

An account of the Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia 1788-1906.

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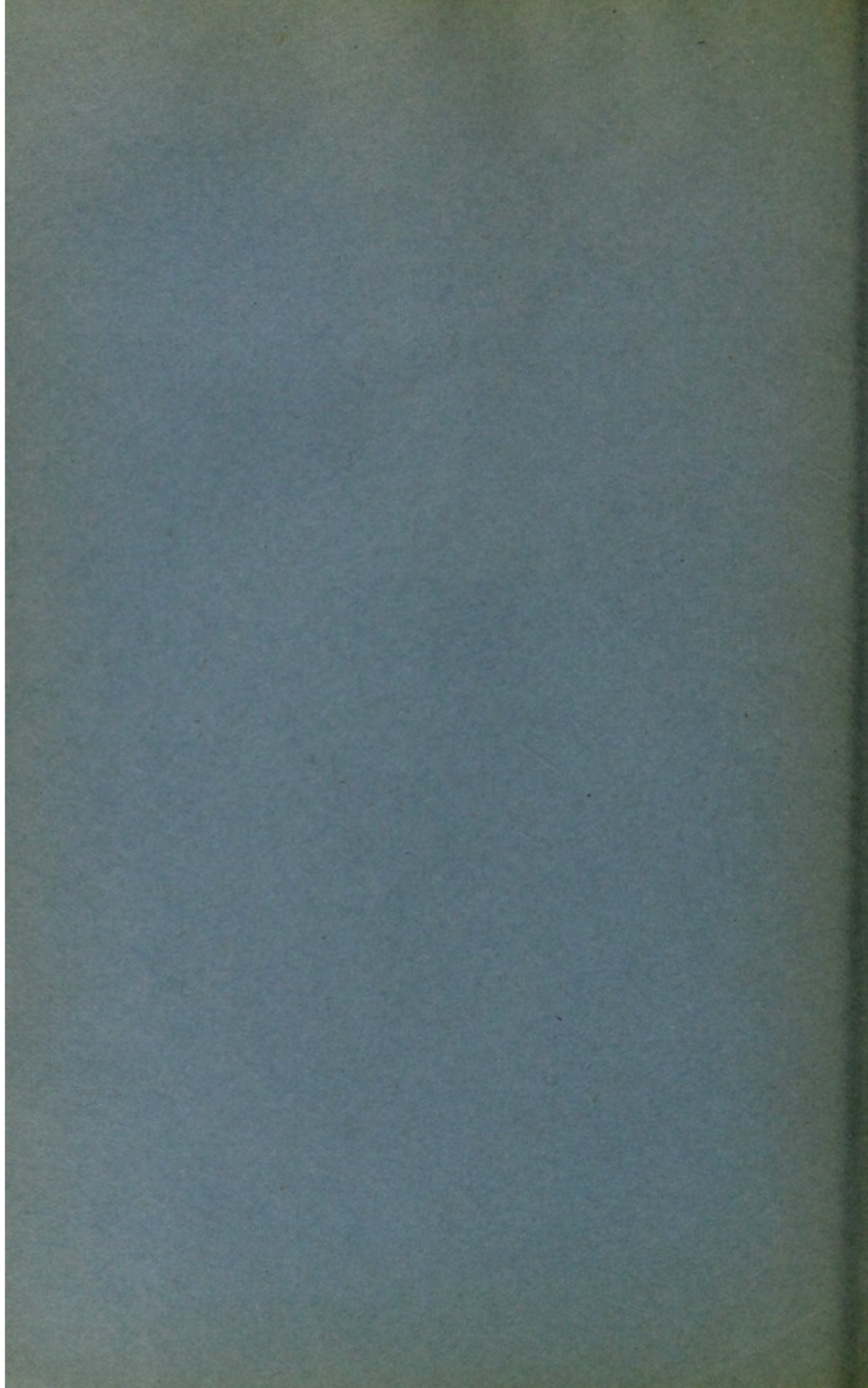
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AN ACCOUNT
OF THE
LIBRARY
OF THE
COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
OF PHILADELPHIA

1788 - 1906



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AN ACCOUNT OF THE LIBRARY OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF PHILADELPHIA.¹

By CHARLES PERRY FISHER,
LIBRARIAN.

IN preparing the following account of the Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, the facts stated in regard to its early history have been taken chiefly from the admirable Reports of the late Drs. W. S. W. Ruschenberger and Alfred Stillé, contained in the Centennial volume of the College of Physicians published in 1887.

The record of the society shows that the question of forming a library was first formally considered in 1788. A committee was appointed in reference to the matter June 3, and its report laid on the table July 1. It was resolved, August 5, "That the several members of the College be requested to send to the Secretary such books as they mean to present to the College."

In December, Dr. John Morgan presented 24 volumes and added others in January, 1789.

The committee appointed June 3, 1788, to prepare a plan for the formation of a library submitted the following, which was adopted March 3, 1789:

First. That the business of collecting books from the members, by way of donation to the Library, of procuring a suitable place for keeping them, and a person to attend at stated times for lending them to the members, be committed to the Censors and Secretary, who shall consult the College respecting the time and manner of lending them.

Second. That on the first Tuesday of July of every year, as soon as the Treasurer has made his annual report of the balance remaining in his hands,

¹Prepared and printed in accordance with a "Resolution" passed by the College, January 2, 1907.

the College do grant such sums as they may think proper for the service of the Library for the ensuing year.

The primary enactments distinctly imply that the acquisition of a suitable Library was very desirable in the opinion of the College.

In October, 1789, Dr. William Shippen presented the works of five authors, Dr. John Morris eight volumes, and Dr. John Jones several. In November the President was authorized to draw fifty pounds (\$233) for the purchase of books. Some were imported in 1790. In 1793 Dr. Rush presented a copy of Sydenham's works. A copy of the catalogue of the Library of the Pennsylvania Hospital was received from Dr. Parke; and the pamphlets of the College were ordered to be bound in 1794. In 1795 Dr. Parke sent thirty-five pounds to purchase books and reported, August 4, the receipt of twelve volumes from London. July 5, 1796, a hundred and twenty dollars was appropriated for the use of the Library, and the Censors were directed, August 5, to prepare a list of books to be procured in Europe. Books purchased in Amsterdam arrived in 1797; and books of nineteen titles, submitted by the Censors, were ordered. In 1798 the Censors were directed to prepare a list to be purchased. Between June, 1800, and July, 1818, additions to the Library were made by gift and purchase every year. The Censors reported, July 7, that some volumes were missing, and recommended that a catalogue be made. The committee appointed for the duty, Drs. William Currie, Samuel P. Griffiths and Thomas T. Hewson, reported, January 5, 1819, that the catalogue had been completed.

The number of books increased slowly. In 1825 the Library of the Kappa Lambda Society was deposited in the College. On their report the Censors were directed, November 28, 1828, to have the bookcases repaired.

The Library Committee stated, January 6, 1835, that the Library was in bad condition, going to decay, and was instructed to take measures for its preservation.

The committee reported, June 7, 1836, that besides a number of unbound pamphlets, the Library contained 291 volumes—namely, 31 folios, 67 quartos and 193 octavos—and was in condition for use were it more conveniently placed.

According to the annual reports of the Library Committee from this date until the close of 1843 very few volumes had been added, and the Library was "rarely if ever used."

In May, 1844, the medical library of Dr. Otto was purchased for \$200, and in July placed in a room over the office of Dr. Hodge, northwest corner of Walnut and Ninth Streets. June 4 an appropriation of \$50, to arrange and catalogue the Library, was made; and the Library Committee recommended that a librarian be present one hour twice a month to loan books.

The committee reported, June 3, 1845, that one case of books stood on the landing of the stairway leading to "our room;" that the Otto collection

was at Dr. Hodge's office, and that the Library was very little used. Drs. Bond, Condie, Parrish, and Wood had presented 137 volumes during the year.

It was ordered, August 5, that the Library should be open from 11 o'clock A.M. until 2 o'clock P.M. Most of the medical periodicals published in the United States, and one from Canada, were received in exchange for the Transactions of the College.

The Philadelphia Medical Society deposited its library in the College December 1, 1846, and claimed its restoration December 7, 1859. During this period the books were accessible to the Fellows of the College.

The committee reported, March 6, 1849, that the Library continued "to steadily increase," and "was entitled to more attention than it received."

June 6, 1855. The committee reported that soon after the removal to Spruce Street the Library had been rearranged and catalogued, and that 350 volumes had been added during the past year.

December 5. Mrs. Moreton Stillé presented 119 volumes as a "memorial of her late husband."

January 2, 1856. \$125 was appropriated for binding, and the same sum for the use of the Library January 7, 1857.

November 4. The committee reported the receipt of more than 900 volumes from Dr. Thos. F. Betton, including some rare and important works; and December 1, 1858, that the Library contained about 3560 volumes, and during the past year had been much more frequently consulted. The Betton collection numbered 1265 volumes.

May 4, 1859. Ordered that the Library be open one evening in the week.

June 1. A selection of books from the library of Dr. Bond, bequeathed by him, had been received.

December 7. The committee reported that Mrs. Mütter had deposited forty works; that 397 volumes had been contributed during the year, and that the Library contained about 4000 volumes, besides pamphlets.

December 3, 1862. The State Medical Society presented a complete set of its Transactions, and Fellows of the College 192 volumes of French theses.

January 7, 1863. The executors of Dr. Isaac Remington presented ninety works, including 195 volumes, and 188 numbers of ten periodicals.

The Library Committee was authorized to move into the new building.

November 4. Ordered that cases be prepared to receive books to be presented by Dr. Samuel Lewis. The Librarian reported the receipt of a large number of books from Dr. Thos. F. Betton.

The most important epoch in the history of the library was the founding of the Lewis Library, in 1864, which at once added to it more than 2500 volumes of the choicest works, in the finest condition. This collection had the constant care and attention of Dr. Lewis, and by the additions made through his own generosity, and the gifts of his many friends, had increased to 11,205 volumes at the time of his death, November 26, 1890.

September 25, 1865. Mr. George Ord presented his general library to the College. Mr. Ord died before the library was delivered and the College paid \$330 collateral inheritance tax on its appraised value in February 1866. Subsequently, July 5, 1882, these books were sold for \$550.

April 4, 1866. Dr. George B. Wood agreed to give \$500 annually to enable the College to employ a librarian in order that the Library might be open daily.

It may be well to state here that the Library was in charge of the Censors until 1834. Then the standing committee on the Library was created, the chairman of which was regarded as librarian. The office was created in 1854 and the first librarian elected January 3, 1855.

March 4, 1868. It was ordered that \$500 be invested, including a donation of \$445.90 from the Philadelphia Medical Society. This was practically the foundation of what may now be called the Library Endowment Fund, the income to be used for the purchase of books and various periodical publications.

March, 1871. A Journal Association was formed which has continued to the present time. Its subscriptions, limited by its means, are confined to a few of the best periodicals published in English, French, and German. Complete files of each journal are on the shelves of the library.

November 5, 1880. Dr. S. Weir Mitchell presented \$1000. The Treasurer was directed to invest the gift and keep it separate under the title of the Weir Mitchell Library Fund. This fund was increased to \$5000 by further gifts from Dr. Mitchell.

February 20, 1881. The services of competent cataloguers were engaged and a card catalogue commenced.

In 1882 the Ordinances and By-laws of the College were amended and the word Honorary placed before Librarian. The Honorary Librarian to be a member of the Council and *ex-officio* a member of the Library Committee.

April 15, 1882. The card catalogue, authors and subjects, for the Lewis Library was completed and in use.

In 1882 the first bookcases were erected in the present meeting-room of the College and the Lewis Library, which had outgrown its quarters, moved to the old meeting-room.

During this year the libraries of the late Drs. Charles D. Meigs, John Forsyth Meigs, R. M. Bertolet and William F. Jenks were received.

January 3, 1883. Dr. James H. Hutchinson was elected the first Honorary Librarian. The Library Committee was instructed to appoint an Assistant Librarian annually in January, and report the appointment to the College, the salary of the Assistant Librarian to be such as the College may from time to time determine.

In 1884 the gallery and additional book cases were erected in the meeting-room and the Samuel D. Gross Library of the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery, 5128 volumes, accepted as a "permanent deposit" and placed in the

room formerly occupied by the Lewis Library. The library of the late Dr. H. Lenox Hodge, known as the "Hodge Collection," 1665 volumes, was also accepted as a deposit during 1884, and ultimately became the property of the College as a gift from Dr. Hodge's son.

In 1885 the balance of the wall-space in the meeting-room of the College was filled with bookcases.

901 volumes were presented by Dr. I. Minis Hays during this year.

The Library Committee reported that the card catalogue of the entire library had been completed with the exception of the periodicals, unbound reports, transactions, and the pamphlets.

In 1886 Mrs. Weightman presented the Library of her husband, the late Dr. John F. Weightman, 512 volumes, and the sum of \$1000. The money to be invested and the income used for the purchase of books relating to ophthalmology.

The Library of the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia was accepted as a "permanent deposit."

This year the Library Committee reported to the College that for lack of shelf-room about 1500 volumes were tied in bundles and packed on top of the cases.

In 1887 the library of the late Dr. N. Archer Randolph, 466 volumes, was presented to the College. During this year, in pursuance with an agreement, all books of the S. D. Gross Library other than anatomical, surgical, and special works indicated, that duplicated the books in the Library of the College; and all the books that were duplicates in the collection received from the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia were thrown out; these, together with the duplicates belonging to the College, were catalogued and priced. This catalogue was printed and distributed, and the entire collection disposed of. The S. D. Gross Library received \$640.75 and the Obstetrical Library \$145.90. This money was used for the purchase of new books with the exception of a small portion expended for bookcases for the S. D. Gross Library.

The question of classification was considered and the plan of the Librarian of the Surgeon-General's Office was, with certain modifications, adopted.

In 1888 bookcases were built in the lower west meeting-room.

In 1889 a gallery was erected in the lower west meeting-room; this was filled with bookcases and an iron spiral stairway built from the ground floor to the reading-room, in the second story.

By resolution of the College the books belonging to the late Dr. S. W. Gross were deposited in the S. D. Gross Library.

The Librarian obtained subscriptions to form a "New Book Fund," with authority to purchase books at the request of three of the subscribers. This fund has been continued, and between 30 and 50 new books added to the library each year.

In 1890 Dr. Frederick P. Henry was elected Honorary Librarian to succeed the late Dr. James H. Hutchinson.

The Library Committee asked permission of the College to use the lower east room for book-stacks.

In 1891 Mrs. Deborah K. Rodman made a gift to the College of \$5000, to be paid within five years, in memory of her late husband, Dr. Lewis Rodman, the income derived to be used for the purchase of books. This money was invested and is known as the Lewis Rodman Library Fund.

In 1892 iron book-stacks were erected in the lower east room. The lower tier, covering the entire floor space, cost \$1680.

In 1894 Mr. Clement A. Griscom presented \$5000, to be known as the John D. Griscom Book Fund, the income to be used for the purchase of books.

This year the Committee purchased 796 French and German dissertations for \$144.46, and 377 volumes of foreign journals at a cost of \$282.60.

In 1895, 294 volumes of foreign journals were purchased at a cost of \$425.30. In the two years, 1894 and 1895, the Committee, with an expenditure of \$807.90, completed the files of thirty-three of the most important French and German periodicals.

In 1896 the College passed a resolution offered by Dr. F. P. Henry; and the President appointed a Committee of fourteen Fellows "to obtain subscriptions from the general public toward a Fund for the Endowment of the Library." This Committee asked to be discharged in January, 1897.

During 1896 and 1897, Dr. J. M. Da Costa purchased and presented to the Library 293 volumes needed to fill in gaps in the files of various valuable foreign periodicals.

In 1898 a second tier of iron book-stacks, with glass floor, and iron staircase leading to the Lewis Library, was erected at a cost of \$1593.60. This amount was subscribed by the Fellows of the College.

In 1899, Dr. George Fales Baker presented \$5000, to be known as the Henrietta Rush Fales Baker Library Fund, the income to be used for the purchase of books.

Mrs. Elizabeth B. Judson presented \$1000, this amount to be invested and known as the Oliver A. Judson Fund, and the income to be used for the purchase of books relating to preventive medicine.

During this year the results of Dr. Henry's "Resolution," adopted in 1896, became evident. Many subscriptions were obtained by the Fellows from the general public for the "Library Endowment Fund." As a number of these subscriptions were promised contingent with \$50,000 being raised by July 1, 1900, additional effort was required. Dr. Keen assumed the burden of this responsibility, and it is due to his untiring efforts that the required amount was obtained within the time limit.

The entire Library Endowment Fund at the present time, the income from which is used for the purchase of books and journals, amounts to \$60,965. Included in this amount are the following funds:

Henrietta Rush Fales Baker Fund.	William V. and John M. Keating Fund.
Luther S. Bent Fund.	Weir Mitchell Fund.
William T. Carter Fund.	Philadelphia Medical Society Fund.
John D. Griscom Fund.	Lewis Rodman Fund.
William F. Jenks Fund.	John F. Weightman Fund.
Oliver A. Judson Fund.	Caspar Wistar Fund.
William W. Keen Fund.	

And under the title of "Library Endowment Fund," the following is a list of the subscribers giving \$1000, or over:

Mrs. Alice Gibson Brock.	Mr. Charles C. Harrison.
Mr. John H. Converse.	Mrs. Sara Kohl.
Mr. William W. Frazier.	

In addition there is the George B. Wood Library Fund, the income from which is to be used for purposes other than the purchase of books or binding.

Toward the end of this year authority was given by the Library Committee for the expenditure necessary in an effort to obtain, by exchange, the French theses and German dissertations.

In 1900 the Library received 6963 theses and inaugural dissertations, and effected an exchange of publications with six universities: French, German, and Spanish. The greater part of these exchanges were obtained through the personal solicitation of the President of the College, Dr. W. W. Keen.

The library of the late Dr. J. M. Da Costa, 2466 volumes, in splendid condition and containing many elegantly bound books, was presented to the College.

During this year the Librarian called the attention of the Committee to the card catalogue; its soiled and worn condition owing to the irregularity in the size of the cards, and the lack of uniformity in the subject headings; and explained the desirability of a type-written card of uniform size, with the subject headings revised to conform with the Index Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office, and with the modern "tray-cases" to hold the cards. The Library Committee brought this matter to the attention of the College, and later a Committee was appointed to obtain, by subscription, \$2500 for the revision of the Catalogue. \$1900 was obtained by this Committee before it was discharged.

In 1901 the College received as a bequest from Dr. John Ashhurst, Jr., 1500 volumes to be selected from his library. Many rare and valuable books were added to the shelves by this bequest.

207 volumes were received from the late Dr. Alfred Stillé, comprising, chiefly, the books used by Dr. Stillé in his work on the revision of the "National

Dispensatory." Some years before the death of Dr. Samuel Lewis, Dr. Stillé had presented, practically, his entire collection of medical books to the Lewis Library of the College, numbering more than 1000 volumes.

The largest and most valuable purchase made for the Library, since its foundation, was that accomplished by the Library Committee in April, 1901, when, with the aid of subscriptions from Drs. George Fales Baker, John K. Mitchell, and S. Weir Mitchell, they acquired the library of the late Dr. J. Stockton Hough; a unique collection numbering 3247 volumes and 2070 pamphlets. 1500 volumes and 1039 pamphlets were retained, and the duplicates and non-medical books of the collection were disposed of to the Library of the University of Pennsylvania for \$1500.

Work on the revision of the catalogue was commenced during the latter part of this year, the number of cards revised and type-written for four months being 7690.

In 1902 the library of the late Dr. William F. Norris, 1177 volumes, one of the most valuable collections of works on ophthalmology in this country, was presented by his family.

A little more shelf room was obtained this year by dividing the toilet-room into an upper and lower part and using the upper half for the storage of books.

The annual report on "Revision of Catalogue" showed that the character of this work would require greater attention than had been at first given to it, and that a much longer time and more funds would be required to complete it.

A gift worthy of special mention was made to the Library in October, 1903, by Dr. George W. Norris, consisting of three volumes containing the collection of colored eye-grounds made up of the original drawings and notes of Prof. Edward Jaeger, of Vienna, from which the well-known "Jaeger Atlas" was produced. The drawings were all made by Jaeger himself. This collection was sold after Dr. Jaeger's death by order of his executors and was purchased by the late Dr. William Fisher Norris for \$2400; and also one volume containing the collection of ophthalmological drawings from cases seen in the practice of the late Dr. William F. Norris from 1873 to 1901. More than \$1000 was paid by Dr. Norris to the artists in preparing these plates.

In 1904 the library of the late Dr. Thomas M. Drysdale, 958 volumes, was received.

In 1905 two large gifts of books are recorded: From the Board of Managers of the Episcopal Hospital of Philadelphia, 1982 volumes, and from Dr. James V. Ingham, 548 volumes.

Toward the end of this year the College authorized the Librarian to obtain, by subscription, sufficient funds to complete the "Revision of Catalogue." That this work is appreciated is evidenced by the fact that in less than eight weeks' time the Librarian has obtained, from the Fellows of the College, subscriptions amounting to about \$4000, sufficient to complete the work. 82,931

eards had been revised and type-written at this time, not quite one-half of the entire catalogue.

The following table shows the increase in the Library at intervals of ten years after the commencement of its steady growth in 1866:

Year.	Volumes.	Pamphlets.	Dissertations.
1866	9,513		
1876	17,765		
1886	36,442	16,026	
1896	51,175	31,005	
1906	82,305	56,116	20,978

THE LIBRARY AS IT APPEARS TO-DAY.

The foregoing is a fairly complete chronicle of events in the history of the Library of the College of Physicians. It may appear strange that such familiar names as Drs. C. W. Dulles, R. J. Dunglison, H. A. Hare, W. W. Keen, S. Weir Mitchell, F. R. Packard, John B. Roberts, H. C. Wood, and others, whose gifts amount to hundreds of volumes, have not been mentioned; this is the case merely from the fact that their generosity has continued through many years. The same reason applies to the omission of the names of the Medical Publishers of Philadelphia, and the Editors of practically all the medical journals published in Philadelphia during more than half a century.

The following details are taken from the annual report of the Library Committee, for 1906, and show an accurate account of the contents of the Library at this time:

	Bound.	Unbound.	Unbound reports.	Unbound theses.	Unbound pamphs.
General Library . . .	53,267	3439	8798	20,978	56,116
Lewis Library . . .	13,329	44			
S. D. Gross Library .	3,207	4			
Library of the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia	217				

327 periodical publications are subscribed for by the Library.

62 periodical publications received in exchange.

61 periodical publications received from the Editors or Publishers.

278 exchanges of periodicals published in Philadelphia and sent to the Library at stated intervals.

—
Total of 728 current periodicals upon the journal racks of the Library.

Exchange of publications is now made with 19 foreign universities, and between 1000 and 1500 dissertations received each year—1433 for the year 1906.

The entire Library is catalogued with the exception of unbound pamphlets and dissertations: the pamphlets are classified the same as the books of the Library and arranged alphabetically by author under each class; the dissertations are arranged according to schools, then alphabetically by authors under the year. 103,883 cards have been revised, type-written and arranged in four sixty-drawer tray cases; about one-half of the work of the "Revision of the Catalogue" is completed. This work is considered one of the finest examples of type-written card indexes in existence.

The Library of the College of Physicians contains treasures enough for their description to fill a good-sized printed volume, and a very interesting volume it would be. A few facts only can be stated here:

There are 123 books printed before the year 1500, known as "Incunabula;" all rare; but a few of them are of such interest that their titles are given:

Valastus de Tarenta (Valescus de Taranta)—*Tractatus de epidimia et peste*. Argentorati, M. Flach [circa 1470]. [This is believed to be the first medical book printed.]

Simon Genuensis. *Synonyma*. Milan, 1473. [First edition of the first medical dictionary, and the earliest dated book in the Library of the College.]

Benevenuti Grassi. *De oculis eorumque egritudinibus et curis feliciter incipit*. [Ferrariæ, 1474.] [First edition of the first book printed on diseases of the eye.]

Dioscorides. *De materia medica*. Colle, 1478. [Said to be the first book printed at Colle.]

Isaac. *Tractatus de particularibus diætis*. Padua, 1487. [First edition of the first book printed on diet.]

Bagellardus. *De infantium ægritudinibus et remedis*. Patavii, 1487. [The second edition of the first book printed on diseases of children. First edition was 1472.]

Bernard de Gordon. *Fleur de lys en médecine*. Lyon, 1495. [An exceedingly rare book. The first and only edition in French in the fifteenth century.]

Johannes Peyligk. *Philosophiæ naturalis*. Liptzensi, 1499. [The first book published with anatomical plates of individual organs. These plates of organs were copied from the 1498 edition of Mundinus.]

The following are the titles of a few noted books issued after the year 1500:

Champerius. *Index librorum in hoc volumine contentorum; Symphoriani Champerii libelli duo. Primus de medicinæ claris scriptoribus in quinque partibus tractatus*. [Lugduni, 1506.] [The first edition of the first medical biography, also bibliography, published.]

Joh. Ketham. *Fasciculo di medecina vulgare*. Venetia, 1508. [Only

two copies known of this edition: this and one in the Public Library in Venice—Stockton-Hough, 1900.]

Ambrose Paré. *Briefve collection de l'administration anatomique*. Paris, 1550. [This is a beautiful copy, bound by Bruyère (one of the famous French binders), of an extremely rare edition of this work].

Thomas Geminus. *Treatyse of anatomie*. London, 1559. [One of the earliest books on anatomy in the English language, dedicated to Queen Elizabeth, and containing what is said to be the first portrait of this Queen.]

Guilielmus Harveius. *Exercitatio anatomica de motu cordis et sanguinis in animalibus*. Francofurti, 1628. [The first edition of Harvey on the circulation of the blood.]

William Harvey. *Anatomical exercitations concerning the generation of living creatures*. London, 1653. [First edition. Only 150 copies of this work printed, of which 115 were destroyed by fire].

Peter Chamberlen. *A vindication of publick artificiall baths and bath stoves*. London, 1648.

Edward Jenner. *The origin of the vaccine inoculation*. London, 1801. [Original edition with autograph and inscription.]

A few of the rare early imprints of our own country will complete the list:

Thomas Thacher. *Brief rule to guide the common people of New England how to order themselves and theirs in the small pocks, or measles*. 1677. [A broadside or poster. This was the first medical publication in the colonies.]

Thomas Cadwalader. *An essay on the West-India dry-gripes*. Philadelphia, B. Franklin, 1745. [One of the rarest American imprints. The only known copy containing two prefaces, one of which was suppressed.]

John Morgan. *Discourse upon the institution of medical schools in America*. Philadelphia, William Bradford, 1765.

Journal of the Practice of Medicine, Surgery, and Pharmacy in the Military Hospitals of France. Translated from the French, by Joseph Browne. Volume I. New York [1783 or 1790?]. [The first medical journal printed in the United States.]

Cases and observations by the Medical Society of New Haven County, in the State of Connecticut, instituted in the year 1784. New Haven, J. Meigs, 1788. [The first volume of Transactions of a Medical Society published in the United States.]

An oration, which might have been delivered to the students in anatomy, on the late rupture between the two schools in this city. Philadelphia, Dobson and Lang, 1789. [Believed to have been written by Judge Hopkins.]

An act to regulate the practice of physic and surgery within this Commonwealth [Pennsylvania]. 4 pp., Philadelphia, Bradford, 1794. [This is extremely rare, probably no other copy in existence.]

There are 366 volumes of manuscripts. The following is a list of some of the more important:

A manuscript believed to have been written in the fourteenth century. The leaves are of vellum, and a part of what may be called a title reads, "Secretis medici."

Original manuscript notes of Dr. Cadwalader's essay on the "Dry-gripes," published in 1745. [Deposited by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell.]

Sketch of the yellow fever of 1762. By Dr. John Redman, written in 1763.

Diary of Dr. Griffiths. Epidemic of yellow fever in Philadelphia in 1798. [Deposited by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell.]

The "Gilbert Collection" of manuscript letters in four folio volumes.

The "Carson Collection" in six quarto volumes. A history of the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from 1765 to 1868.

The manuscript Archives of the International Medical Congress held in Philadelphia, 1876. Four quarto volumes.

The manuscript Archives of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 1787 to 1847.

The collection of portraits, framed and unframed, is an extensive one: these are catalogued, and this catalogue includes the portraits found in books.

The collection of medals is not large; it contains, among others, two gold medals, one handsomely jewelled medal, and medals in honor of Franciscus Redi, Benjamin Rush, David Hosack, Edward Jenner, etc.

Medical book-plates are not collected, but allowed to remain in the books. There are some fine examples, of which eighty-four have been catalogued.

The Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, for size and value of its collection, ranks, probably, as the third medical library in the world. The number of volumes cannot be taken as a guide to the value of a library, except, perhaps, when special collections have reached such proportions as the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office. The principal universities throughout the world have large libraries ranging from 100,000 to 800,000 volumes, and most of them have medical departments; but I have been unable to find that as much as one-tenth of any of these libraries are composed of medical books. The Bibliothèque de la Faculté de Médecine at Paris is given second place, with the figures stated at about 160,000 volumes.

If funds were available at this time for binding reports, dissertations, etc., the Library of the College of Physicians would contain close to 100,000 volumes. It has long since outgrown its present quarters, and a new building with modern equipment is now under consideration, and it is hoped will be erected in the near future.