, obtained quite a notoriety in his day, being used by many physicians, and is still used and known as "Thomas' Pill."

In 1806 he was elected a fellow of the Massachusetts Medical Society. The communication which he received on that occasion, and of which the following is a copy, will throw some light upon the honor which that event, in those days, conferred:

BOSTON, October 4, 1806.

SIR—I have the pleasure to announce to you, that at a meeting of the Council of the Massachusetts Medical Society, upon the first instant, you were elected a fellow of the institution.

Allow me to hope, sir, that the election will be gratifying to you, as the interests of the Society will always be promoted by



your attention and communications. The members are assessed two dollars annually. You will oblige me by a line expressing your acceptance or non-acceptance of the fellowship.

I have the honor to be

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS WELSH,

*Cor. Sec'y Mass. Med. Soc.*

DR. CALVIN THOMAS, Tyngsborough.

His devotion to this society, of which he was a counsellor for more than twenty years, is worthy of notice. For this and his recognized professional ability he received, in 1824, the honorary degree of M. D. from Harvard University. The character of that honored institution, even at that early period, is a sufficient guarantee that the honor was not bestowed unworthily.

How deeply he was interested in the education of those just entering professional study, may be inferred from the fact that "he educated fourteen students, several of whom became distinguished in their profession." That Dr. Thomas acquired a large practice, and was zealous in his work, may be seen from the words of one, a relative of the family, doubtless the only one now living, who says: "He left behind him thirty large daybooks or journals, in which he systematically recorded, day by day, the name and residence of every patient, the visit, the medicine prescribed, the disease or accident and the charge for service, with frequent notices of the weather, etc., and but very few days are there in fifty years in which some such service was not rendered or recorded. The day preceding his last sickness, and only a week before his death, being then almost eighty-seven years old, he successfully reduced a dislocated humerus with only the assistance of a neighbor called in to aid him."

While his strong physical constitution and wonderful power of endurance will be seen from the following minute, which is found written in his journal December 22, 1849: "This day I am eighty-four years old, and crossed the Merrimack River in a canoe, walked one mile to visit a patient."

In another capacity he served his fellowmen with a fidelity which was ever characteristic of his life. For



twenty-eight years he held a commission as justice of the peace, under Governors Strong, Gerry, Brooks and Lincoln. On certain days of the week he held a justice court at his house, performing such duties as legally come before a judge of a police court. It always has been the case, and is likely to continue to be, that those who are defeated in any trial at law will feel that they have not been fairly dealt with. Such cases doubtless occurred during the administration of Justice Thomas. But, with those exceptions, his traditional reputation in that capacity is that he gave a full and fair hearing to both sides, and rendered an honest and impartial decision.

It may be inferred from his will that his religious views were in accord with those of the liberal and catholic spirit of the Unitarians, as he left bequests to the American Unitarian Association for the promotion of the Unitarian religion in the Mississippi Valley, and also to the President of Harvard University to be used at his discretion for the benefit of theological students. He also left a considerable sum to the Unitarian Society in Tyngsborough, and one hundred dollars to the Massachusetts Medical Society, for the purchase of medical books.

Thus he infused the spirit of his faith into the work of his daily life, which was long and useful. A merciful Providence saved him from a long and wearing sickness, as, after a short illness of less than a week, he died October 23, 1851, at the age of eighty-six years and ten months. Thus another of those early physicians of New England, after a long and laborious career of usefulness, passed away.

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A contemporary with Dr. Thomas, for nearly twenty years of his practice at Tyngsborough, was

#### DR. AUGUSTUS PEIRCE,

who was born at New Salem, in this State, March 13, 1803.

He fitted for college under the direction of a legal gentleman living in his native town, and entered Harvard University, graduating in the class of 1820. While in college he was universally recognized as the "wit" of the



class. He was also of a strong poetical turn of mind, and during his junior year, and when only seventeen years of age, he wrote an epic poem of a humorous cast, called the "Rebelliad," which was delivered before the "College Engine Club," in July, 1819. The poem was received with great enthusiasm by the students, who were very desirous of having it printed, but this he would not permit them to do. Says one in writing in reference to it: "A copy of parts of it, which related to members of the faculty, was posted on the President's door by some one unfriendly to its author. The next day President Kirkland called Peirce to his study to give him an admonition for 'cutting prayers,' when he took the opportunity of alluding to the poem. He told him that he had nothing to say to him in regard to what he found on his door, for he knew very well that such a thing would not be done by the author of the lines when he had once publicly spoken them. 'But,' said he, 'Peirce, I think you would be more regular in attending morning prayers if you retired earlier in the evening and did not sit up so late writing poor poetry.'"

Just how much of censure the venerable President intended to convey in his closing words, is not known, but as nothing further was said to him on the subject by the faculty, it is supposed that little attention was given to it by that body. But the poem was not destined to be lost, as copies of it, in manuscript, have been handed from class to class in that institution, and successive generations of students, although strangers to him, have enjoyed reading it or listening to its recitation by their own witty geniuses. A few years before the doctor's death it was printed for private circulation, and the original copy of it is now in the University library at Cambridge.

After his graduation he studied medicine with Dr. Shattuck of Boston, and commenced practice at Nashua, New Hampshire. Remaining there but a short time, in 1839, at the request of Dr. Thomas, he removed to Tyngsborough, where he remained in active practice until his death.

Dr. Peirce was peculiarly fitted for a professional career. Possessed of affable and agreeable manners, a sound judgment and quick perception, he soon acquired



an extensive and permanent popularity, which was not confined either to his own or adjoining towns.

He loved his profession and gave to it his best and constant endeavors. It is said that during his residence at Tyngsborough he also had a considerable practice in Nashua, to which place he made one or more visits every week for over fifteen years. For a few years before his death Dr. Peirce appeared to be in failing health, the cause of which could not, at first, be accounted for, but it was finally supposed to be caused by poisoning from the lead pipe connected with his well. A short time before his death the pipe was taken up, and upon examination it was found that the inner surface of the pipe was thickly coated with the oxide of lead.

But it had done its work, and after several weeks of intense suffering, he died, May 20, 1849, at the age of forty-seven years.

By his own request an autopsy was held, at which a portion of the brain, lungs, kidney, liver, heart, and the whole of the stomach were removed. These were brought to this city and placed in the hands of our well-known citizen and expert chemist, the late Dr. Samuel L. Dana, for examination. After several weeks of thorough analysis he made a report, in which he stated that traces of lead were found in all of the organs removed, even the brain, adding in conclusion that "on the whole the evidence of the presence of lead in the organs of Dr. Peirce is unmistakable. The quantity, though exceedingly small, is but another proof how minute a quantity of lead may cause cruel disease, from which the patient is released only by death."

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It was only a few years that

### DR. AUGUSTUS PEIRCE,

who was a son of the subject of the preceding sketch, practiced his profession in Tyngsborough. Yet in that brief period he endeared himself to the hearts of the people in a remarkable degree.

"None knew him but to love him,  
Nor named him but to praise."



Born in Nashua, New Hampshire, August 11, 1827, he early in life manifested a desire to enter the profession of his father. Under his direction the son fitted for the medical department of Harvard University, which he entered in 1846.

Owing to the failing health of his father, he was induced to alter his previous plan, and in the fall of 1847 he left the medical school at Cambridge and entered that of Bowdoin, hoping to complete his studies more speedily.

While there his father died, and although but twenty-two years of age, he at once commenced practice in his native town. "The respect and confidence felt by all for the deceased parent was transferred to the son. How well he sustained himself in this trying position and more than justified the confidence of his friends is known to many who mourned his early death."

Dr. Peirce gave great promise of usefulness, and doubtless, had he lived, would have made his mark in the community and become an honor to the profession. But New England's dread destroyer, consumption, laid hold upon his young life, and, after several months of gradual wasting away, he died, May 18, 1855, at the age of twenty-eight.

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Our citizens generally may not remember all of the medical gentlemen who have been the subjects of the previous papers. But nearly all of us will readily recall the name of

### DR. HARLIN PILLSBURY,

whose familiar form we were wont to see almost daily on the streets of this city, as he was busily engaged with the duties of his profession.

Dr. Pillsbury was born in Hanover, New Hampshire, November 30, 1797, and received his early education in the schools of that town and at the academy at Atkinson, New Hampshire. In 1819 he entered Dartmouth College, graduating in 1823.

In August of that year he commenced his medical studies with Dr. Rufus Kittredge, of Chester, New Hamp-



shire. Subsequently he studied with Dr. William Graves, of Deerfield, New Hampshire. In 1824 he attended medical lectures in Boston, being at that time a pupil with Dr. J. H. Lowe, of that city. At the same time he received clinical instruction at the North District Dispensary.

In 1826 he practiced several months at Kingston, New York, and in November of that year received his degree in medicine from Dartmouth Medical College, and in January, 1827, he came to Lowell, and at once commenced practice. Having enjoyed the advantages of study under several preceptors, and attended courses of lectures at two of our best medical institutions, and having acquired practical knowledge during a period of service at the Boston Dispensary and also in New York, he was well fitted on coming to Lowell to enter at once upon a large practice, which it was his fortune to retain during his long residence here of forty-seven years.

In person, Dr. Pillsbury was a little above the average height, and although never of a robust constitution, he yet possessed an unusual degree of bodily strength and activity.

In his deportment he possessed a suavity of manner, combined with a marked facility of address, which were not reserved for special occasions, but were ever present, being a part of his nature, and, therefore, characteristic of the man.

Those who were well acquainted with him will readily recall a habit which he had when in earnest conversation. He would bring the tip ends of the fingers of both hands together, and with a movement would describe the arc of a circle. It is doubtful if anyone else could do it so gracefully and convey with it additional emphasis to his words.

Dr. Pillsbury did not select a specialty in medicine or surgery in which to direct his studies, but devoted his time to the duties of a general practitioner. But while he did not adopt any specialty, yet what is often much better, he had a large family practice.

In this respect he was especially fortunate, as most of his families continued to employ him as their medical attendant as long as he lived. It was thought by many that he had unusual success in the treatment of the diseases of children and women. As a physician, he was



remarkably successful with his cases, and the extent of his practice was only limited by the strength of his physical system to perform.

In the District Medical Society he was an active member from the time of its organization. At the first regular meeting he was chosen a member of the standing committee, and during his life he held most of the important offices of the society with the exception of treasurer, which office has had only three incumbents, the last and present being Dr. Edwards of Chelmsford, who has held the office for thirty-one years. For two years Dr. Pillsbury was President of the organization.

Dr. Pillsbury was not a politician, and only on a few occasions did he consent to hold office. For several years he was a member of the School Committee, but that honor was bestowed by reason of special qualifications rather than on account of adherence to any political party.

In 1839 he was a member of the Common Council, and in 1840 of the Board of Aldermen. For many years he was President of the Merchants' Bank.

Dr. Pillsbury was very temperate and abstemious in his habits, and of the strictest morality. In his religious life he was an attendant at St. Anne's Episcopal Church, whose creed and devotional forms he adopted.

In 1874 he removed to Billerica, intending to spend the remainder of his days on a farm, in the enjoyment of that rest and quiet to which a steady and unremitting labor of nearly half a century had certainly entitled him.

The people of that town not only welcomed him as a neighbor and townsman, but soon became persistent and almost unreasonable in their demands upon his services as a physician.

Only a few days after his arrival in the town his services were called into requisition, and were continued to the last day and even to the last hour of his life. During the forenoon of Fast Day, April 12, 1877, then being in feeble health, he made a professional visit to a sick neighbor. His interest in the case was seemingly as great as he had manifested in his patients in his earlier practice, but on returning to his house to prepare some medicine he felt a slight indisposition, and, lying down upon the lounge, in a few minutes he was dead. The immediate



cause of his death was supposed to be disease of the heart. His age at the time of decease was seventy-nine years and four months. His remains were brought to this city for interment and burial at the Lowell Cemetery.

The honor and respect in which he was held by his medical brethren was attested by the large number of the profession that attended his funeral, and by the feeling which was expressed in the resolutions passed by the members of the society at their next meeting.

The following, written by one who knew him well, are fitting final words of tribute to his memory: "He was a man to honor, to esteem, and to imitate; and there are few, if any, who can think over his long and useful life and say they would have it different. Thoroughly sincere in his opinions, strict in his regard for morality, keenly aware of the needs and appreciating the trials of humanity, his nature was one of truth, of consistency, and of sympathy."

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Although not a resident of Lowell as long as Dr. Harlin Pillsbury, yet most of our older citizens will remember the skilful and always jovial physician,

### DR. JOHN D. PILLSBURY.

The subject of this sketch was the son of Dr. John Pillsbury, and was born in Pembroke, New Hampshire, April 16, 1805.

His early education was received in the old academy of that town. Having chosen the profession of medicine, he commenced his studies with his father in 1825, and in the following year attended a course of medical lectures at the Berkshire Medical School. Subsequently he became a pupil of Dr. Peter Renton of Concord, New Hampshire, who was at that time one of the most distinguished surgeons in the state. After remaining with him about a year he went to Pelham, New Hampshire, where he taught the winter school, and at the same time continued his studies under the direction of Dr. William Graves of this city.



In the fall of 1829 he received his degree of doctor of medicine from the Bowdoin Medical School, and at the urgent request of his friends and relatives, was induced to settle in his native town, entering into partnership with his father.

He remained there but a little over two years, when, desiring a wider field in which to exercise his talents, he came to this then growing and enterprising town in 1831, where he soon entered upon a thriving and lucrative business, which continued without interruption for nearly twenty-five years.

As a physician Dr. J. D. Pillsbury enjoyed the confidence and esteem of the people of this city and the respect of his professional brethren. In his method of practice he was true to the principles of his profession, and while not bigoted, yet had faith in the power of medicine, believing that when its nature and constituents were thoroughly understood and properly applied, it was of great and inestimable value.

It was at one time the custom in Lowell to invite the citizens to attend a public meeting of the physicians and listen to the annual address of the Medical Society, delivered by one of their members. These occasions were usually well attended, and much interest was manifested in them on the part of the public.

On one of these occasions Dr. J. D. Pillsbury delivered the annual address in the City Hall, May 21, 1845, under the auspices of the Middlesex District Medical Society. His subject was "The Progress of Medical Science." It was a well prepared paper, showing careful research on the part of the author. He was severe on certain forms of practice, while his address contained many humorous anecdotes and sarcasms at quackery and charlatanism.

As a member of the Middlesex Medical Association, he was much interested in its early organization. He was the first secretary of the Lowell Medical Association, and to him the society is indebted for neatly written and compact records of the doings of their early meetings. He held the position of secretary for nine consecutive years, and also served acceptably in other offices connected with the society.



Dr. J. D. Pillsbury was rightly called the cheerful physician. He possessed a large and compact frame, and a full and noble countenance, which was habitually lit up with a genial smile, and which he always carried into the sick room. His happy manner was often as beneficial as the medicine which he prescribed. Charity to the poor was one of his marked characteristics.

In 1854 he removed to Rochester, New York. Here "influential friends welcomed him, and the hand of kindness was extended to him by his professional brethren, by whom he was appointed to deliver the next annual address before the Monroe Medical Society." Being of a naturally hopeful temperament, and possessed of a strong constitution, he looked forward with reasonable hope of many years of usefulness and prosperity.

But his stay in that beautiful city was brief. In about a year, just after having settled in his new and elegant residence which he had purchased, he was stricken down with a disease of the brain, which, though it had troubled him some fifteen years previous, was thought to have entirely disappeared, but again manifested itself, and finally produced death quite suddenly December 21, 1855, at the age of fifty years.

One who was intimately acquainted with him, in speaking of his last illness, says of him: "He clearly comprehended its symptoms, watched its progress, and knew that it was not in the power of medical skill to arrest it. But it was sad to look upon the going down of so much hope, vigor and mind, but sadder to him who knew it all, suffered it all. In his release from great physical and mental sufferings, we doubt not he has made a happy change."

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The circle of adjoining towns whose memorabilia of early physicians we have considered in previous papers, would be incomplete did we not include that of Tewksbury.

With no disrespect to any who have in the past, or who may in the future, practice the healing art in that



ancient town, we venture to affirm that it is doubtful if there ever was, or ever will be, within its borders a greater than

### DR. HENRY KITTREDGE,

who was born in Tewksbury, Massachusetts, January 3, 1787. He was the son of Dr. Benjamin Kittredge of Tewksbury, who was one of the earliest physicians in the town, and continued there in practice until his death. The first Dr. Kittredge in this country, and who is supposed to have been the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, is said to have been the founder of a long family dynasty of physicians in New Hampshire. He was one of seven brothers, all of whom were physicians and men of distinction.

Dr. James Thatcher, in his most admirable work, "American Medical Biography," in speaking of Dr. Thomas Kittredge, who was an uncle of Dr. Henry Kittredge, uses these words, which are perfectly applicable to the subject of this sketch:

"The family of which he was a member has become so distinguished for surgical skill in New England, that in many places the name alone is a passport to practice; and the number of practitioners of this name is very considerable. This is to be attributed, not only to the well-earned reputation of Dr. Kittredge, but to that of his father, who also had a high reputation in surgery; and it is not improbable that his grandfather and great-grandfather, the latter of whom came to this country from England, at an early period, and settled in Billerica, were eminent in the same line."

This will readily account for the tradition which has been handed down, that, on account of the great renown which was accorded to this remarkable family, and of the wide reputation which they achieved as representatives of medical skill, several physicians in New Hampshire applied to the Legislature for a change of their names to Kittredge, believing that, in popular estimation at least, they would thus acquire something of hereditary prestige. But it may be reasonably doubted if such an influence as that which the Kittredges continued to exert for so long



a period, could have been maintained simply on account of their name. But may we not look back of that, and recognize in their sterling integrity and soundness of mind and body the elements of that sturdy stock from which they sprang?

The Dr. Kittredge with whom this paper is concerned was educated at Phillips Academy and studied medicine with his father. At the age of only twenty-three he commenced practice in Tewksbury, where he continued until his death, which occurred nearly forty years after. In person Dr. Kittredge was tall, with a well built and compact frame, capable of great powers of endurance.

Dr. Kittredge was a very practical man, which was clearly demonstrated in his method of practice. Doubtless his success as a practitioner was, in no small degree, due to the liberal use of the tincture of good common sense, which he made an important ingredient in the medicines, which he himself always compounded. He held human life too sacred for experiment or mere guess work, and in accordance with that faith he brought to the bedside of his patients honest purpose of heart and sincerity of manner. He was not a stern and unapproachable man, but affable, courteous in his intercourse, and his conversation was usually facetious, animated, and entirely free from any semblance of affectation.

Dr. Kittredge enjoyed an exceptionally large practice not only in Tewksbury, but in the towns adjoining. Like his ancestors he was a distinguished surgeon, and his reputation in that department in no sense diminished the high standard which others of his name had attained. As a portion of Tewksbury, bounded by the Concord and Merrimack Rivers, contained many families whom Dr. Kittredge attended, and some had moved into Lowell, his services were frequently demanded in this immediate vicinity.

Dr. Kittredge took an earnest and deep interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the town, serving on its various committees during his long residence there. With the exception of the clergyman, Dr. Kittredge was the only professional man in the town.

He was one of the first to engage in the temperance movement of those days, when it required not only moral



courage but often some personal sacrifice to contend against a common usage which was more universally practiced than at the present day.

There are those still living in Tewksbury who remember Dr. Kittredge, and their united testimony, without one dissenting voice, is that he was an able physician, a skilful surgeon, and, above all else, an honorable, upright Christian man, in whose life we may discover "deeds as heroic, all unsyllabled and unsung though they be, as any that the world perpetuates in marble and bronze."

Dr. Kittredge continued in active practice until a few weeks before his death, the cause of which is to the writer unknown, but occurred December 18, 1847, at the age of nearly sixty-one years. His death was regarded as a great loss to the place. Many individuals and families, to whom he had long administered in sickness and was their only medical adviser, looked upon his death as a personal affliction.

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The immediate successor of Dr. Kittredge was

### DR. JONATHAN BROWN.

Dr. Brown was born in Wilmington, Massachusetts, February 24, 1821. He pursued his medical studies under the direction of his father, and attended lectures at Pittsfield and Harvard Medical University, receiving his medical degree in 1846. Soon after his graduation he located in the neighboring city of Lawrence, where he remained a little over one year. At the death of Dr. Kittredge he removed to Tewksbury, where he continued in practice nearly twenty years. Part of that time he was connected with the State institution.

Dr. Brown possessed the qualifications which were essential not only to his success as a country practitioner but which were of great value to him during his long period of service in connection with the State institution, of whose character it is not necessary to speak.

As a practitioner he was observing, studious, and devoted to the welfare of his patients. As a neighbor and townsman he was highly honored and respected, and was an ever ready and sympathizing friend.



When, in 1854, the State almshouse was established at Tewksbury, he was appointed resident physician, and for twelve years he had the entire charge of the hospital department. The condition under which the offer was made was that he should not attend to private practice, which, on accepting the position, he at once entirely relinquished. The wisdom of such a course will at once be seen from the following statement, which shows that it would have been impossible to do justice to private practice and at the same time properly discharge his duties at the institution.

During Dr. Brown's connection with the State Almshouse a very large amount of sickness came under his care and treatment. "The hospital reports give for those twelve years over 15,000 patients, averaging all the time from 150 to 200, and numbering some years up to 1700 or 1800 patients. Few, if any, medical men in the State ever prescribed for so many patients in the same time." This was too large a business for any one man to attend to, and he should have had assistants.

To the interest of the institution and the welfare of its inmates Dr. Brown gave his best and undivided efforts. His reports, which were prepared with great care, showed his treatment to have been wise and discriminating. His mind was clear, logical and exact, and he possessed a well balanced character. He was seldom absent from the institution, with the exception of a few months in 1862, which he spent in the service of his country. It was while in this service that his system became impregnated with malaria, from the effects of which he never recovered.

In 1865 he resigned his position as physician at the almshouse, and again entered into private practice, but it was not long before he was obliged to relinquish active business, and finally, after several months of suffering, he died of phthisis, August 20, 1867, at the age of forty-six. At the time of his death he held the office of President of the District Medical Society, in behalf of which he had been a most earnest worker, always attending its meetings, which were at one time held once a month. His constant and punctual attendance was often at the expense of considerable effort on his part, living, as he



did, nearly six miles from the place of meeting. The records show that he frequently prepared papers or brought forward cases for discussion.

The following are among the resolutions passed by the Medical Society at a meeting which was called for that special purpose on the day of the funeral:

*Resolved*, That in the death of our President, Dr. Jonathan Brown, this Society deeply regret the loss of one who, by his readiness to contribute to the interest and welfare of the organization, his uniform courtesy and kindness as an associate, and his impartiality and uprightness as a presiding officer, had secured our highest esteem and respect.

*Resolved*, That while his professional attainments, his unblemished Christian character, his untiring industry and self-sacrificing devotion rendered him admirably adapted to discharge the onerous duties of his late responsible position as physician to the State Almshouse at Tewksbury, his kind sympathies and cheerful countenance made him a welcome guest in the family circle and by the private bedside of the sick.

Rev. Mr. Tolman, his pastor, and who was intimately acquainted with him, Dr. Brown having been his family physician for many years, when officiating at the last sad rites, paid this affectionate and fitting tribute to his memory:

"He possessed qualities as a physician that made him beloved; he was strictly honest, always true to his patients, was modest in his deportment, had great respect for his professional brethren, and when placed in trying circumstances, was scrupulously careful of their honor and reputation. As a man he was cheerful, agreeable, frank and plain-spoken. At various times he occupied positions of trust and responsibility in the town, with fidelity to the public and honor to himself. He was a consistent member of the church, exhibited not so much by words or professions as by acts or example; when placed as a Christian in trying situations and put to the test, he always manifested genuine piety, true penitence and forgiveness."



Wherein lay the power that

### DR. JOHN C. DALTON

exerted while living in this community, that now, after nearly a half of a century has elapsed since his removal from this city, its influence is not only still felt, but his memory affectionately cherished by so large a number of our citizens?

The artist runs a great risk who attempts to put upon canvas a head that has already been painted by a great master, and it is not without a similar hazard that an attempt is made to gather up these reminiscences.

A most excellent memorial on Dr. Dalton was prepared by Dr. John O. Green, and delivered by him before a public meeting of the citizens of Lowell, April 27, 1864.

Dr. Dalton was born in Boston, May 31, 1795. Early in life he received instruction at a private school, then kept in Spring Lane. Subsequently he attended the public schools, and in 1807, at the age of twelve years, was placed under the care of Dr. Luther Stearns, principal of Medford Academy, by whom he was fitted for college, entering Harvard in 1810. Among his classmates were such men as James Walker, William H. Prescott, F. W. P. Greenwood, and Pliny Merrick, each of whom afterwards attained eminent distinction in the professions which they adopted. In his college course he acquired scholarly tastes and habits, which he retained until the close of life. During his senior year he wrote for and obtained the Bowdoin prize, his subject being some question pertaining to political economy.

After his graduation in 1814, he accepted an usher-ship from his former instructor, where he remained one year. In the fall of 1815 he entered his name as a student of medicine in the office of Dr. Josiah Bartlett of Charlestown. He attended two full courses of medical lectures in Boston, one in the University in Philadelphia, and received his degree from Cambridge in August, 1818. Dr. Samuel L. Dana, who was for a long time a resident of Lowell, and who will be remembered by our older citizens, received his degree at the same time.



The entrance of a young physician into professional life in those days was somewhat different from the usual custom of later years. In some respects it was not unlike that of a minister receiving a call to settle over a parish. In this case Dr. Dalton virtually received a call from the people of Chelmsford to settle among them, and it was extended to him in the following manner:

In 1818 Dr. Wyman, who was then practicing at Chelmsford, received his appointment as superintendent of the McLean Asylum at Charlestown. A public meeting of the citizens of the town was called to give expression to their high esteem and personal respect for Dr. Wyman, and to request him to appoint a successor. The confidence which they reposed in him must have been extraordinary and very universal, for they pledged him that they would admit into their fellowship and employ the man whom he should recommend. The remarkable sagacity which was ever characteristic of Dr. Wyman was never more clearly shown than when he selected the subject of this sketch, who was then in his twenty-third year, and his medical studies scarcely completed. "No recommendation could have been more desirable and essential to success, and no appointment could have been more satisfactory and fortunate in its results to all parties."

An amusing incident, as related by Dr. Dalton to a friend in this city, occurred upon his first going to Chelmsford. Dr. Wyman, in order to facilitate his acquaintance, took him around to different parts of the town, and introduced him to the leading families, speaking a good word in his favor. Dr. Dalton was only twenty-two years of age, and his looks were youthful, especially as compared with Dr. Wyman. In calling upon one of the principal families, the head of the family, remarkable for age and wisdom, after making a careful survey of the "young doctor," remarked that "a physician would have to fill more than one grave-yard before he had a chance to experiment on him." Notwithstanding the shock this remark made upon the "young doctor" at the time, he said that this family became one of his best patrons.

For thirteen years Dr. Dalton pursued with untiring energy the duties of an extensive and successful practice. He was naturally zealous and enthusiastic, and followed



out his investigations with great care and patient study. But the country practitioner early learns the lesson of self-dependence, as circumstances and exigencies frequently occur which not only ripen his native qualities, but also bring him occasions that test his mental fibre as well as his firmness and force of character.

Early in his professional career at Chelmsford, an incident occurred which will illustrate not only his skill in diagnosis but also will give an insight into the trials and difficulties and the misrepresentations—the latter too often coming from members of his own profession—with which the young surgeon has to contend.

An old gentleman, seventy-eight years old, residing in the northern part of New Hampshire, upset his two-horse team in Chelmsford, fell on his hip and could not get up. He was at once conveyed to a house, and Dr. Dalton was called to see him. After a thorough examination he pronounced the case to be one of fracture of the neck of the thigh bone, and he at once proceeded to apply a modification of Dessault's long splint. A few days after, the patient became restive, and declared he must go home, and with that object in view, he employed a carpenter to make him a box sufficiently large to receive a bed together with himself and splint. Dr. Dalton heard of this and strongly protested against his removal, but it was of no use, for home he would go. The journey was taken in a wagon, the distance being over one hundred miles, he being carried forty miles on the last day of his ride. Some three weeks after the accident, a distinguished professor from Hanover was called to see him. "The patient made a somewhat singular appearance lying in his box, which, to accommodate himself and splint, he being over six feet high, was not much less than ten feet in length." The professor decided that the bone was not fractured, and prescribed treatment accordingly, and in a subsequent lecture before his class he described the case, and impressed upon the students the great care to be exercised against making a hasty diagnosis. Dr. Dalton heard of this and wrote to the professor, expressing surprise at the statement which he heard he had made, and described the case as it came under his care, stating that he found the limb everted and shortened more than an



inch, also that he detected crepitus. A few years after the man died, and Dr. Dalton went to the place of his death and requested an autopsy, which was granted. Upon dissection "the bone showed every mark of fracture, and constitutes now a most interesting specimen of that peculiar kind of accident." Dr. Dalton at once wrote to the professor, "stating the result, and closed with saying that it was very important in such cases to avoid a hasty diagnosis."

The above incident doubtless made a lasting impression upon Dr. Dalton, as forty years after its occurrence, while in conversation with a brother practitioner on the trials of young physicians, he referred to this circumstance as a striking illustration of those trials from his own experience.

During his residence in Chelmsford he formed many pleasant associations, both social and professional, with people in this young and rapidly growing town, and in 1831, desiring a larger field of usefulness, such as the increasing population here afforded, he came to Lowell in September of that year.

"How easy," says Dr. Green, "for his friends to recall his ever welcome presence. On his expanded forehead no one could fail to trace the impress of a large and calm intelligence. In his beaming smile none could help feeling the warmth of a heart which was the seat of all generous and kindly affection; while his closed mouth and rigid muscle around it gave equal evidence of his firm purpose and indomitable energy of will."

Dr. Dalton's career in Lowell covers a period of twenty-eight years, and was contemporaneous with the growth of our city from its incorporation to the time of his death.

There are many characteristics that enter into the life, character and professional attainments of this man which are worthy of more than passing notice.

As a physician he presents to the younger members of the profession an example worthy of study and imitation. He was an ardent lover of his profession, and sought, by careful study and investigation, to glean from every source those acquisitions which should enable him to take high rank among the first in his calling, not only



by his medical brethren of this city, but which should cause him also to be recognized among the leading physicians of the State. With a fine personal appearance, accomplished manners, and a melodious voice, he united in himself those mental acquirements and personal habits which are essential to usefulness and popularity.

It has been our privilege in some of the earlier papers to notice the relations which their respective subjects sustained to the municipal history of our city. But in this sketch we have one who did not actively engage in the political changes incident to a rapidly growing community. Dr. Dalton was not a politician, and his only experience in that line was two years of service as an Alderman, which office he held only from a sense of duty.

During his residence of nearly thirty years in this city, Dr. Dalton took an active interest in all our charitable institutions, and he always entered with a glowing sympathy into the various measures instituted for the relief of the unfortunate and the aged poor. In 1857-1858, when many persons were thrown out of employment, and there was much suffering among the poor, he was quite active in forming a citizens' association for their relief. For some time he was Treasurer of the "Ministry-at-Large," and during his term of office many changes and improvements were made by his suggestion, which proved of inestimable value.

The Unitarian Society of this city, to which he belonged, and in which he was a valued member, are indebted to him for many substantial tokens, among which was this handsome gift: He transferred two shares in the Railroad Bank to the society, and expressed the wish that the dividend therefrom should be used in the following manner—"I would have one-half expended in the purchase, annually, of some engraving of permanent value in illustration of Scripture history or geography, for the use of the Sunday School; the other half to be put into the hands of the Minister-at-Large, for the purchase of poultry as a Thanksgiving dinner for a few of the most deserving poor, at his discretion." As a result of this gift several fine engravings now adorn the walls of the beautiful vestry of that society, while many a poor family, as they sit down to a Thanksgiving dinner, have reason to be



thankful for the thoughtfulness and benevolence of this kind-hearted man.

Dr. A. B. Crosby once related that when gathering reminiscences of Dr. Nathan Smith, one of the most distinguished surgeons in New England, and the founder of Dartmouth Medical College, he asked a venerable man in his own neighborhood, whose hair had been silvered by more than eighty winters, what manner of man Nathan Smith was. He thought a moment, and then, with a moistened eye and a quiver of the lip, replied: "He was good to the poor." Nearly two decades have passed since Dr. Dalton has slept within

"The low green tent  
Whose curtain never outward swings."

Yet there are many living hearts in this community that still beat his requiem, and voices that repeat that most enduring of all epitaphs: "He was good to the poor."

In 1859, owing to family relations which were of a most pleasing nature, he removed to his native city. Although he had been so long absent from the scenes of his early life, he was privileged to renew many old acquaintances, and form new associations which soon placed him in an enviable position among the refined and cultured of that gifted city. "His brothers in the profession at once joyfully admitted him to a place among their honored members, and medical trusts of dignity and importance were gladly placed in his hands," among which was the appointment as Senior Physician to the new City Hospital.

Dr. Dalton was a patriot, and nothing but his age prevented him from giving personal service at the front, in the days of the Rebellion. While his four sons were in the service of the country, he was not idle at home, but was actively engaged in all those philanthropic measures which were instituted by loyal friends in the North for the comfort of those who were engaged in the service.

The lamented John A. Andrew—war Governor of Massachusetts—in an address delivered on one occasion, eulogized the patriotic zeal of Dr. Dalton as follows: "When accidentally present on the arrival of two hundred men in the steamer 'Daniel Webster,' in Boston, he at



once promptly offered his services to the Surgeon General; and he actually rode up State Street in an open ambulance at the head of the column on its way to the hospital, while many a young man has turned away in disgust because he disliked his assigned position at some capital operation."

Dr. Dalton was one of the few who are in the habit of speaking freely and unreservedly of their religious convictions.

In a long autobiographical letter furnished by request, to his class secretary, some years after his graduation, he gives a specific and explicit account of his views relative to those important questions which relate to man's future destiny, but in respect to which the limits of this paper do not permit us to speak. But enough may be gleaned from the above brief sketch of his life to show most conclusively that whatever his theological opinions might have been, he had learned the true mission of life, and was content to humbly follow in the footsteps of Him who went about doing good.

The last illness of Dr. Dalton, which was the result of an accident, was brief, though painful. For several days he was a great sufferer.

"How touchingly characteristic," said Dr. Green, "was the fact that the errand which called him from his home on the night of his fatal accident was to secure the Life of his classmate, Prescott, then newly published, to send to another classmate in a distant state."

Upon returning from this errand he slipped on some ice by his door and fell "upon a piece of iron, the model of a cannon, about six inches long and one inch in diameter, which he had in his pocket, and which was forcibly driven against his left side." In a few hours after the accident he was attacked with symptoms of pneumonia, which rapidly increased, and finally terminated fatally January 9, 1864. He had reached the age of sixty-eight at the time of his death.

"He gave his honors to the world again,  
His blessed part to heaven, and slept in peace."

His remains were brought to this city, and now rest in the Lowell Cemetery.



## DRS. WILLIAM AND JOHN W. GRAVES.

Dr. William Graves was born in 1793. Unfortunately no authentic account can be obtained of the place of his birth and early life. As the family have become extinct and no printed sketches of him can be found, our notice is necessarily brief.

This paper, therefore, introduces him at a time when he was in practice at Deerfield, New Hampshire. It is said that he practiced in that town for a number of years and did a large business.

In 1826 he came to Lowell, where he remained nearly fifteen years. While living in Deerfield, and in this city, he educated a large number of students, which fact speaks well for his attainments. His traditional reputation is that of a skilful physician and surgeon, and he is often referred to favorably by our older citizens.

For many years he had an office on Central Street, at the corner of Warren, from which he removed to Hurd Street, where he lived until his death. He is described as a man of genial temperament and of a cheerful disposition. He was also quite corpulent, turning the beam at three hundred pounds. Probably he was the largest physician physically that ever practiced in this city.

Dr. Graves was a member of the State Medical Society, but there is no record of his being a member of our local organization.

His death is recorded at the City Clerk's office as having occurred April 1, 1843, at the age of fifty.

Dr. John Wheelock Graves, son of the subject of the preceding sketch, was born in Deerfield, New Hampshire, January 7, 1810. His academical education was received at Exeter, New Hampshire. At the age of sixteen he removed to Lowell with his father.

Dr. Graves studied his profession in the office of his father and attended lectures at the Medical University at Washington. After his graduation he returned to this city, where, with the exception of the time he was in charge of the United States Marine Hospital at Chelsea, he remained in active practice until the last year of his life.



Having the prestige of his father's name, reaping certain advantages from his father's experience and business, and commencing himself when quite young the practice of medicine with a young and growing population, he soon became very acceptable as a physician to a large number of families, and for many years had an extensive business, not only in Lowell but in the neighboring towns. Few physicians are ever called to prescribe for so many different patients or have done it with such general satisfaction.

He espoused heartily the cause of temperance and anti-slavery, and was always ready to contribute of his time, his means, and his influence to them, as well as to other benevolent objects.

Few physicians, in city or country practice, have ever performed gratuitously a greater amount of professional service for the poor and needy—among whom were found at his death very many sincere mourners.

In 1871, when our community was suffering from the ravages of small-pox, it will be remembered how earnestly he labored to suppress this epidemic while acting as chairman of the medical staff appointed by the Board of Health. For the quick suppression of this loathsome disease our community was very much indebted to his decided and persevering efforts.

Dr. Graves was quite active in the political history of our city. Originally he was a Democrat but became prominent in the "free soil" movement. He served acceptably on the School Committee in 1833, 1834, 1835. In 1842 he was a member of the Board of Aldermen, and a State Senator in 1850-1851. He was also a member of the convention to revise the State constitution in 1853. In 1852 he was appointed by Governor Boutwell as one of the commissioners to locate and erect the lunatic asylum at Taunton.

"He was several times a candidate for Mayor, and was each time unsuccessful by a few votes only, although the candidate of a party in an almost hopeless minority and hal pitted against him a candidate whose nomination at any time was considered equivalent to an election." He was city physician in 1850, 1859, 1860. In 1861 he entered upon his duties as Superintendent of the United



States Marine Hospital at Chelsea. This position he held with great acceptance for eight years. In 1869 he returned to Lowell and assumed charge of the Lowell Hospital, where he remained until his death, making forty-four years of medical practice.

Dr. Graves was a member of the Old Residents' Association, and also an active member of the Middlesex North District Medical Society, having been one of its early members.

In person Dr. Graves was a little above six feet in height, of erect carriage and of commanding presence. He was very pleasant in conversation, adding to this happy faculty a much more rare one, that of remembering every one by name to whom he had once spoken.

Dr. Graves "possessed naturally a strong constitution and had always enjoyed good health, except a severe fit of sickness in 1841. But early in August, about four months before his death, he had a slight attack of apoplexy, followed for some weeks with a disturbance of the bowels, which, by reducing the vital forces of the system, revived and gradually increased an old difficulty, an organic disease of the heart. As a result of this low vitality and want of power in the action of the heart, the circulation was soon cut off entirely to one foot, which relapsed into a moribund state, that gradually extended to the knee. In the meantime the action of the heart became weaker and more abnormal, occasioning at times great difficulty in breathing. So great was this difficulty in respiration for the last two weeks of his life that it seemed to his attendants that he could not survive from day to day, and, at times, from hour to hour. This continued resistance to disease and tenacity of life showed a remarkably strong constitution. During all his sickness he had full possession of his mental faculties and frequently expressed a desire to be relieved from his pain and sufferings." These troubles rapidly increased during the last few weeks of his life, and finally terminated fatally November 28, 1873, at the age of nearly sixty-four.

The remains of both father and son rest in the family lot in the Lowell Cemetery.



How few of us can recall the familiar faces of the two old bachelor doctors of fifty years ago,

#### DRS. HANOVER DICKEY AND DAVID WELLS.

Dr. Dickey was born in Epsom, New Hampshire, September 14, 1807. He pursued his medical studies under the direction of Dr. William Graves, Dr. John W. Graves, the subject of the preceding sketch, being a student in his father's office at the same time. Dr. Dickey attended medical lectures at Dartmouth Medical College and Harvard University, receiving his degree from the latter in 1837. For eight years he practiced medicine in Epsom, his native place. In 1845 he came to Lowell, where he resided twenty-eight years.

Dr. Dickey was, from disposition and the constitution of his mind, very retiring. As a physician he possessed, in a large degree, those moral and intellectual qualities which give honor and usefulness to the profession. He possessed one moral and intellectual quality which will be recalled by those who were well acquainted with him, and that was a purity of mind and heart. In his religious life he was a member and regular attendant at the Kirk Street Church.

The subject of this sketch was made for a working physician. He had a good person, a grave, mild countenance, a good constitution, and a kind, sympathizing nature. These, together with his intellectual acquirements, enabled him to enjoy a good business during his professional career in this city.

As a member of the Medical Society he was a constant attendant at its regular meetings, frequently taking active part in the discussions, and ever ready to perform his part, when assigned to prepare a paper or present a case for mutual study and improvement.

Dr. Dickey was never married, but, together with his mother and sister, lived in a quiet and respectable manner on Hurd Street for many years. On the 29th day of May, 1873, after returning to his house from making a professional visit on the Hamilton Corporation, he entered his office, where he was soon heard to make considerable noise as if in trouble. But when entrance was



made into the room he was found to be breathing his last, and before medical assistance could be obtained he was dead. His death was caused by heart disease, which had troubled him for many years. His remains were removed to his native town for burial.

At the next regular meeting of the District Medical Society the following resolutions were passed by his medical associates in this city.

*Resolved*, That in the death of Dr. Hanover Dickey, who has been a member of this Society twenty-eight years, and been honored with all its leading offices, we lose an honorable associate, a physician thoroughly educated in his practice, strictly honorable in all his intercourse with his brethren, and always thoughtful of the rights of others, as well as conscientious in the discharge of his duty towards his patients.

*Resolved*, That while expressing a deep sense of our personal loss in the death of Dr. Dickey, the virtues and the qualities here described as exhibited in his life and character are deserving of our warm commendation, our highest respect and faithful consideration.

Dr. Wells, the subject of this sketch, was born in Wells, Maine, November 13, 1804. He was the son of Rev. Nathaniel Wells, a clergyman, who, for nearly a quarter of a century, was highly respected and honored as an upright, faithful and earnest preacher of the gospel.

At an early age Dr. Wells removed with his father to Deerfield, New Hampshire, where his boyhood life and many years of his early manhood were spent. His general education was received in the town school and in the academy at Exeter, New Hampshire. "In the higher department of books and thought, he cultivated the domain of reading as the sailor follows the sea, as the native Swiss loves the mountains." His medical studies were pursued under the direction of Dr. Thomas Brown of Deerfield.

After his graduation he commenced practice in Deerfield, where he remained eight years. Subsequently he removed to Boston, where he remained nearly one year, and in 1837 came to Lowell, where he continued in practice forty years, until the close of his life.

Dr. Wells was one of the original members of the North District Medical Society, and during his connection with that organization he held nearly all of its important offices.



As a practitioner Dr. Wells was remarkably successful. He was a diligent and untiring student, and possessed, in a high degree, the requisites of all true intellectual greatness—the habit of patient investigation and close application to the subject he was pursuing.

Dr. Wells enjoyed a large practice, especially among the Irish people of this city. In regard to his medical treatment, it may be said that he possessed sound and discriminating judgment, and was often consulted by his professional brethren in trying and difficult cases. He lived to be useful and was most happy when he was fulfilling the kind duties of his profession in behalf of the poor. But, as has been said, he was extremely retiring and self-distrustful.

The Rev. Dr. Foster, for many years his pastor, now deceased, in speaking of Dr. Wells, on the occasion of his death, made these fitting remarks: “Descended from a long line of distinguished ministers, both on the father’s and the mother’s side, nourished in his childhood and youth by the richest food of gospel truth, it is not to be wondered at that he was a natural teacher, and that if his gifts of practice had been equally exercised with his gifts of experience and thought, he would have been an eminent expounder of Bible doctrine. With native sociableness and generosity, together with the charm of manner which belonged to him, he won greatly upon the confidence of children.”

Dr. Wells never married, but spent his days in the quiet seclusion of his own companionship. In referring to his choice of single life, one has remarked: “How sad that some happy explorer had not traced those rivulets of kindness through ever deepening currents to the Albert Nyassa Lake, and built a home on its border, so that its blessed exhalations might not have been lost in the unknown airs, and its overflowing streams in surrounding sands.”

During his residence here he boarded most of the time at the Merrimack House, sleeping in his office at night. Not appearing during the day of the 23d of February, 1877, entrance was made to his office, where he was found dead. Subsequent investigation made it probable



that his death occurred early in the preceding night, of rupture of the heart, at the age of seventy-two years.

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### DR. BENJAMIN SKELTON.

Dr. Skelton was born in the neighboring town of Billerica, March 16, 1783. For many years he practiced in Pelham, New Hampshire, and in 1840 he removed to this city, where he resided for twenty-seven years. Dr. Skelton was highly respected for his moral and religious character. He was an active member of the John Street Congregational Church, and when the High Street Church Society was organized he became one of the original members. Of a quiet and retiring disposition he enjoyed a respectable practice for twelve or fifteen years, but for ten or twelve years he was confined most of the time to his house by reason of chronic rheumatism and partial paralysis. His death occurred March 23, 1867, in the eighty-fifth year of his age.

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### DR. DANIEL MOWE.

This gentleman was born in Pembroke, New Hampshire, February 3, 1790. When he was twelve years of age his parents moved to Salisbury, New Hampshire, and most of his education was received in the seminary of that town.

Having chosen the profession of medicine he pursued his studies under the direction of Dr. Joseph Wilson, of Salisbury, and attended lectures at Hanover, New Hampshire, where he graduated in 1819.

For several years he practiced at New Durham, New Hampshire. On the 10th of June, 1831, he came to Lowell, where he opened an office and commenced the practice of his profession, which he continued until within a few months of his death.

Dr. Mowe's character as a man of probity and honor stood high among all who knew him. To those who were



intimate with him, he was known to be governed by the highest Christian principles, and daily exhibited the most ardent piety, united with sincere humility.

As a physician Dr. Mowe enjoyed a large practice, especially among the Methodist people of this community. He had a thorough knowledge of materia medica, was a careful observer of all new remedies, and was in the habit, after careful study of their constituents, to give them a thorough trial before adopting them among his class of remedies.

"The remedial agent known as 'Mowe's Cough Balm' was a preparation of his own, and has justly received a fair reputation throughout New England."

In 1860 Dr. Mowe appeared to be in failing health, and in the fall of that year he went to Salisbury, New Hampshire. While there he took a violent cold, which was followed by pneumonia, that terminated fatally November 3, 1860.

At a regular meeting of his associates in the medical fraternity, November 20th, a deserved tribute was paid to his worth in the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, First, That in the death of Dr. Daniel Mowe, an old and respected member of the Middlesex North Medical Society, we have lost an associate who was ever honorable and upright in character, kind and courteous in professional intercourse, correct and exemplary in life and manners, a safe and intelligent counsellor and always true and steadfast friend.

Second, That inasmuch as his working years were devoted to the interests of this community, so here his memory should ever be held precious, as that of one who, after a long and useful career, has left a bright example of an upright Christian life.

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#### DR. JEREMIAH P. JEWETT.

Dr. J. P. Jewett, who was the son of Dr. Jeremiah Jewett, was born in Barnstead, New Hampshire, February 24, 1808. He received a common school education in his native village, and also attended two terms at Phillips Academy in Exeter, under the instruction of John Adams.



Dr. Jewett studied his profession in the office with his father, and attended lectures at Dartmouth Medical College, where he graduated in the fall of 1835.

In March, 1838, he came to this city, and entered upon the practice of his profession, which he continued until his death.

His devotion to the profession never abated during the whole period of thirty-seven years that he was engaged in practice. His career was not marked by startling events nor remarkable achievements, but was itself the most rare and difficult achievement of all—an uninterrupted discharge of every daily duty.

As a physician Dr. Jewett enjoyed a good practice, and for many years he served the city acceptably, performing the offices of coroner. As a member of our local medical society he was prominent and active. He was at one time President, and for many years he was Secretary of the organization; he also served in other positions. He was for many years a member of the New England Genealogical Society. At one time during his connection with this society, he collected material and commenced a history of his native town. This work, which was not completed at the time of his death, has since been revised, enlarged, and published by our venerable citizen, Robert B. Caverly.

During two years before his death he suffered from dropsical affections. His death occurred June 23, 1870.

On the 27th his funeral was attended by large delegations from the Old Residents' Association and the North District Medical Society, and his remains were borne away "to a peaceful rest in the shades of the Lowell Cemetery."

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#### DR. JOHN BUTTERFIELD.

Dr. Butterfield was born in Stoddard, New Hampshire, January 2, 1817. He began to attend school at the early age of three years, and from that time until his death, was a most diligent and faithful student. A large part of his short life of thirty-two years was spent in teaching. He was at one time a pupil of our venerable



citizen, Mr. Joshua Merrill, and also of Mr. Thomas M. Clark, now Bishop Clark of Rhode Island. Dr. Butterfield taught school at Francestown, New Hampshire, when he was but seventeen years of age, having previously had some experience in teaching at Londonderry in that state. He was at one time the principal of the Third Grammar School in this city.

He studied his profession with the late Dr. Huntington, and attended lectures at the Medical University at Philadelphia, from which he received his degree of M. D. Returning to this city, he entered into partnership with Dr. Huntington.

Although a young man, Dr. Butterfield was widely known as a man of great promise. He was a great favorite with his associates and won for himself a large circle of friends both in and outside of the profession. He was highly respected for his Christian manliness and integrity of character.

In 1843 he removed to Columbus, Ohio, where he soon won for himself a high position in the medical circles of that city. Soon after his arrival at Columbus he was chosen professor in the Starling Medical College. "It is no disparagement to the very respectable gentlemen connected with that college to say that Dr. Butterfield was the leading man among them." Dr. Butterfield was a great favorite of Dr. Willard Parker of New York, who, it is said, after his death remarked "that he lived a full and rounded life in the short period of thirty-two years." Never of a strong and rugged constitution, by close application to his studies he easily fell a victim to pulmonary troubles, which rapidly increased until, in the summer of 1847, he returned to this city, hoping that the change and rest would soon restore him to his health, so that he might return to labors which he fondly looked forward to with the brightest hopes. After remaining here a week he went to Salisbury, New Hampshire, where he rapidly failed, and died of consumption, September 7, 1847.



## DR. ABNER H. BROWN.

The subject of this sketch was born in New Ipswich, New Hampshire, July 6, 1816.

Through the courtesy of our highly respected citizen, Mr. C. C. Chase, Principal of the Lowell High School, who was a classmate and intimate friend of Dr. Brown's, the following sketch of his early life is here given as furnished by him in a letter received a few days ago:

At the age of eight years he lost his father by death, and in six or seven years after this event, his mother, for the better support and education of her three children, removed to the city of Lowell.

It was the good fortune of Dr. Brown to be a member of the first class of boys who entered our High School, and to become a scholar of the Rev. Dr. Clark, afterwards the distinguished Bishop of Rhode Island. Dr. Clark, when chosen Principal of the High School, was only nineteen years of age, but his pupils saw in him so much to admire, such enthusiasm, such hearty sympathy, such personal magnetism, that he found it easy to inspire them with a high ambition.

The admiration was mutual, for more than thirty years afterward the Bishop declared that he used firmly to believe at the time that there never was such a splendid set of scholars as he had. Of those boys I will mention only four.

First was Benjamin F. Butler, now Governor of the State, whose active, vigorous mind already gave promise of his renown.

Next was Edward F. Sherman, a fine scholar, who afterwards became the Mayor of our city.

Next was Marshall H. Brown, brother of Dr. Brown and two years his junior, a boy of great promise, who died before entering college.

The fourth was Abner Hartwell Brown, the subject of this article, a delicate boy of such quiet, gentle ways, so full of love and tenderness and yet so coy in the expression of his feelings, so refined in his taste and language, such a natural gentleman, though but a country boy, that his mates could not help respecting and loving him.



After his graduation in 1835 Dr. Brown entered Dartmouth College, where he graduated in 1839. "As a student of Dartmouth he stood in the front rank. As a scholar he was diligent and thorough, and as a man he was a favorite."

Upon finishing his collegiate course he was appointed as a tutor in the college, where he remained two years.

In 1841 he was elected as Principal of our Lowell High School. But before entering upon his active duties he was attacked with a dangerous hemorrhage of the lungs, which prostrated him for several weeks. On account of this he returned to the School Board the commission with which they had honored him.

At length, after somewhat recovering from his illness, he chose the profession of medicine, influenced, it is supposed, by his intimate friend, Dr. John Butterfield, the subject of the preceding sketch. He attended medical lectures at Dartmouth Medical College and at New Haven, graduating at the latter and delivering the valedictory address on that occasion. Subsequently he was appointed professor of chemistry in the Willoughby Medical College of Lake Erie, where he gave several courses of lectures with acknowledged ability and success. When that school was removed to Columbus, Ohio, he still continued to occupy his position as professor.

In 1847 he received the appointment of professor of materia medica and medical jurisprudence in the Berkshire Medical School at Pittsfield, Massachusetts. This office he retained until his death.

Of his practice in this city, which was, of course, more or less interrupted by his courses of lectures, it is only necessary to say that by his good judgment, kind feelings and courteous deportment he acquired and retained, in an eminent degree, the confidence and good will of all who knew him. Brilliant as were the qualities of his mind, the qualities of his heart still eclipsed them. As a physician he was esteemed as a safe and skilful practitioner. He was thorough in his investigations, and careful in his methods of treatment. He was city physician for several years, and in that capacity his kindness of heart and gentleness of manner were ever prominent in his dealings with suffering humanity. Such were the high attain-



ments of Dr. Brown that had his life been spared he would doubtless have stood among the first in his profession, and have been an honor to the community as an upright Christian physician. His death occurred at Hanover, New Hampshire, April 21, 1851.

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### DR. PATRICK P. CAMPBELL.

Dr. Campbell was born in Scotland, March 30, 1804. At an early age he came to this country, and soon after settled in Lowell. For twenty years he practiced his profession in this city. Among his own nationality and the families who patronized him he was highly respected for his upright, honorable life, while as a physician he possessed the necessary requisites of a successful practitioner. A few years before his death he removed to East Chelmsford, where he remained the rest of his life. His death occurred November 18, 1865, at the age of sixty-two, after an illness of only three days.

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### DR. OTIS PERHAM.

The older citizens of this community will readily recall the name of Dr. Perham, who for nearly twenty-five years was a highly-respected and well-known practitioner in this city. Dr. Perham was born in Old Chelmsford in 1813. He was a cousin of Dr. Willard Parker, with whom he studied medicine, and graduated at Woodstock Medical School in Vermont, when Dr. Parker was professor in that institution. In 1837 he came to Lowell. By marriage and other associations he enjoyed a large practice among the leading families in this city. In 1839 he connected himself with our local medical society, in which he afterward held many important offices.

As a physician, Dr. Perham is reputed to have been well read in his profession, careful and discriminating in his diagnosis, judicious in his methods of treatment, kind and sympathizing with his patients, and thoughtful of their wishes and patient with them in their troubles. As



a man, none have but the kindest words as they speak of his life and revere his memory. His death occurred November 22, 1863, at the age of fifty.

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Among the many physicians who have practiced medicine in this city it would be hard to find one who was more devoted to the duties of his profession than was

### DR. DANIEL P. GAGE.

The subject of this sketch was born in Berlin, Worcester County, in this State, October 25, 1828.

Shortly after this event his father moved to Northborough, where the youth's early years were spent in assisting his father in his labors on the farm, and in attending the winter terms of the town school.

Subsequently he attended the academy in Newbury Vermont, where he graduated.

He also taught school for several terms in the academies at Wrenham and Walpole, Massachusetts, and at the same time continued his studies of the higher mathematics and the languages.

Having chosen the profession of medicine he commenced his studies under the direction of Dr. Harvey Clapp of Wrentham. He afterwards studied under Dr. Moses Clarke of Cambridge, both now deceased, and attended lectures at Harvard University, graduating in 1855.

Immediately after his graduation he came to Lowell, and opened an office on East Merrimack Street, Belvidere, but shortly after removed his office to the Nesmith Building, and finally located on John Street, where he kept an office for many years. In 1862 he entered the army as assistant surgeon, and was detailed for several months in the hospitals at Washington and vicinity. He also participated in several of the important battles of that year.

Upon his return home he again entered into active practice, which was continued uninterruptedly for nearly twenty years.

In 1867, when St. John's Hospital was organized, he was elected a member of the staff of physicians, and dur-



ing his connection with that institution, which was continued until the close of his life, he not only served it faithfully as a physician, but also took an active interest in all matters pertaining to the prosperity of the hospital and the comfort of its patients.

He was greatly interested in another charitable institution in this city—the St. Peter's Orphan Asylum. He gave to it his professional services, and by kind attention and fatherly care over the little orphans won their love, and the respect and high esteem of those connected officially with the asylum.

Dr. Gage devoted his life to the interests of his profession with the zeal which marks the true patriot on the field of battle.

In regard to his medical standing and character it is due to his memory to say that he was well informed in the latest and best methods of treatment in his day, was diligent in study, careful and discriminating in his diagnosis, and was especially fortunate in his management of disease.

It was characteristic of Dr. Gage that he laid special emphasis upon the family history of his patients. He always made it a rule to inquire particularly into their antecedents, early habits, occupation and surroundings, and having done this took equal care to investigate the immediate cause of their ailment.

Nor was this careful and painstaking inquiry into details confined to his first visit, but it has often been remarked of Dr. Gage that when he had once taken charge of a case, he remained faithful to the trusts committed to him to the last.

In his surgical treatment he emphasized most clearly the significant remark of Desgenettes to the French surgeon-in-chief, that "It was the duty of the physician to save life, not to destroy." In this particular Dr. Gage won the lasting gratitude of his patients. However serious a wound might seem to be at first, he was always inclined to defer any operation that would involve a portion of the injured part, believing that nature would make the necessary repairs, if allowed to do so. This characteristic was especially shown in his treatment of mill accidents, the most common of which are injuries to the hands



or arms, and it is believed that many an unfortunate person who has received severe lacerations of one or more fingers of their hand now enjoy the use of their whole hand as the result of the wise and patient treatment of Dr. Gage, for he literally nursed back to recovery the injured members, which perhaps others, less willing to wait for so slow a process, would have amputated.

Another characteristic of Dr. Gage was the deep interest which he always manifested in students and younger members of the profession. Many a young physician cherishes his memory with filial affection as he recalls the courtesies and kind attentions received from him during the early years of his professional career.

As a member of the District Medical Society, he held many important offices, and was President of the society the year preceding that of his death.

The subject of this sketch gave his life in behalf of his profession, but it was more of a sacrifice than many are called upon to offer. We read in history that, during the plague which is known as the "Black Death" and which raged throughout Europe in the fourteenth century, a physician shut himself up alone in a room, and there, until he perished, continued to dissect the bodies of those that had died, at the same time writing out a diagnosis of the disease in order that the faculty might discover a remedy for it.

For twelve years Dr. Gage suffered from slow poisoning occasioned by the inoculation of virus through a scratch on his finger while making a post-mortem examination. Within twenty-four hours after the occurrence he was obliged to take his bed, and the best of medical aid was summoned to his relief. He rallied from his prostration, but his finger did not heal for three months.

The attacks from this cause recurred at first at irregular and long intervals, but they grew more frequent in number and severity until finally he was compelled to relinquish practice. During the last two years of his life he was confined most of the time to the house. He was never heard to complain, even when suffering intense pain, from which the nature of the disease gave him but little respite. He would, by a strong effort, strive to forget himself in the interest of others.



Worn out by terrible and continuous sufferings, though in the prime of life, and with everything to live for, death was welcomed, and relieved him of the burden of life on the morning of the 31st of January, 1877, at the age of forty-eight.

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### DR. EBEN K. SANBORN.

Dr. Sanborn was born in New Chester, New Hampshire, January 24, 1828. His father, who was also a physician, died when he was thirteen years old. Having chosen the profession of medicine, he pursued his studies under the direction of his uncle, Dr. Gilman Kimball of this city. Dr. Sanborn early in his career gave evidence of a high degree of professional attainments and soon reached an enviable position among the younger members of the profession.

In 1853, at the age of twenty-six, he filled the chair as lecturer on pathological anatomy in the medical college in Vermont. The following winter he went abroad, and spent several months attending the clinics in the hospitals of England and Germany.

After returning to this country he was appointed a teacher of anatomy at the Berkshire Medical Institution. For some time he also filled the chair of surgery in the same school.

After the breaking up of the school in Vermont with which he was first connected, he received an appointment in the medical institution located at Castleton, Vermont, at the same time establishing himself in practice at Rutland.

Dr. Sanborn is said to have possessed rare acquirements as a teacher, and had he remained in that capacity, he would doubtless have attained to a high position among the medical instructors in this country. He early in his practice commenced to use his pen in recording his observation of cases, methods of treatment, and such other information as he thought would be useful to him in later years. His communications to medical journals,



although few in number, showed original thought and study, and covered a wide range of subjects, especially in his special department of anatomy and surgery.

The following are some of the subjects of the papers which he prepared, and which may be of interest to the profession: "Fractures of the Patella, treated by Adhesive Straps;" "Ligamentous Union of the Radius and Ulna, treated by Drilling and Wiring, after Failure by other Means;" "Ununited Fracture of the Humerus Cured by the same Method;" "A New Method of Treating Large Erectile Tumors, with a Review of the Pathology of the Disease and the Different Modes of Treatment." This last is said to have been a most exhaustive treatment on that subject, showing not only remarkable success in a given case, but furnishing also suggestions of general application to this particular class of disease.

Upon the breaking out of the Rebellion he was one of the first to offer his services in behalf of his country. In April, 1861, he was commissioned as surgeon to the First Volunteer Regiment of Vermont. He was first stationed at Fortress Monroe, and soon after he was ordered to Newport News as post surgeon, where he established, though on a small scale, the first hospital erected during the war.

It was while at Fortress Monroe that his real worth and efficient service were recognized by General B. F. Butler, who solicited his future service as surgeon of the Thirty-First Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers. This proposition was accepted, and with a commission from Governor Andrew, he joined his regiment on board the ill-fated steamship "Mississippi," whose record of disasters and perils is well known by every student of history.

But his brilliant career was destined to be short, for as soon as he reached Ship Island "he had become sadly prostrated, both in mind and body, by the unremitted fatigues and anxiety of the voyage, so that in less than two weeks from the day of disembarking he sank away without showing any evidence of actual disease, apparently from mere physical exhaustion." His death occurred April 3, 1862, at the age of thirty-five. His remains were taken to Lowell for burial.



Upon the occasion of his death General Butler remarked: "The service lost a good officer, the profession an able member, and the country a patriot and good citizen."

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### DR. JAMES G. BRADT.

Dr. James G. Bradt, who was the son of Mr. G. B. Bradt, a well-known citizen of this city, was born in Lowell, September 24, 1837. His early education was received in the public schools of this city. He graduated at the High School in 1849. He entered Harvard College in 1853, but was obliged to leave his studies before the close of his junior year on account of a severe attack of hemorrhage of the lungs.

Dr. Bradt read his profession with the late Dr. Walter Burnham of this city, and attended lectures at the Medical College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, where he graduated in 1858. For a time he was professor of anatomy in Worcester Medical College. On the breaking out of the war he entered the army and served as surgeon of the Twenty-Sixth Massachusetts Regiment. While in the service he won a high position among his medical associates, and particularly distinguished himself as an operating surgeon of more than ordinary ability. After serving his country for four years he returned home and entered into practice in this city. Dr. Bradt united to undoubted skill in his profession an intense love for its practice, and had exceptionally good success in the management of disease.

He early connected himself with the North District Medical Society, which he served faithfully for a considerable time as its Secretary.

But the same relentless foe—consumption—that had taken his mother, a sister and only brother, at last claimed him also, and on the 22d of January, 1868, at the age of thirty years and four months, he passed away.



How pleasant it is to recall the kindly manner and genial countenance of

### DR. ABNER W. BUTTRICK.

Dr. Buttrick was born in Lowell, August 28, 1842. He was a member of our Lowell High School, and fitted for college at Phillips Academy of Andover, entering Williams College in 1861, graduating in 1865. Subsequently he entered Harvard Medical School, where he received his degree in 1869. Soon after his graduation he went to Europe, where he spent a considerable time at a hospital in Dublin, and several months of study in the celebrated medical college at Vienna. Later, he attended clinical instruction at a hospital in Paris.

"While Dr. Buttrick was a man thoroughly imbued with scholarly habits and tastes, he made not the slightest pretence to scholarly rank or distinction, under the ordinary discipline and regimen of school or college. He grasped the substance of knowledge, and was almost scornfully indifferent to the conventional methods of proclaiming and rewarding scholastic achievement."

Upon entering upon the active duties of his chosen profession, which he did in his native city, he at once took high rank, not only as an educated physician of more than ordinary ability, but as far, and even at times beyond the limits which his health would permit, he worked persistently for the advancement in certain of its most important spheres.

His heroic and faithful discharge of duties performed during the prevalence of small-pox in this city, will stand as a monument that he proved himself "to the occasion true." One, in writing of him after his death, and referring to his connection to the important position which he occupied at that time, said: "The acceptance of the post of resident physician at the pest house in Lowell meant isolation from family, from friends, and deprivation of the ordinary comforts of social life; it meant, also, personal danger; it meant communion with disease and death in their most terrible form. He was himself stricken with this dreadful scourge, but he never faltered, and there are many living today who can testify to the unremitting



care, the fidelity and patience with which the good physician ministered unto them. 'He stood between the living and the dead and the plague was staid.' " This was only one of the many of the duties which he performed as a public medical benefactor during the few years in which he was permitted to follow his chosen profession, which he loved so well. But the same relentless foe which has claimed so many of the younger members of the profession, who have been the subjects of these sketches, met him also, and again proved that while he saved others, himself he could not save.

For seven years he fought manfully, patiently and well against its ever insidious approaches, but at last, when the inevitable time came, he met it "calm, philosophical, cheerfully, undisturbed by his waiting shadow," and on the morning of March 27, 1882, he passed peacefully away.

The following most fitting testimony, which was prepared by one of his intimate professional brothers, expresses beautifully the respect in which he was held by the members of the Medical Society:

"While we tender our sympathy to the family of our late associate, Dr. Abner Wheeler Buttrick, in their affliction, and deplore the loss occasioned to this Society by his death, we recall with pride and admiration the traits of character to which his excellence as a man and physician was due. He had a mind analytic, observing, unusually clear and well balanced, with a breadth of view that had been enlarged by foreign travel, a heart easily moved by human woes, a genuineness of purpose and sturdy common sense that frowned on charlatanry whether in religion, politics, society or the practice of medicine. A quiet heroism and calm philosophy which, rendered prominent by a long and trying illness, touched it with a gentle pathos, and made the closing scenes of his life seem less like a bed of sickness than an impressive triumph over suffering."

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### DR. HIRAM PARKER.

This gentleman was born in Kittery, Maine, in 1809. He entered upon his professional studies when quite young, attended lectures at the medical school in Phila-



delphia, where he graduated. For seven years he practiced in South Berwick, Maine, and in 1834 he came to Lowell, remaining in practice in the city over forty years. He was originally a practitioner of what is termed the "old school," but subsequently advocated homoeopathy, whose doctrines he followed during the last years of his practice.

Dr. Parker was a kind and genial man, a good practitioner, and enjoyed a large and lucrative practice. He was something of a literary genius, and wrote considerable, on both medical and miscellaneous subjects. When the work of Rev. Edward Beecher was published, entitled "The Conflict of Ages," Dr. Parker wrote and published a volume of considerable size which was designed as a reply to that of Mr. Beecher, and chose for his title "The Harmony of Ages." This work had a considerable sale, and is said to have been a production of more than ordinary merit.

Dr. Parker was a member of our local medical society, and, until his change of views with reference to medical treatment, he was quite an active member, but after adopting homoeopathy he was not a constant attendant at its meetings, though he always retained his connection with that organization.

During the last few years of his life he was confined most of the time to the house with paralysis, which caused his death May 22, 1877, at the age of sixty-eight. His funeral occurred at the Worthen Street Baptist Church, where for many years he was an active, consistent member, a teacher in the Sabbath School, and prominent in the several departments of Christian labor.

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#### DR. HENRY WHITING.

This gentleman, who was a brother of our well-known citizen, Phineas Whiting, was born in that part of Chelmsford which is now Lowell, February 19, 1822. He fitted for college at Derry, New Hampshire, and also in Boston, entering Harvard in 1838, graduating in 1842. He studied medicine with Dr. Gilman Kimball of this city, and Dr. Marshall S. Perry of Boston, attended lectures at



Harvard Medical School, and at Jefferson Medical College in Pennsylvania, graduating at the latter in 1845. Immediately after receiving his degree he went to Europe, where he continued his medical studies, and also travelled over a great part of the continent. On his return from Europe, Dr. Whiting commenced practice in this city. Having abundant means he was never compelled to seek practice on account of its pecuniary remuneration, and therefore he devoted himself to acquiring the best possible knowledge of the art and science of his chosen profession.

Dr. Whiting possessed a naturally strong mind and unusual powers of observation. He was of a kind and generous nature, and was especially fond of humor, in which he freely indulged, but it was never of that character which in any way detracted from his gentlemanly habits, which he guarded with scrupulous care. In his professional life he was highly honored and was looked upon by his contemporaries as a young man of more than ordinary promise. But his career was brief. "He died in the flush of manhood, with high hopes and expectations unfulfilled." His death occurred June 23, 1857, at the age of 35.

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The following sketches, with the exception of the last two, were read at the quarterly meeting of the society, held at Lakeview, July 27, 1898:

Most reverently do my thoughts revert to the honored Nestor of this society,

### DR. JOHN O. GREEN.

So intimately was he associated with the first half century of this city that his name has become coincident with its history. In this connection so much has been written and published of his life and character that my remarks must necessarily be, to some extent, a repetition of what has already been said.

The subject of this sketch was born in Malden, Massachusetts, May 14, 1799. At seven years of age he attended the Centre District School. Subsequently he



prepared for college, entering Harvard when he was fourteen, graduating in 1817. The following year he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Ephraim Buck of Malden; he attended medical lectures at Harvard Medical School, receiving his degree of M. D. March 10, 1822. On the 23d of the following month he came to Lowell, where he continued in active practice for sixty-three years.

Dr. Green was a man of far-sighted judgment, keen perception, wise counsel and always faithful in the discharge of his duties to his patients. He was prominent in all matters pertaining to the moral, physical and educational interests of our city. He gave special attention to the development of the hygienic conditions of our mill operatives and did much, both with voice and pen, to place a high standard of excellence, and to make for the Spindle City a name second to none of the manufacturing towns of New England.

He was a writer of considerable note, and in earlier life he delivered a number of able and instructive lectures on educational and professional topics. He was the first President of the Old Residents' Historical Association, also President of this society; a member of the staff of St. John's Hospital, and for several years a member of our School Board. He was President of the Lowell Institution for Savings, and Senior Warden of St. Anne's Church.

Dr. Green was a perfect type of a Christian gentleman and physician. He was scrupulous, but not exacting; just and confident, without self-righteousness; a man to imitate, honor and respect. He lived to the advanced age of eighty-six years, his death occurring December 23, 1885.

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To mention the name of

### DR. WALTER BURNHAM

is to recall one of the best and ablest medical instructors that Lowell ever had. No less than twelve physicians were educated in his office, many of whom settled here in Lowell, while a number of others received appointments



as professors in different medical colleges throughout the country.

Dr. Burnham's early record reads as follows: He was born in Brookfield, Vermont, January 12, 1808. He studied his profession with his father, and was graduated from the University of Vermont in 1829, practicing a short time in Guildhall, Vermont, and Barre, New Hampshire. In 1846 he came to Lowell, where he at once entered upon a large medical and surgical practice, which he ever after retained. Early in his professional career he engaged somewhat in politics and was elected by the citizens of Lowell to fill many responsible positions. He served two terms in the General Court. "While a member of the Legislature he presented to that body a bill known as the 'Anatomy Act,' which provided for the use of certain material by the medical schools of the State and by physicians for the purposes of dissection. Mainly through his efforts the bill was passed, and, with few, if any, modifications, is now a statute law of Massachusetts." He also served as a member of our local School Board in 1852, 1853, 1857, 1858, 1872 and 1873.

But it was as a surgeon that he was most widely known throughout New England and the Middle States, his special line being ovariectomy. His first ovarian operation was performed in 1851, and was successful. Of the three hundred cases of ovariectomy which he performed, seventy-five per cent. recovered. As an expert witness on anatomical and surgical points he was well known in the courts and was often sought for by eminent counsel. He was a prominent Mason, having attained the thirty-second degree. His death occurred January 16, 1883, at the age of seventy-five years.

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Speaking of the person of

DR. LEVI HOWARD,

it may be said that he was a typical representative of a working physician. He was a man above the ordinary stature, erect and commanding in his carriage, his face benevolent, his manner courteous and dignified.



He was born in Bolton, Massachusetts, May 26, 1820, receiving his education at Worcester and Bridgeton Academy, Maine. He pursued his medical studies with Dr. Lewis W. Houghton of Waterford, Maine, and was graduated at Dartmouth Medical School in 1846. For two years he practiced in Stillriver, Massachusetts, and in 1848 he came to the neighboring town of Chelmsford, where he practiced his profession until within a week of his death.

Dr. Howard's practice was not alone confined to Chelmsford, but extended into all the adjoining towns and the city of Lowell.

As a physician he was thoroughly devoted to his profession. In the sick room he was cheerful, kind and considerate, his manner as tender as a woman's. His very appearance inspired confidence, his movements were quick and decided, indicative of his character. Regarding the welfare of his patients nothing was allowed to escape his notice which could in any way be made subservient to their comfort, while anything he thought detrimental to their best interests he was prompt to interfere, and, if possible, to correct its influence.

Dr. Howard commanded to an exceptional degree the honor and respect of his neighbors and professional associates. His mind was active and evenly balanced. In consultation he was the soul of honor and integrity. His fatal illness was brief, his death occurring January 23, 1885, at the age of sixty-four.

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In the person of

### DR. JOSEPH H. SMITH

we find a happy combination of many superior gifts.

The subject of this sketch was born in Rochester, New Hampshire, November 17, 1805. For several years he taught school in his native town. It was there, also, that he commenced his medical studies in the office of Dr. James Farrington, and was graduated at Bowdoin Medical College in 1829. He commenced practice in his native



town, where he remained three years. Subsequently he removed to Dover, New Hampshire, where he practiced until 1867, when he came to Lowell.

Dr. Smith was an orator, an editor, a politician and a skilful physician, a man of irreproachable character, whose word was a guaranty of good faith and whose friendship was a privilege worthy of the highest appreciation.

While living in New Hampshire he held many important positions of honor and trust. "He represented Dover in the State Legislature in 1837. In 1848 he was chosen one of the Presidential electors who gave the vote of the State to Lewis Cass for President of the United States." He was President of the New Hampshire Medical Society in 1849. He served in the Governor's Council in 1851 and 1852, and was in the State Senate in 1854 and 1855.

He also served as a Trustee of the New Hampshire State Lunatic Asylum, a railroad Director, President of a bank, and a member of the School Board in Dover. He was a ready writer, his articles showing careful study and research in whatever department he attempted to portray. As an editor of the Dover Gazette and the Lowell Morning Times his writings always commanded thoughtful consideration by those who read them. His death occurred in Lowell, February 26, 1886.

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We readily recall the genial manner of that gentlemanly physician,

#### DR. JOEL SPALDING.

He was a native of that part of Chelmsford which is now Lowell, and was born March 2, 1820. His preliminary studies were pursued at Pinkerton Academy, Derry, New Hampshire. At the age of seventeen he entered Dartmouth College, where he was graduated in 1841. He commenced the study of medicine under the tutorship of the late Dr. John O. Green, receiving his diploma from the Berkshire Medical Institute of Pittsfield, Massachusetts. He also attended lectures at the College of Physicians and



Surgeons in New York City, serving for one year as house physician in Bellevue Hospital.

In 1846 he commenced practicing medicine in Lowell, which he continued for over forty years. In 1854 he was appointed coroner for Middlesex County, and for five years he served as city physician. He also filled a large number of the offices of this society. For nineteen years he served on the staff of St. John's Hospital. As a physician he entered upon the duties of his chosen profession with great zeal and earnestness, and he soon attained a high rank as a careful, conscientious and skilful practitioner.

His career as a Mason is part of the Masonic history of this city, the fraternity bestowing upon him their highest honors. He was one of the few Masons in this city who have been elevated to the thirty-third and last degree. A fine oil painting of the doctor adorns the wall of the Temple in this city. The doctor never married, but gave his whole life unreservedly to his profession, and on the 30th of January, 1888, in the house in which he was born and where he always lived, he passed away honored and respected by all who knew him.

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To have known

### DR. NATHAN ALLEN

as it was my privilege to know him was to have enjoyed the companionship and friendly counsels of one who possessed in a remarkable degree that wonderful union of qualities of mind and heart which at all times commanded filial reverence and respect. The face of Dr. Allen is among my earliest recollections. Aside from the immediate members of my own family, he was the first man I ever knew. For eighteen years he was my father's family physician, or until I began my own professional studies, and during the first twelve years of my own practice there was scarcely a week in which I was not associated with him. Certainly this period of time afforded me the opportunity to study his habits and character, the knowledge of which could not well come within the reach of all.

Dr. Allen was a many-sided man. As a physician he was a faithful, conscientious practitioner, and earnestly



labored for the good of his patients. He was a thoroughly educated man and believed that education was an important factor in bringing about moral and physical reforms and in perpetuating the highest type of American citizenship. It was, however, through the medium of his writings that his name has now passed into history. His pen was never idle. He was, in every sense, a prolific writer. I can scarcely recall the time when he did not have a paper in process of preparation, and his note-book was always crowded with "minutes" for future essays. He wrote largely for newspapers and magazines, and also prepared a large amount of statistical reports which are of inestimable value. A short time before his death he collected and published in book form some three hundred and fifty of his best and most popular articles.

Dr. Allen filled many important positions of trust and responsibility, both in this city and State. For twenty-five years he served on the staff of St. John's Hospital. Thirty-two years he was a member of the Board of Examiners of Applicants for Pensions; fifteen years a member of the State Board of Charities; Chairman of the Board of Health in this city for many years. He was President of the City Institution for Savings for twenty years; he was also President of Amherst Alumni of this city. He was also deeply interested in all charitable and benevolent enterprises. Who can forget his earnest effort in behalf of the mission of "Hospital Sunday"? Truly, he was a good man whose name will not soon be forgotten. His death occurred January 1, 1889.

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Prominent among the list of Lowell's oldest and most skilful physicians stands the name of

#### DR. CHARLES A. SAVORY.

He was born in Beverly, Massachusetts, December 25, 1813. His medical degree was received at Dartmouth College in 1835. For nine years he practiced medicine in Hopkinton, New Hampshire; at the same time he served as Postmaster for several years, and was also Superintendent of Schools for two years. Subsequently he prac-



ticed in Warren, New Hampshire, a short time, when he removed to Philadelphia, where he filled the chair of professor of obstetrics in a medical college of that city. In 1848 he came to Lowell, where he continued in practice forty-four years.

Although a general practitioner, Dr. Savory gave special attention to diseases of the eye, and for many years he was the only specialist in that department in this city, he having acquired an extensive reputation as an operator for cataract. He also gave considerable attention to general surgery, and in the operation of ovariectomy he was eminently successful. He was always interested in anything that would advance the interests of the profession. As a member of this society he took an active part in all of its deliberations. He was its President in 1860, 1861 and 1862, and filled nearly every office of this association. He was a member of the original staff of St. John's Hospital, and for many years was Chairman of the Board. He was also President of the Lowell Institution for Savings. Dr. Savory was a gentleman of the old school, of sound judgment and kindly disposition; he was peculiarly fitted by nature to perform the duties of his chosen profession. His death occurred in this city, February 2, 1892.

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Six years ago this afternoon, July 27, 1892,

#### DR. GILMAN KIMBALL

died at his residence in this city, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. He was born in New Chester, now Hill, New Hampshire, December 8, 1804. He received his early education in the public schools of the town in which he lived, and at the age of twenty he began the study of medicine. He attended lectures in the Harvard Medical School and clinics at the Massachusetts General Hospital and at the United States Marine Hospital at Chelsea. He graduated as doctor of medicine at Dartmouth Medical College in 1826.

As a physician, Dr. Kimball enjoyed the confidence and personal regard of a large number of families in this



community. But it was as a surgeon that he was more widely known and as a skilful operator he acquired an extended reputation. Like his contemporary, Dr. Burnham, he was also one of the pioneers in the practice of ovariectomy in this country. He also had the distinction of being the first surgeon to perform successfully the removal of the uterus, based upon a correctly established diagnosis. Subsequently he performed this operation twelve times, with six recoveries.

Dr. Kimball's surgical efforts were not wholly confined to gynecological cases. He performed the amputation of the hip joint twice, one of them being successful. He ligated several of the large arteries, with general good results. At one time he removed a diseased elbow joint, the wound healing so perfectly that the patient was able to serve in the Union army as an able-bodied soldier. As an operator he was bold, fearless and courageous, and fully prepared for all emergencies. His name will pass into history as one of the foremost and leading surgeons of New England, if not of this country.

Pardon me for a moment's digression from my subject, as it is with professional pride, in which I know you will all join with me, when I state, that from the ranks of the medical fraternity in this city, five of our members have attained more or less distinction as ovariectomists, and won reputations not confined to this city, State or New England. Their names are: Dr. Walter Burnham, Dr. Gilman Kimball, Dr. Charles A. Savory, Dr. Lorenzo S. Fox and Dr. John C. Irish. I doubt if, outside of the large hospital centres, there can be found in any other city as many surgeons in proportion to the whole number of physicians who have won equal distinction.

Dr. Kimball was a pleasing writer and contributed largely to the medical literature of his day. He had many honors bestowed upon him from various colleges, both at home and abroad. At one time he occupied professorships at Woodstock, Vermont, and Pittsfield, Massachusetts. His period of practice in this city extended over sixty years.



Who of us that knew him can forget the kindly, fatherly face of that Christian, gentlemanly physician,

DR. NATHANIEL B. EDWARDS,

the efficient and trusted Treasurer of this society for thirty-three years.

He was born in Westford, Massachusetts, January 20, 1820. His early education was received at the Academy in Groton, after which he taught school for several terms in Chelmsford and Littleton. He pursued his medical studies in the office of the late Dr. Huntington, and was graduated from the Berkshire Medical Institute at Pittsfield, Massachusetts, in 1844. The following year he commenced practice in North Chelmsford, which he continued uninterruptedly for nearly half a century.

As a resident of that town he filled many important positions, and always with credit to himself and the satisfaction of his constituents. He was for many years a member of the Board of Selectmen, School Committee and Registrars. In 1859 he represented the town in the lower branch of the Legislature.

Dr. Edwards was the personification of an honest, conscientious and skilful physician. Warm and generous in his friendships, none could surpass him in his sympathy for the afflicted and suffering. He was a thoroughly educated physician, strictly honorable in all his intercourse with his brethren, thoughtful of the rights of others and faithful in the discharge of his duty towards his patients. His whole life and character is deserving of our warmest commendation, filial respect and faithful consideration.

Fidelity to public trusts was one of the cardinal principles of his life. He was thoroughly honest in everything he did. Long will his name be revered by his neighbors, professional associates and friends. He left this life for a higher one June 12, 1893, aged seventy-three years.



The advent of La Grippe during the winter of 1889-1890, soon claimed two of our brightest young physicians,

#### DRS. ARTHUR Q. PHELAN AND WILLIAM M. HOAR.

The former passed away January 7, 1890, and the latter only five days later, January 12, 1890.

Dr. Phelan was a native of Ireland, where he was born in 1848. His studies were pursued in Cork and Dublin. In 1868 he came to Lowell, entering the drug store of the late Mr. Joseph Plunkett, where he remained four years. Subsequently he studied medicine with Dr. F. C. Plunkett, graduating at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York.

Dr. Phelan possessed eminent qualities for a bright and active practitioner. His ambition to succeed was one of his marked characteristics, and he gave great promise of usefulness, and doubtless had he lived would have made his mark in the community and become an honor to the profession.

Dr. William Hoar was born in this city November 22, 1849. His early training, which was especially thorough, was obtained in our public schools, the Jesuit College in Georgetown, District of Columbia, and at Holy Cross College, Worcester, Massachusetts, graduating from the latter in 1870. It was his intention to study for the priesthood, but finally he adopted the medical profession as his vocation. He commenced his studies with the late Dr. Walter Burnham, and received his degree at Bellevue Medical College, New York, in March, 1873. He at once came to Lowell and commenced practice, where he remained until his death.

During his professional career in this city he faithfully and creditably occupied several important positions. He was a prominent politician, serving as Chairman of the Democratic City Committee for several years. He was a member of the School Board for four years, and also served one term in the State Legislature. In 1885, President Cleveland appointed him as pension examiner, which position he held until 1889.

Dr. Hoar was by nature specially active and energetic. He was ambitious to excel in whatever he under-



took. He knew no such word as fail, and because of that characteristic he often won in face of many obstacles. Both as a physician and surgeon, he enjoyed a large and lucrative practice. Although young in years, several of his surgical operations showed more than ordinary skill and ability.

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Many of us who are here today can recall the familiar face of our late associate,

### DR. JOHN H. GILMAN.

Born in Sangerville, Maine, February 24, 1836, at an early age he came to Lowell, where he attended our public schools, and Phillips Academy, Andover. His medical studies were pursued at Harvard Medical School, where he was graduated in 1863. After his graduation he enlisted, and was appointed surgeon to the Tenth Massachusetts Regiment, where he remained until the close of the Rebellion.

In 1866 he commenced practice in this city, and served as city physician in 1869 and 1870. In 1874 he visited Europe, and again in 1880. Both times he gave special attention to the study of surgery. In 1871 he was chosen one of the consulting physicians to the Board of Health during the small-pox epidemic of that year. In 1874 he was appointed on the staff of St. John's Hospital, the duties of which he faithfully performed until his death. For several years he performed a large share of the surgical operations in that institution.

Dr. Gilman wrote a large number of essays on medical and surgical topics, which were specially valuable contributions and which were highly received, both in this country and in Europe. Several of these papers were published in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal and in the New York Medical Record.

In June, 1877, he read an able paper on Diphtheria before the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and which was also published in the New York Medical Record. He was among the number of men to early demonstrate that croup was one of the forms of



diphtheria. In his practice Dr. Gilman held closely to the old way of giving large and heroic doses. Later in life his methods in that respect were somewhat moderated. His death, which was the result of an accident, occurred at East Barrington, New Hampshire, May 28, 1890.

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I approach with mingled feelings of veneration and respect the name of my late preceptor,

DR. LORENZO S. FOX.

He was born in the adjacent town of Dracut, February 7, 1840. His parents were poor and his early education was meagre. To his credit be it said, that whatever he attained in later life was by his own unaided efforts prompted by an ambition and zeal that was unconquerable.

At the age of twenty-three he received his medical degree from the Harvard Medical School. The same year (1863) he was appointed assistant surgeon to the Twenty-Sixth Massachusetts Regiment, where he remained until mustered out in July, 1864. Upon his honorable discharge he at once re-entered the United States Army, where he remained until the close of the war. In the summer of 1865 he commenced practice in Lowell, which he continued uninterruptedly until his death.

Dr. Fox was of a modest, retiring disposition, a man of few words, scrupulously neat in his dress and personal appearance; his very presence inspired confidence and trust. As a physician he acquired a large practice. But it was as a surgeon that he acquired an extended reputation. He performed the operation of ovariectomy several times with excellent success. Late in life he made use of his pen to advance medical education. In 1885 he prepared a paper entitled "Ten Cases of Abdominal Section," which he read before the Gynaecological Society of Boston.

He served on the School Board in 1876 and 1877, but with that exception he held no political office. He was a member of the Loyal Legion, United States Army, President and Counselor of this society, and for several years



surgeon to Post 42, Grand Army of the Republic, of this city. He was a prominent Mason, and a fine portrait of the doctor adorns the wall of the Masonic Temple. After a brief illness, his death occurred June 23, 1891.

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It is with no disrespect to the memory of

DRS. JOSEPH J. SULLIVAN, GEORGE E. LIVER-  
MORE, GEORGE F. GRIERSON  
AND JOHN J. SAVAGE,

that I speak of them collectively instead of individually, as none of them practiced here in Lowell but a short time. Notwithstanding they had only crossed the threshold of their professional careers, each and all of them won many friends and patients by their high mental attainments, medical knowledge, gentlemanly deportment and devotion to the welfare of their patients. It is not exaggeration to say of each of them that, had they lived, they would have made themselves a name and a reputation second to none of their contemporaries. Their decease was a loss to the medical profession of this city, which we greatly deplore.

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As a neighbor, friend and associate, I well remember

Dr. OLIVER A. WILLARD.

He was born in Wrentham, Massachusetts, July 19, 1855. At the age of seventeen he came to Lowell, making his home with his uncle, the late Dr. D. P. Gage. In 1881 he commenced the study of medicine with the late Dr. John H. Gilman, completing his studies at Bellevue Medical College, New York, where he was graduated in 1884. In the fall of that year he came to Lowell and commenced practice, opening an office in Wyman's Exchange.

By his natural endowments and professional attainments, together with an earnest devotion to his duties, he soon acquired a steadily increasing practice.



He was popular with all. His courteous demeanor and thoughtful regard for the rights of others at once won for him the esteem and high regard of his professional associates, who also early recognized his exceptional ability as a physician. While his pleasing manner, his devotion and painstaking interest in behalf of his patients, soon obtained for him their love and loyalty, which he ever afterward retained. He loved his profession and enjoyed nothing better than when actively engaged in its work. He was good to the poor, often going far beyond his physical strength in caring for the poor and unfortunate.

Never of a strong constitution, he was unable to stand the heavy strain of a physician's work; he early fell a victim to pulmonary troubles, and, after long months of almost constant suffering, he passed away, Sunday, January 7, 1894, at the age of thirty-eight years.

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I mention the name of

### DR. CYRUS M. FISK

as one of my own family. It is not necessary on this occasion to go into details of that association. Suffice it to say, circumstances were such that in a little country town in New Hampshire he came in a professional way to know me when I was only a few weeks old. In after years we occupied adjoining offices in Welles Block for nearly eight years.

The subject of this sketch was born in Chichester, New Hampshire, January 9, 1825. His early practice was in Hopkinton and Bradford, New Hampshire. In both of these towns he was also Superintendent of Schools. He served during the war as private, assistant surgeon and surgeon. In April, 1872, he came to Lowell, entering into partnership with the late Dr. Savory. This relation continued for twelve years, when he went into practice by himself. He served on the School Board for two years, and was also a member of the staff of St. John's Hospital, the City Dispensary, a Trustee of the Lowell Institution



for Savings, President of the North District Medical Society, surgeon of Post 185, Grand Army of the Republic. He was appointed pension examiner in 1883, which position he held acceptably for several years.

Both as a physician and surgeon Dr. Fisk was widely known and enjoyed a large and lucrative practice in this city and vicinity. Aside from his professional duties he was a great hunter for rare birds and was considered an excellent marksman. I think, without an exception, he had the finest collection of stuffed birds that was ever seen in this city. The doctor was somewhat eccentric in that he boasted that no man ever drew a razor over his face but himself, and that he never would use a postal card.

Dr. Fisk abhorred quackery in every form, and he was the soul of honor in all his dealings with his professional brethren. We shall not soon forget his genial presence, although all that is mortal now lies in a valley among the stately hills of the Granite State he loved so well. He died January 21, 1895, at the age of seventy years.

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In the death of one after another of our associates we instinctively feel the loss of some marked trait of character, both socially and professionally, which seems wholly individual and that is not applicable to all. I think the name of

#### DR. CHARLES P. SPALDING

illustrates this thought, and will call to mind a gentleman whom to have known was a privilege and an honor worthy of special notice.

Dr. Spalding was born in Lowell, September 24, 1846. His education was obtained in our local schools, Harvard College and at a university in Germany. His medical degree was received from the Harvard Medical School. He was a man of quiet, scholarly habits, a diligent and thoughtful student; he soon won the reputation of a careful and successful practitioner, while he enjoyed the high



esteem of his medical associates to a remarkable degree, which is extended only to the few. In one sphere, especially, he attained an honored distinction, and that is as a diagnostician. In this, his services and aid to his brother practitioners was of inestimable value.

For several years he was a member of the staff of St. John's Hospital, and for many years he served as Secretary of that board. He was one of the original members of the Highland Club, and also filled several offices in this society. It may be honestly stated that Dr. Spalding was the type of a man whose whole life was based on strict moral principle. It is doubtful if anyone ever knew him to make an unjust criticism on the course of another, or do what might be termed a mean act. His memory will long be cherished by those who knew him best, and his name will not soon be forgotten. His death occurred March 25, 1895.

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This community was greatly shocked on the morning of the 2d of July, 1894, to hear of the sudden death, by drowning, the night before (July 1, 1894,) of the well-known and popular physician,

#### DR. GERRITT J. BRADT.

He was by birth and education a Lowell man, and, after graduating in medicine from the University of Medicine, New York, in 1880, he returned to this city, where he at once commenced practice, which he uninterruptedly continued until his death. Dr. Bradt was of a bright, genial and social nature, which, together with his professional acquirements, won him many friends and soon built a growing and successful practice. As an examiner for life insurance he was thought to be one of the best experts in Lowell. As a physician he was looked upon by his contemporaries as a young man of more than ordinary promise. But his career was brief, his age at the time of his fatal accident being only forty-one years.



The snow of winter has not yet covered the grave of our friend whom we, as his associates, and the public generally, had learned to honor and respect. I speak with special, tender feelings the name of my boyhood schoolmate,

DR. CHARLES H. RICKER,

who was born in Lowell, January 5, 1856. Upon choosing medicine as his profession he commenced his studies with Dr. Hermon J. Smith. He attended lectures at Bellevue and Dartmouth Medical Colleges, graduating from the latter in 1882. Subsequently he took a post graduate course at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, soon after returning to Lowell, where he opened an office in Wyman's Exchange.

In 1883 he became connected with the City Dispensary, and during his connection with this department of charity work, he worked assiduously for the welfare of the sick poor of Lowell. It was largely through his persistent and relentless efforts that the ambulance service was established, and as the first ambulance surgeon of Lowell his name will ever be associated with the history of that priceless service of humanity. It seems impossible that any man could be more faithful and conscientious in this work than was Dr. Ricker. He was always prompt to respond to any call, no matter what the time, occasion or case might be. It can truthfully be said that this city never had a more faithful employe than he. He was specially kind to the poor and unfortunate, no matter what their race or creed might be, and they were among his sincerest mourners.

The name of Dr. Ricker will not soon be forgotten, and his memory will long be cherished by those who knew him best. His fatal illness was brief, death occurring quite suddenly March 16, 1898.



This community was shocked on the morning of October 5, 1898, to learn of the suicide on the evening before of our late associate,

### DR. CHARLES S. FOX.

He was the son of the late Dr. L. S. Fox, and was born in Lowell.

The doctor received his early education in the schools of this city, his medical studies being pursued at Harvard. After his graduation he went to Europe, where he continued his studies for two years in Vienna. Upon his return to Lowell he at once opened an office and began practice. Naturally of studious habits he soon became known as an expert bacteriologist, and at the time of his death had charge of that department in the Board of Health. Of a kind, sympathetic nature, he easily made many friends, who sincerely mourned his untimely departure.

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The last of our associates to cross the inevitable threshold which separates the seen from the unseen was that scholarly physician,

### DR. FRANK GEORGE MANSON

of Billerica.

Dr. Manson was born at South Limington, Maine, August 13, 1862. His early life was spent on his father's farm, his education being received in the public schools of his native town, graduating from the Limington Academy in 1883. In the fall of that year he entered Dartmouth College, where he was graduated in 1887. For several years he followed the profession of teaching, occupying unusual high places for one so young. He filled the position as instructor of ancient languages at Normal College, Huntington, Pennsylvania; instructor of teachers' normal class, McAlevy's Fort, Pennsylvania; princi-



pal of high school, Limerick, Maine, and for four years served in a similar capacity at Anson Academy, North Anson, Maine.

In 1893 he entered Tewksbury Almshouse, Massachusetts, as nurse, where he remained six months, when he began his medical studies at Bowdoin College, Maine. Subsequently he attended medical lectures at Dartmouth Medical School, where he was graduated in November, 1895. Thus three degrees were conferred upon him by his Alma Mater, that of A. B., A. M. and M. D. After graduating as M. D. he returned to Tewksbury State institution, where he remained for one year as assistant physician and pharmacist, and in 1896 he commenced practice in Billerica, where he remained until his death, which occurred October 19, 1898, at the age of thirty-six.

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Thus briefly, but imperfectly, have I attempted to recall a few reminiscences and portray some of the salient traits of the characters of those who were once with us, but whose names in the catalogue are now marked with an asterisk. The world stops for no man's birth or his death, yet every thoughtful man must realize that no one is absolutely essential—that at the death of every man, his place is immediately filled, and soon as perfectly as if he had never lived. A man's deeds in this life, and their consequences alone, be they for good or evil, live after him until the end of time. The inspiration of noble examples streams along our pathway and teaches us that the world is better for their having lived in it.

A kind and merciful Providence veils from us the knowledge of the summons to the one who shall next be called. Let us look hopefully towards the future and all join in the toast of good comradeship: Here's to ourselves, there may be better Fellows, but I have never met them.

Up to this grand standard may we come at last, as I close with the benediction of "Tiny Tim"—

"God bless us every one!"

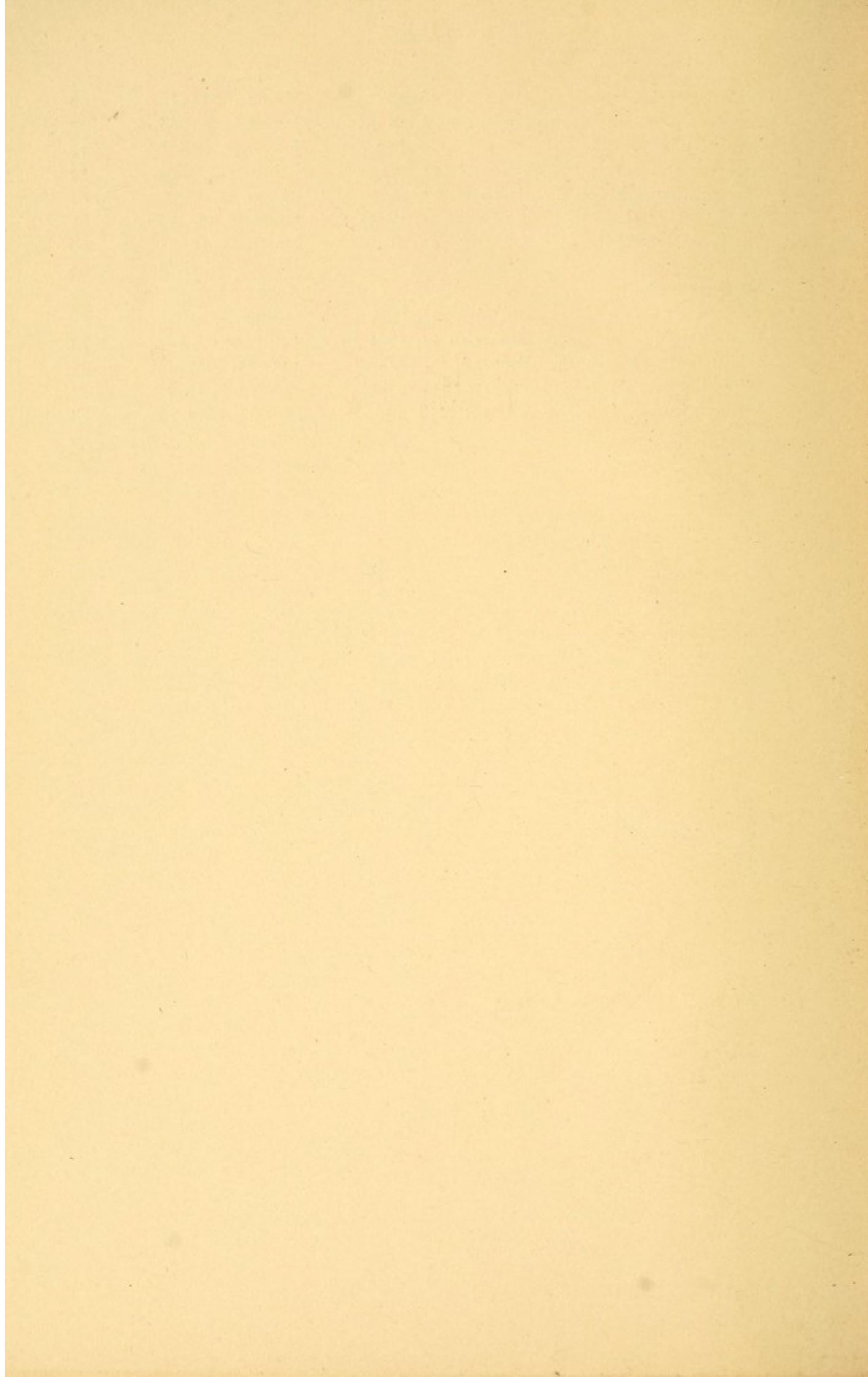


NAME.	BIRTH.	DEATH.	AGE.
Allen, Nathan	April 25, 1813	January 1, 1889	75
Bartlett, Elisha	October 6, 1804	July 19, 1855	51
Bartlett, John C.	October 5, 1808	January 13, 1877	69
Bradley, Amos	October 2, 1762	May 6, 1817	55
Bradley, Peleg	May 26, 1792	September 26, 1848	56
Bradt, James G.	September 24, 1837	January 22, 1868	31
Bradt, Gerritt J.	1853	July 1, 1894	41
Brown, Abner H.	July 6, 1816	April 21, 1851	35
Brown, Jonathan	February 24, 1821	August 20, 1867	46
Burnham, Walter	January 12, 1808	January 6, 1883	75
Butterfield, John	January 2, 1817	September 7, 1847	30
Buttrick, Abner W.	August 28, 1842	March 27, 1882	40
Campbell, Patrick	March 30, 1804	November 18, 1865	61
Crosby, Josiah	February 1, 1794	January 7, 1875	81
Dalton, John C.	May 31, 1795	January 9, 1864	69
Dickey, Hanover	September 14, 1807	May 29, 1873	66
Edwards, Nathan B.	January 20, 1820	June 12, 1893	73
Fisk, Cyrus M.	January 9, 1825	January 21, 1895	70
Fox, Charles L.	1871	October 4, 1898	27
Fox, Lorenzo S.	February 7, 1840	June 23, 1891	51
Gage, Daniel P.	October 25, 1828	January 31, 1877	49
Gilman, John H.	February 24, 1836	May 28, 1890	54
Graves, John W.	January 7, 1810	November 28, 1873	63
Graves, William	1793	April 1, 1843	50
Green, John O.	May 14, 1799	December 23, 1885	86
Grierson, George F.	1869	January 28, 1894	25
Hildreth, Israel	February 28, 1791	April 6, 1859	68
Hoar, William M.	November 22, 1849	January 12, 1890	41
Howard, Levi	May 26, 1820	January 23, 1885	65
Howe, Zadok	February 15, 1777	March 8, 1851	64
Huntington, Elisha	April 9, 1796	December 13, 1865	67
Jewett, Jeremiah P.	February 24, 1808	June 23, 1870	62
Kimball, Gilman	December 8, 1804	July 27, 1892	88
Kittredge, Henry	January 3, 1787	December 18, 1847	60
Livermore, George E.		September 4, 1891	
Manson,	August 13, 1862	October 9, 1898	35
Mowe, Daniel	February 3, 1790	November 3, 1860	70
Parker, Hiram	1809	May 22, 1877	68
Parker, Willard			
Peirce, Augustus	March 13, 1803	May 20, 1849	46
Peirce, Augustus F.	August 11, 1827	May 18, 1855	28
Perham, Otis	1813	November 22, 1863	50
Phelan, Arthur Q.	1848	January 7, 1890	42
Pillsbury, John D.	April 16, 1805	December 21, 1855	50
Pillsbury, Harlan	November 30, 1797	April 12, 1877	80

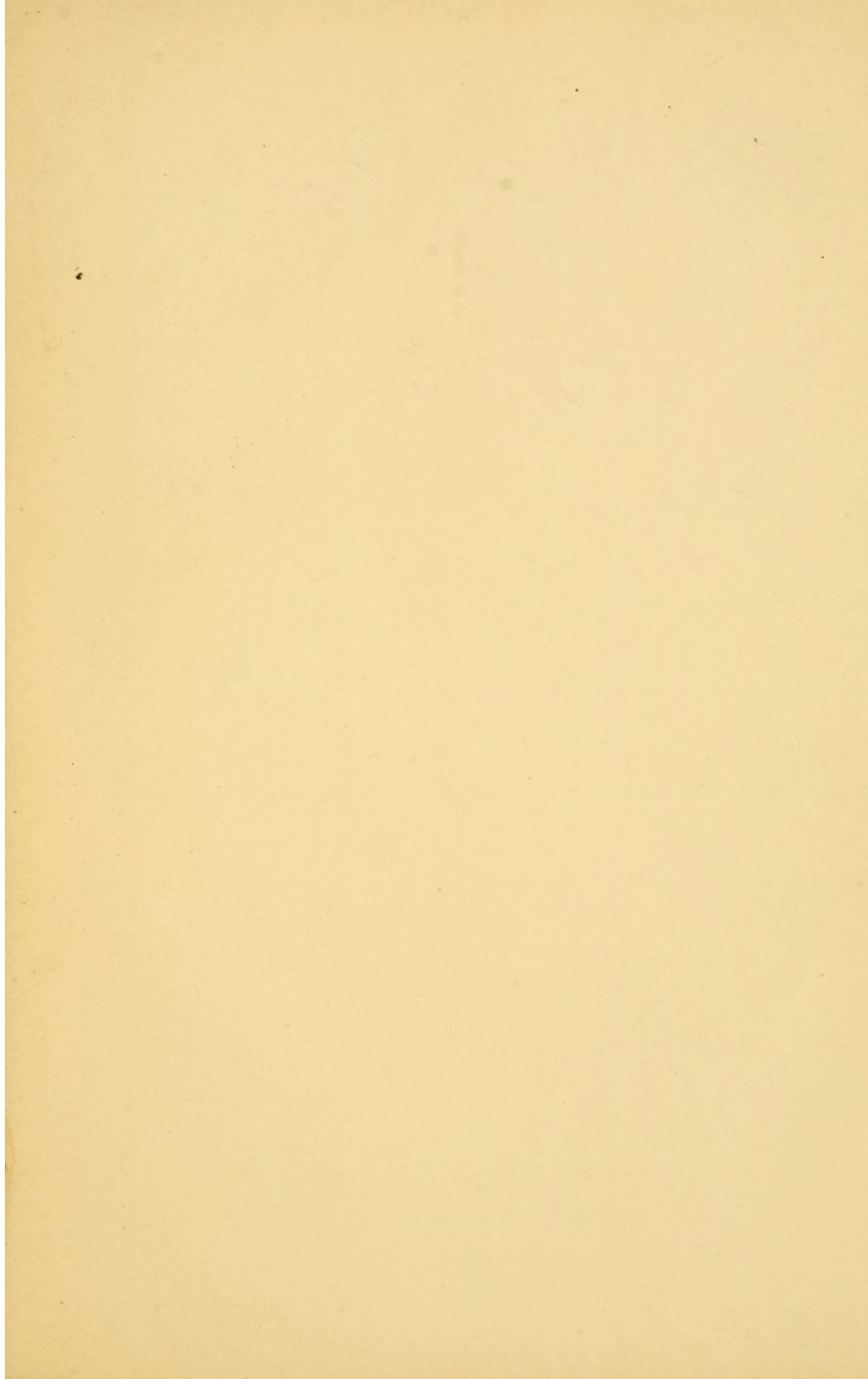


NAME.	BIRTH.	DEATH.	AGE.
Ricker, Charles H.	January 5, 1856	March 16, 1898	42
Sanborn, Eben K.	January 24, 1828	January 22, 1868	40
Savage, John J.	1873	January 12, 1897	24
Savory, Charles A.	December 25, 1813	February 2, 1892	79
Skelton, Benjamin	March 16, 1783	March 23, 1867	84
Smith, Joseph H.	November 17, 1805	February 26, 1886	81
Spalding, Charles P.	September 24, 1846	March 25, 1895	49
Spalding, Joel	March 2, 1802	January 30, 1888	86
Sullivan, Joseph J.		August 11, 1885	
Thomas, Calvin	December 22, 1765	October 23, 1851	86
Wells, David	November 13, 1804	February 23, 1877	73
Whiting, Henry	February 19, 1822	June 23, 1857	35
Willard, Oliver A.	July 19, 1855	January 7, 1894	39
Wyman, Rufus	July 16, 1778	June 22, 1842	64

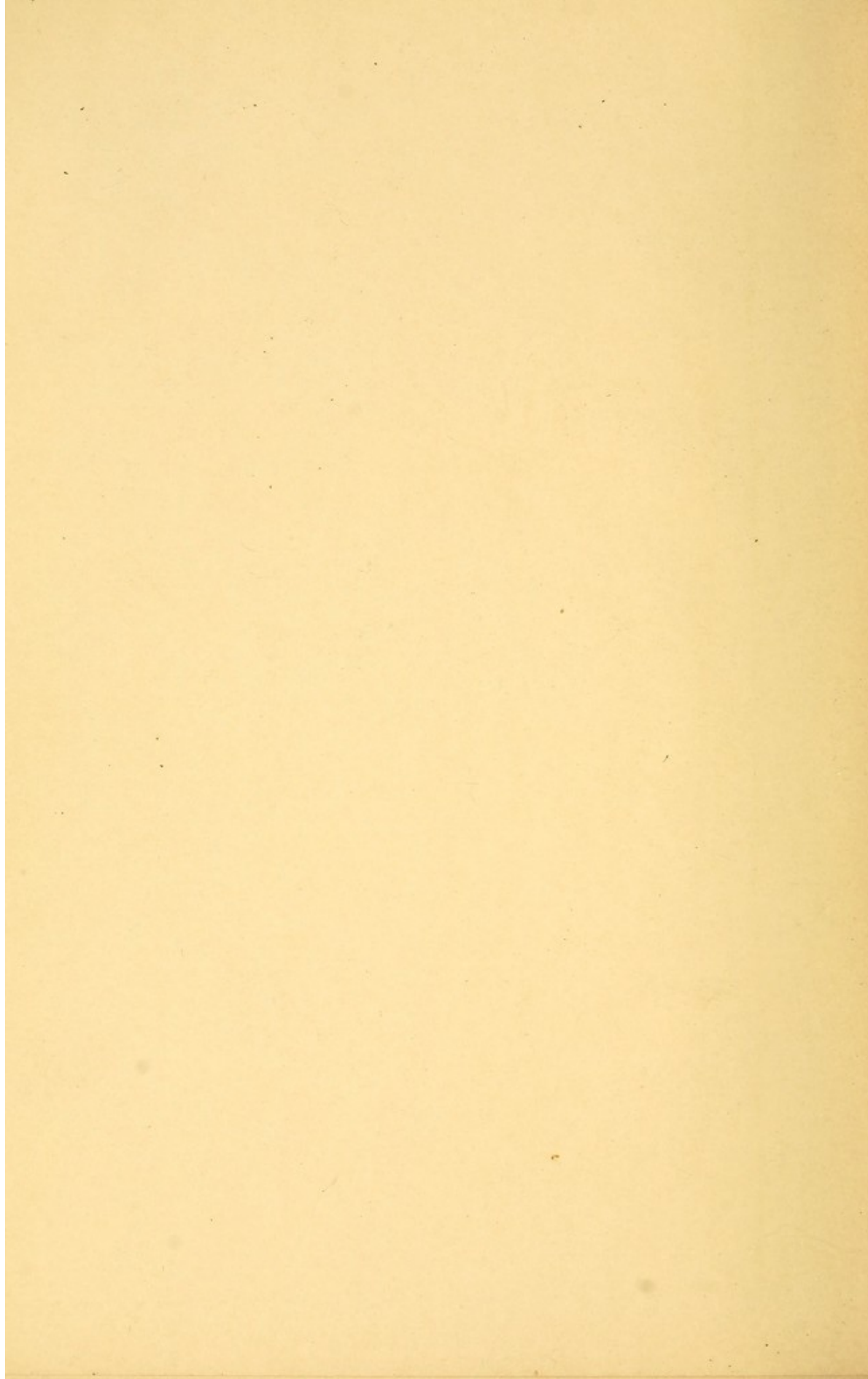














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