

## **The College of Physicians / by J. Norman Henry.**

### **Contributors**

Henry, John Norman, 1874-  
Royal College of Surgeons of England

### **Publication/Creation**

[Philadelphia] : [publisher not identified], [1908]

### **Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/v59u9akv>

### **Provider**

Royal College of Surgeons

### **License and attribution**

This material has been provided by This material has been provided by The Royal College of Surgeons of England. The original may be consulted at The Royal College of Surgeons of England. where the originals may be consulted. Conditions of use: it is possible this item is protected by copyright and/or related rights. You are free to use this item in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s).



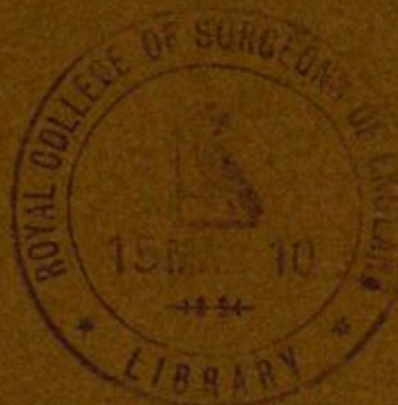
Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

18

THE  
College of Physicians

By J. NORMAN HENRY, M.D.,

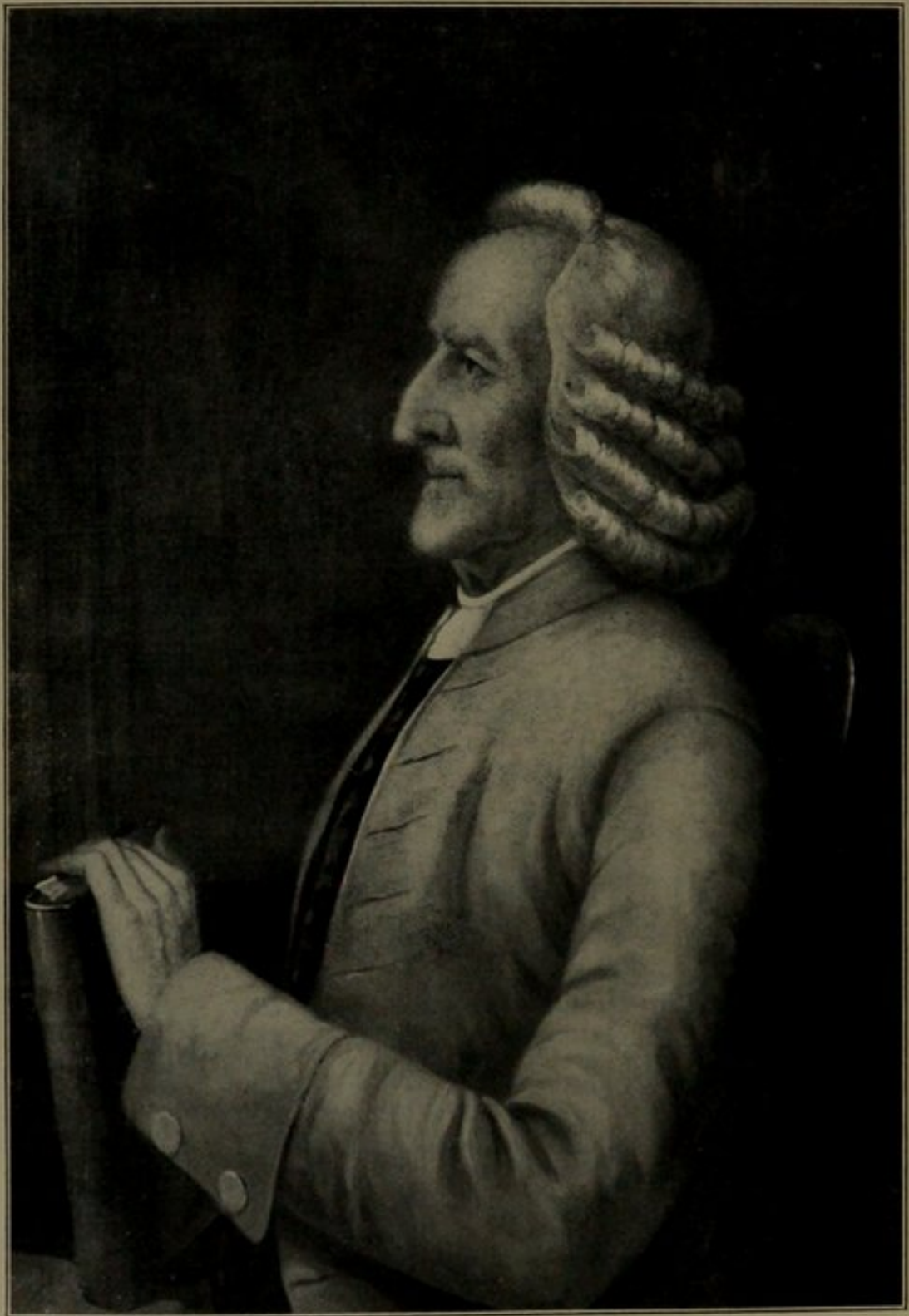
Clinical Professor of Medicine, Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania;  
Physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital; Assistant Physician to the  
Philadelphia Hospital; Fellow of the College of Physicians, Etc.



Reprinted from  
FOUNDERS' WEEK MEMORIAL VOLUME,  
Philadelphia, 1683-1908.







JOHN REDMAN.



## The College of Physicians of Philadelphia

By J. NORMAN HENRY, M.D.

THE College of Physicians of Philadelphia was founded about the year 1787, though unfortunately the exact date is unknown. This confusion arises from the absence of any dates in the copy of the first address of the President, and in that of the first Constitution. The earliest record of a meeting is that of January 2, 1787, and though there is much evidence to support the view that the College was in existence prior to this time, we are compelled to consider that day as its official birthday. The minutes of that meeting show that nine senior and four junior fellows were present, and the first Tuesday of every month was chosen for the regular monthly meetings. A committee was appointed consisting of Drs. Rush, Duffield, and Griffiths to prepare a certificate of membership and a seal, and it was directed that the Constitution should be published in the newspapers. It subsequently appeared in the *Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser*, February 1, 1787. The Officers and Fellows at the time of this first recorded meeting were as follows:

*President.*—John Redman.

*Vice-President.*—John Jones.

*Treasurer.*—Gerardus Clarkson.

*Secretary.*—James Hutchinson.

*Censors:* William Shippen, Jr.; Benjamin Rush, John Morgan, Adam Kuhn.

*Senior Fellows.*—John Redman, John Jones, William Shippen, Jr.; Benjamin Rush, Samuel Duffield, James Hutchinson, Abraham Chovet, John Morgan, Adam Kuhn, Gerardus Clarkson, Thomas Parke, George Glentworth.

*Junior Fellows.*—Robert Harris, Benjamin Duffield, John Foulke, James Hall, Andrew Ross, William Currie, John Carson, William W. Smith, Samuel P. Griffiths, John Morris, William Clarkson, Benjamin Say, John Lynn.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *John Lynn*, the last name under "Junior Fellows," was dropped from the list of members, probably because he did not sign the Constitution or pay the entrance fee. He was present at only one meeting, October, 1787. He is not included in the list of the "Founders."

The number of Senior Fellows was limited to twelve, while the junior membership had no limitation as to its numbers. The Senior Fellows alone had the right to hold office.

At the meeting of January 2d, the first address of the first President of the College, Dr. John Redman, was delivered; the Constitution was signed by the Fellows and an order issued "that the institution of the new society should be proclaimed to the world, and that all who were friendly to the progress of medical science should be invited to join in its promotion." A certificate of membership, by-laws, and a design for a seal for the College were adopted at a meeting held on February 6, 1787, at which were present seven Senior and eight Junior Fellows. The seal consisted of a broad ribbon with buckle, encircling an altar on which burns the lamp of science. On the ribbon is the legend *Sigillum Collegii Medicorum Philadelpiæ Institut. A.D. MDCCLXXXVII*, and beneath the altar the motto "*non sibi sed toti.*"

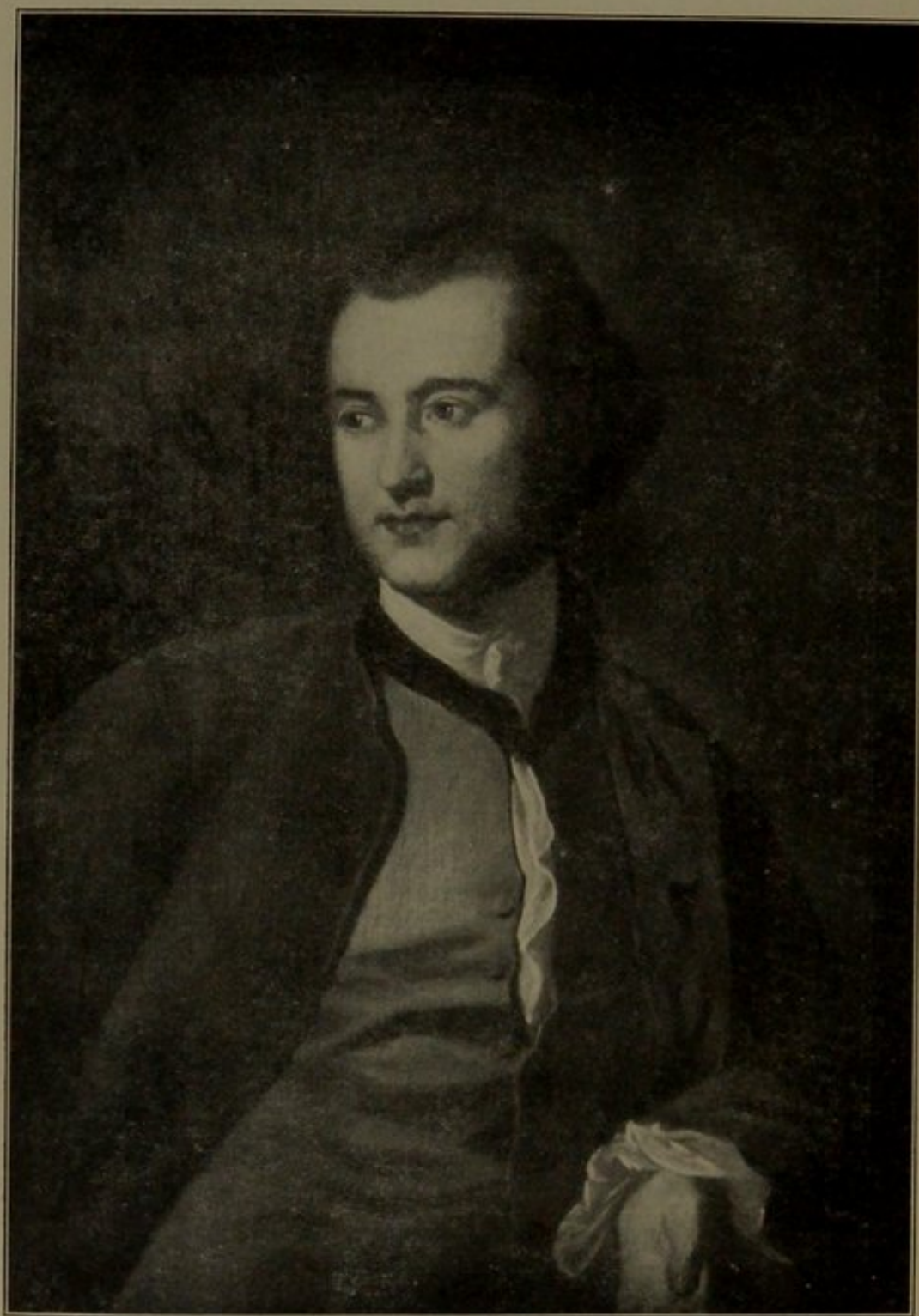
At this meeting also, the first scientific paper was read by Dr. Rush, "On the Means of Promoting Medical Knowledge," and on March 6th of the same year the first standing committee, that on Meteorology and Epidemics, which has continued in active service for a period of ninety-five years, was appointed.

At the regular meeting held on April 3d, the first election of Fellows was held, and committees were appointed to consider the building of hot and cold baths, and to establish a botanic garden in the city.

On July 3d the Officers of the Society were re-elected, this being the first election of Officers that is recorded in the minutes. On August 7th "a member submitted a new form of Constitution, which was made the order of business this day three months" and was adopted November 6th. In September of this year, 1787, the College memorialized the Legislature, "Setting forth the pernicious effects of spirituous liquors upon the human body and praying that such a law may be passed as shall tend to diminish their consumption." During this first year, one special and twelve regular meetings were held. The total membership was twenty-nine. The entrance fee was three pounds (Pennsylvania currency) and the annual dues fifteen shillings. Two Founders were dropped from the rolls because of failure to pay their dues. The College held its meetings at Fourth and Arch Streets in the building of the Academy of Philadelphia.







JOHN MORGAN.

The College was modeled upon the lines of the Royal College of Physicians of London, and consisted of a body of men of the highest professional standing who met at stated intervals to read and discuss scientific papers and to consider questions of public health. The necessity of a library at once became apparent and, on the year following its birth, the College took the first step in founding what is now one of the greatest medical libraries of the world. On June 3, 1788, committees were appointed "to form a Pharmacopœia for the uses of the College" and to outline a plan for the formation of a library.

Following a request to contribute books, Dr. John Morgan, in December, 1788, presented twenty-four volumes to the library, and in 1789 made a further donation. This was the germ of the present magnificent collection.

The library at this time was under the direction of the Secretary and Censors, and its growth was fostered by appropriating for its use some portion of the surplus funds that might remain over at the end of each year.

In 1789, several events occurred of importance in the history of the College. The first of these was the incorporation of the College by act of Legislature dated March 26, 1789, and the second the enlisting of the efforts of physicians all over the country to aid the College in preparing a Pharmacopœia.

On April 16, 1789, the College presented a protest to the authorities against a general illumination of the streets which was proposed on the occasion of President Washington's progress through Philadelphia on his way to his inauguration in New York. An epidemic of influenza was then prevalent and the framers of the protest were evidently of the opinion that the safety and comfort of their patients might be imperiled by undue ebullitions of patriotism. They certainly put their case strongly when they informed the Council that "a general illumination of the city might be productive of fatal consequences."

During this year also (1789) the Legislature requested the College to supply it with information concerning the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases.

On October 15, 1789, Dr. John Morgan, a Censor of the College, founder of the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania and ex-Director-General of Hospitals during the War of the Revolution, died after a brief illness.

On April 21, 1790, twenty Fellows representing the College, attended the funeral of Benjamin Franklin. The by-laws were first printed during this year, and two of the Founders, Dr. Gerardus Clarkson and Dr. Abraham Chovet, died. In 1791, the dues of the College were increased to make it possible to hire a room of sufficient size in which to hold meetings and house the library. The initiation fee was raised to \$26.66, and the annual dues to four dollars. The College was then moved to the building of the American Philosophical Society in which a room had been rented for three years and a half, viz., from December 10, 1791, until June 10, 1794. In 1792 Dr. Waters volunteered his services as Librarian, but resigned and was succeeded by Dr. Leib.

In 1793, the College addressed the Mayor on the subject of a "malignant and contagious" fever which was then present in the city, and the following recommendations were made:

*First.*—That all unnecessary intercourse should be avoided with such persons as are infected by it.

*Second.*—To place a mark upon the door or windows of such houses as have any infected persons therein.

*Third.*—To place the persons infected in the center of large and airy rooms, in beds without curtains, and to pay the strictest regard to cleanliness by frequently changing their body and bed linen; also by removing as speedily as possible all offensive matters from their rooms.

*Fourth.*—To provide a large and airy hospital in the neighborhood of the city for the reception of such poor persons as cannot be accommodated with the above advantages in private houses.

*Fifth.*—To put a stop to the tolling of the bells.

*Sixth.*—To bury such people as die of this fever in carriages and in as private a manner as possible.

*Seventh.*—To keep the streets and wharves of this city as clean as possible. As the contagion of the disease may be taken into the body, and pass out of it without producing the fever, unless it be rendered active by some occasional cause, the following means should be attended to to prevent the contagion being excited into action in the body.

*Eighth.*—To avoid all fatigue of body and mind.

*Ninth.*—To avoid standing or sitting in the sun, also in a current of air, or in the evening air.

*Tenth.*—To accommodate the dress to the weather and to exceed rather in warm than in cool clothing.

*Eleventh.*—To avoid intemperance, but to use fermented liquors, such as wine, beer, and cider with moderation.

“The College conceives fires to be a very ineffectual, if not dangerous, means of checking the progress of the fever. They have reason to place more dependence on the burning of gunpowder. The benefits of vinegar and camphor are confined chiefly to infected rooms, and they cannot be used too frequently upon handkerchiefs or in smelling bottles by persons whose duty calls them to visit or attend the sick.”

On September 6th there is a note of a letter from Dr. Rush warmly advocating mercury in the treatment of yellow fever, “particularly in the first stage.” This letter immediately brings up the story of the controversy in regard to the treatment of yellow fever which, in all probability, was the cause of Dr. Rush’s resignation from the College. In a lecture delivered before the University of Pennsylvania students, Dr. Rush complained bitterly of the attacks made upon him by Fellows of the College, because of his copious blood-letting and large dosage of calomel and jalap in the treatment of yellow fever. On account of the epidemic of yellow fever there was no meeting of the College between September 17, 1793, and November 5th of the same year. On that date the President submitted a letter from Governor Mifflin asking for information in regard to the then prevalent epidemic of yellow fever, and particularly requesting an opinion as to its origin, cause, and the best methods to stamp it out. A committee was appointed to prepare a reply to the Governor’s questions. The College, on November 26th adopted the report of the committee and replied to the Governor that the disease was brought to the city by vessels after the middle of July. “Cleanliness of the streets, the use of gunpowder as a disinfectant, and of unslaked lime in privy wells were recommended.”

In 1793, Dr. James Hutchinson, a Founder and the first Secretary of the College, died of yellow fever, which was believed to have been contracted from visiting a poor woman suffering from that malady. Dr. John Morris, also a Founder, died of the same disease very nearly at the same time.

In 1794, the College took a very active part in dealing with broad questions concerning “the regulation of the practice of

Physic within the State"; the establishment of a quarantine, and of a hospital for contagious diseases. These matters were taken up at the request of the various authorities concerned; in one instance the Governor, in another the Legislature of the State, and in another the local Board of Health asked for aid in dealing with their several duties.

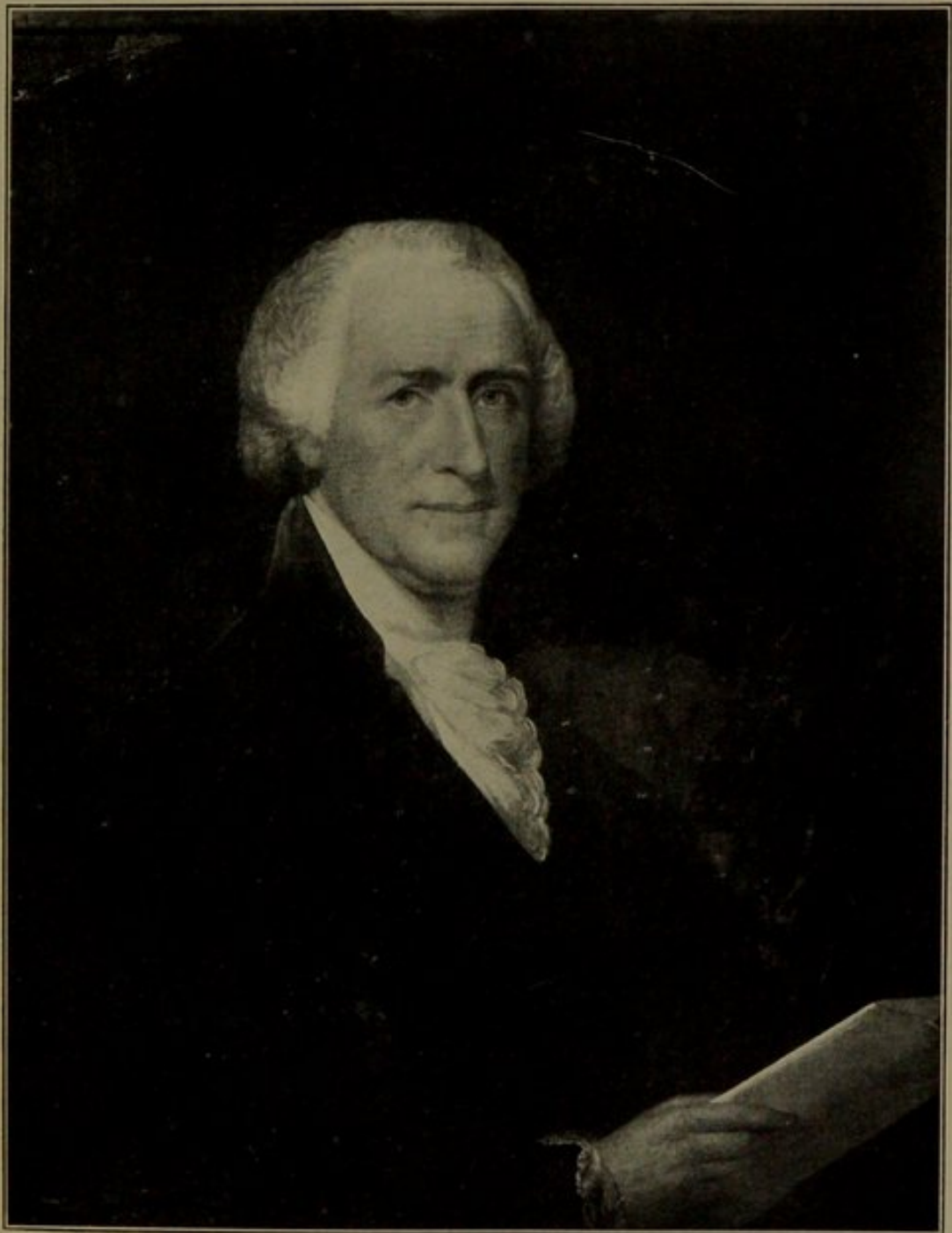
Throughout the epidemics of '93, '97, and '98, the College aided the authorities in every way possible. Meetings were held almost daily, and bulletins were issued setting forth the means necessary to maintain health and avoid infection. In 1798, the Proceedings of the College were published "relative to the prevention of the introduction and spreading of contagious diseases." Subsequently, in the same year, "Facts and observations relative to the nature and origin of the pestilential fever which prevailed in this city in 1793, 1797, and 1798," were published and distributed to the members of the Legislature, City Corporation, Board of Health, and corresponding medical societies. In the year 1799, there were various interchanges of communications between the Governor and the College concerning the subject of epidemic diseases.

On February 2, 1802, Dr. Glentworth proposed Dr. Jenner for Associate Fellowship in the College. Dr. Jenner was not elected.

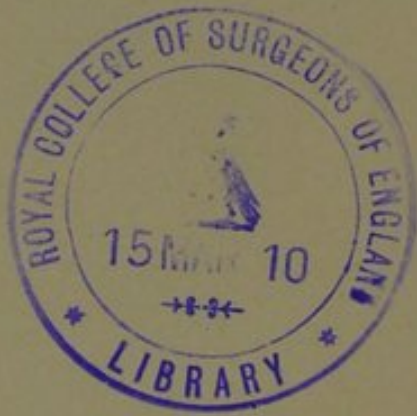
On July 2, 1805, William Shippen, Jr., was elected President in place of Dr. Redman, who had requested that his own resignation be accepted after eighteen years of service. In 1808, Dr. Shippen died, and Dr. Adam Kuhn was elected President.

For several years following this period the College passed through a time of more or less inactivity due, perhaps, as suggested by Dr. Ruschenberger, to the variety of interests claiming the time and attention of the Fellows, several of the most prominent among them belonging to other Societies, such as the Academy of Medicine, the Chemical Society, the Medical Lyceum, and the American Philosophical Society. In 1817, Dr. Kuhn died, and in July, 1818, Dr. Thomas Parke was elected to succeed him in the office of President.

It is recorded, as a matter of interest and comparison, that in 1818 the entrance fee was \$15, and the annual dues \$3, making a yearly income of \$54; in other words, in 1818 there were but eighteen Fellows.



WILLIAM SHIPPEN, JR.



In 1820, we again find the municipal authorities addressing the College and asking for information and guidance in dealing with an epidemic of "a malignant or pestilential disease." A committee composed of Drs. Hewson, Griffiths, and Emlen was appointed to prepare the necessary answers, and among their recommendations was "the prosecution of the plan now in contemplation for removing the whole of the buildings" (on Water Street) "from the east side of Front Street, inclusive, to the river, beginning at Vine and ending at South Street, according to the original plan of William Penn, the wise and intelligent founder of our city."

On December 5th of this year (1820), the entrance fee was reduced to ten dollars.

In 1821, the College had failed to pay rent for its quarters for four years, and money had to be borrowed and a note given in order to raise the sum necessary to pay the arrears. In 1823, after other accounts such as the bills for fuel, etc., had been paid, the College was in debt to the Treasurer to the extent of \$18.62.

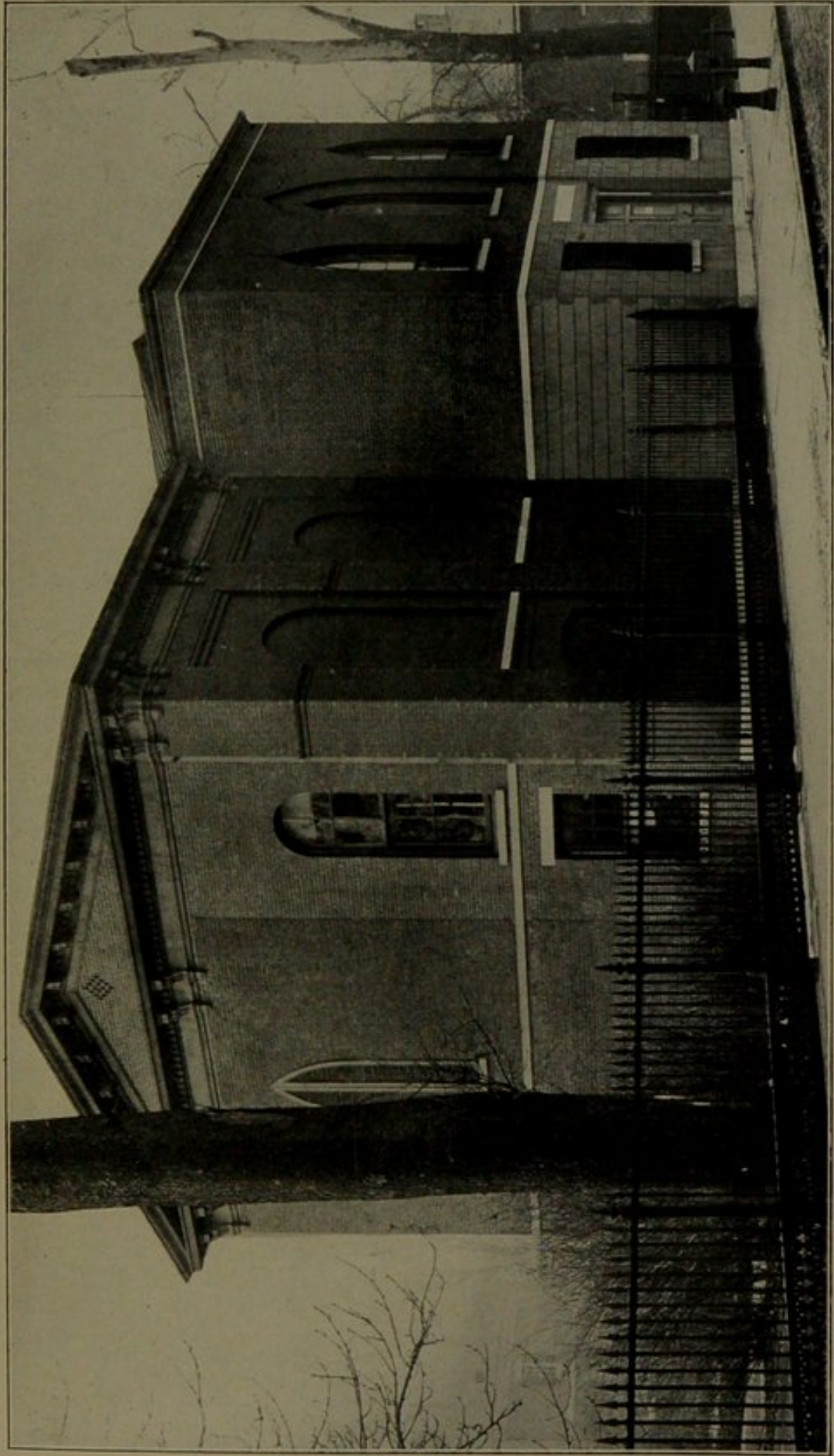
On November 9, 1824, the College held a special meeting to consider the staying of the execution of one John Zimmerman, of Orwigsburg, Schuylkill County, who was then under sentence of death for the murder of his daughter. Dr. Joseph Parrish had reported to the College that, so far as he could judge by hearsay, the prisoner was insane and irresponsible at the time the act was committed. The College, at this special meeting, addressed a communication to the Governor of the State, asking that the execution of Zimmerman be stayed until all reasonable doubt of his mental condition should be settled. On January 22, 1825, the Governor replied that, upon receipt of the letter from the College, the execution had been postponed until March 30th, and asked that the College appoint certain of its members to visit and examine the prisoner and acquaint him with his true mental condition. Drs. Parke, Parrish, and Moore journeyed to Orwigsburg and spent two days examining the prisoner. They found him to be insane and irresponsible as regards his act and, on so notifying the Governor, had the satisfaction of securing his release from the death penalty. The College was put to the expense of \$50.25 incurred by this commission—a very severe drain upon its scanty resources.



In May, 1827, a resolution was adopted, making it compulsory for each Fellow in turn to read at each stated meeting an original paper, or pay a fine of \$1. The College at this date could not afford to publish Transactions and permission was accorded the Fellows to publish their papers in the *North American Medical and Surgical Journal*. During this year (1827) the meeting hour was changed from the afternoon to the evening, the time adopted for the future being 7 P.M. from October to March, and 8 P.M. from April to September.

In January, 1832, the College, through a committee composed of Drs. Otto, Bache, and Wood, conferred with one from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, upon the important matter of introducing the Pharmacopœia into general use, and recommended the adoption of the one prepared by the National Medical Convention of 1820. This important subject, the establishment of a Pharmacopœia, was first discussed in the College on June 3, 1788, and had occupied its attention more or less continuously until the decision above mentioned, was reached. On April 12th of this year, the Board of Health asked for information from the College in regard to an epidemic of cholera which was then present in the city. The College, through a report of a committee, replied in due time. On November 26, 1833, the Treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$308.42, which was ordered to be invested. Dr. Ruschenberger, in his history, calls attention to the fact of this being the first instance of financial ease in the College for a period of forty-six years. In 1833, a committee was appointed to investigate the by-laws and determine whether or no any changes were necessary. Alterations of considerable importance were effected. The number of Associate Fellows was limited to forty, ten of whom should be foreign. Candidates for fellowship were, for the future, to be proposed by three Fellows, and the entrance fee was made \$10 and the annual dues \$3. The by-laws provided for the following committees: Library, Theory and Practice of Medicine, Surgery, Midwifery, Diseases of Children, Materia Medica and Pharmacy, Meteorology and Epidemics, and Public Hygiene. These committees were to submit annual reports. A special committee existed for inspecting and passing judgment on papers written for publication in the Transactions.

On January 9, 1835, Dr. Thomas Parke, the President and last of the Founders, died in his eighty-sixth year. Dr. James



College of Physicians.

PICTURE HOUSE.



was elected President March 3, 1835, and died in July of the same year. He was succeeded by Dr. Thomas T. Hewson.

On September 6, 1836, a committee of the trustees of the Preston Retreat and Lying-in Charity Hospital asked information from the College as to the best plan for a building for its particular purpose. The College submitted this request to the Committee on Midwifery which, in turn, reported to the College, and the report was then sent to the trustees of the Preston Retreat. On January 1, 1839, the College advised the Legislature to place public squares with fountains in every district of the city. The College this year was again able to invest some surplus funds (\$222.23). In 1841, a committee on publication of the Transactions was appointed, and it was determined to publish them quarterly. On November 7, 1843, the College advised the purchase by the city of Lemon Hill, now in Fairmount Park, to protect from contamination the Schuylkill River, which then supplied, as it still does, much of the drinking water of the city. In November of this year the College received a request from the New York State Medical Society to appoint delegates to a National Medical Convention of all the medical institutions of the United States. After due consideration on the part of a committee appointed for the purpose, the invitation was declined.

At this period the quarters of the College became too small for the increasing number of members and the need for space of the growing library. Committees were appointed to consider the questions of building a hall, joining with other societies to procure a hall which could be used by each of the contributing associations, or renting more commodious rooms. On July 1, 1845, the College moved into the building of the Mercantile Library Company at the southeast corner of Fifth and Library Streets. The committee in charge had succeeded in renting on the third floor of this building, a large room of sufficient size to accommodate the meetings and give ample space for the library. The rental of this apartment added greatly to the expenses of the College, and the furnishing and moving of the College property were provided for by liberal private subscriptions from the Fellows. Dr. Ruschenberger notes that "for the first time the record of Proceedings was headed, 'Hall of the College.'"

"In 1846, the College set the seal of its disapprobation upon the attempt to get a patent for anæsthetic ether under the name

of 'Letheon.' In the following year it condemned as an offense, which was sometimes a crime, the prescription of medicines by apothecaries. In 1848, it encouraged and aided the formation of the Medical Society of Pennsylvania, and sent delegates to the Convention that organized it."<sup>2</sup>

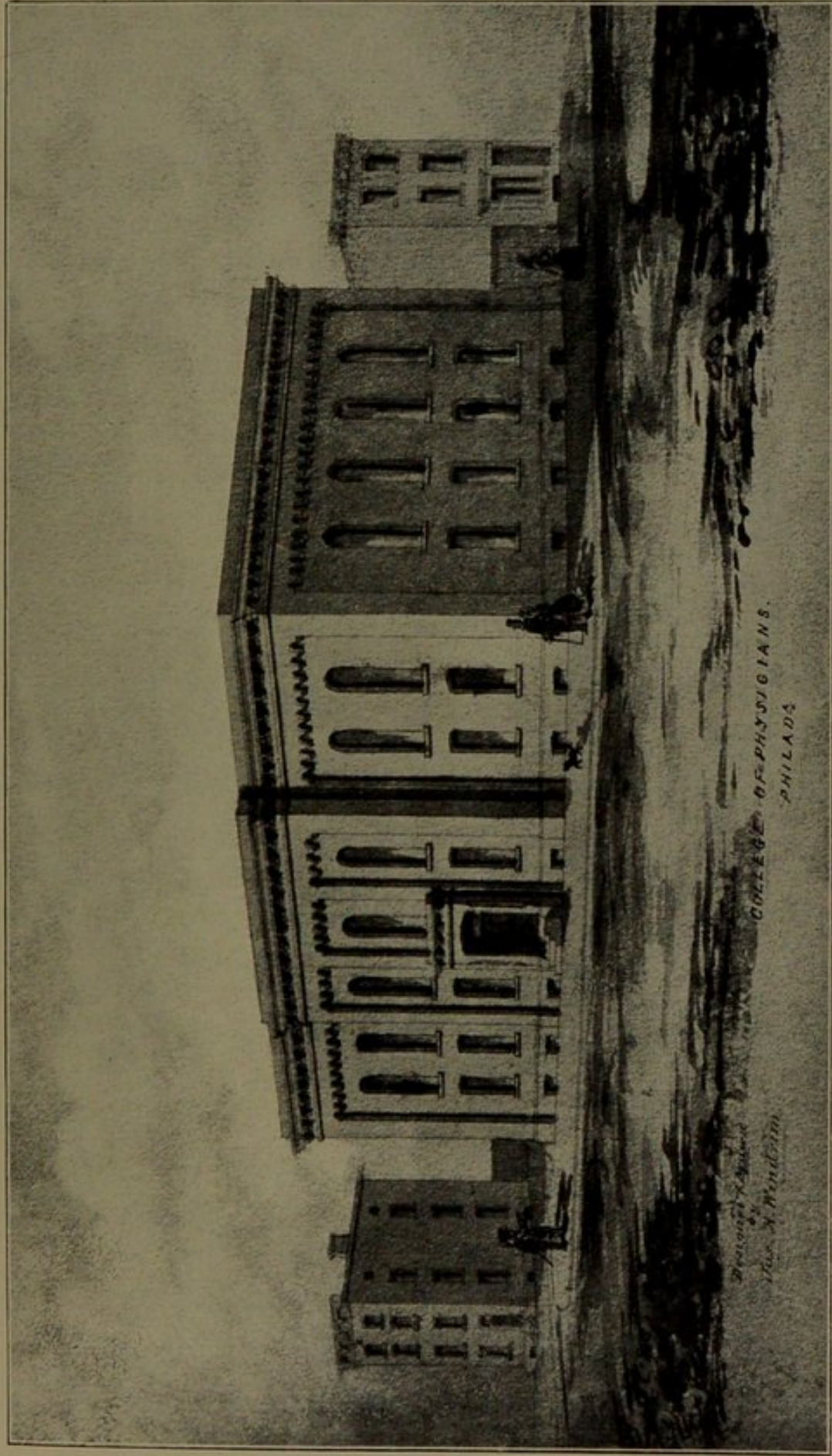
In 1848, the College adopted a fee-bill, but later on, when it was found that it did not meet the requirements of the times, it was abolished.

In 1849, the museum of the College was begun and a building fund started. In 1851, all committees were abolished, with the exception of that on meteorology and epidemics. In April of the same year, the meeting night was changed from the first Tuesday to the first Wednesday of every month. In July, 1854, the "picture house" of the Pennsylvania Hospital was leased, and the furniture and library transferred from the Mercantile Library Company building. In 1849, as previously stated, the pathological museum, which now bears the name of Dr. Thomas Dent Mütter was begun. Its foundations were of very modest proportions. A Curator and Museum Committee were appointed, and \$50 annually was ordered to be expended on building cases and preparing and arranging specimens. Dr. John Neill was the first Curator and Drs. Moreton Stillé, Edward Hallowell, and Isaac Parrish constituted the first Museum Committee. Dr. B. H. Coates presented a microscope and the museum was further increased by the addition of a number of specimens from the late Dr. Parrish's collection. In June, 1856, a special meeting of the College was convened to receive a communication from Dr. Mütter. Dr. S. Weir Mitchell announced that Dr. Mütter was willing to present his collection of pathological specimens to the College, together with the sum of \$30,000 to pay for the services of a lecturer and to add to the specimens in the museum, providing the College on its part would place the valuable collection in a fireproof building.

Dr. Mütter stated that his collection had been assembled after twenty-four years of work, and that he had been offered a sum of \$20,000 for it. He suggested that the Curator of the College Museum should be appointed Curator of his collection also, thus showing that he desired the two to remain separate. The offer was one which the College could little afford to refuse

---

<sup>2</sup> Stillé, "Reminiscences of the College."



College of Physicians.

HALL OF THE COLLEGE AT THIRTEENTH AND LOCUST STREETS BEFORE THE ADDITION  
OF THE THIRD STORY.



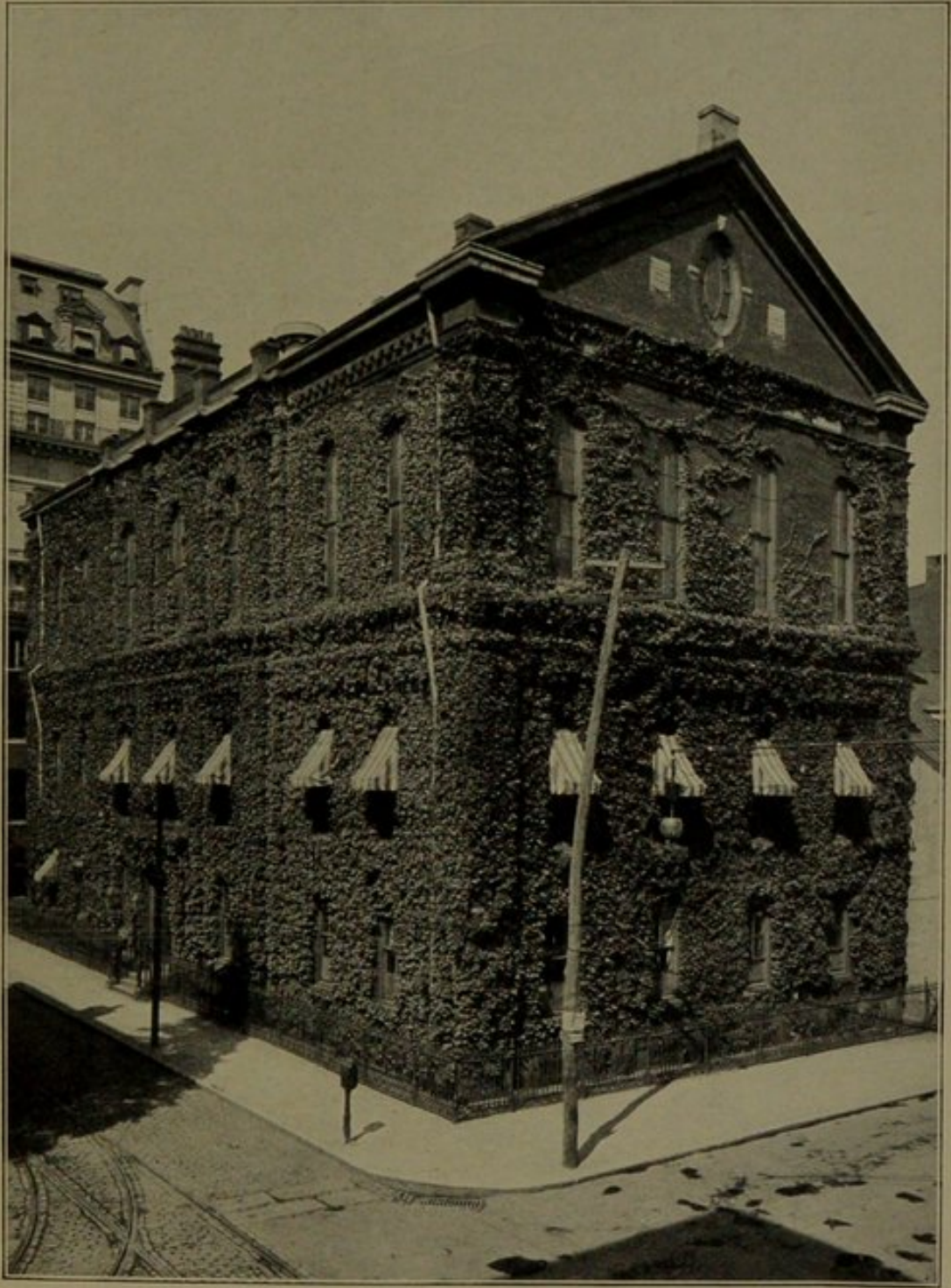
and yet, with its accompanying condition, a difficult situation was created. A committee was appointed which reported to the College their opinion of the great value of this collection both to the College and to the profession at large, but were, of course, unable at the time to advise final proceedings in view of the absence of funds for a suitable fireproof building. Dr. Mütter expressed considerable disappointment at the failure to reach a satisfactory conclusion in the matter of accepting his gift and went abroad, after stating that he was too ill and too busy to give the proper time and care to the arrangement between the College and himself. Thus the question hung fire until October, 1858, when Dr. Mütter again expressed himself as willing to renew negotiations with a view to effecting the transfer of his museum. The next step was the statement of Dr. Mütter that he wished an agreement to be made to finish a fireproof building within three years, and, on the committee expressing their belief in the impracticability of doing this, he agreed to the period being prolonged to five years. Dr. Mütter signed the agreement on December 11, 1858, and the officers of the College on January 8, 1859. Dr. Mütter then placed his collection in the hands of three trustees and left for Europe, where he died in March, 1859. Four years later, in March, 1863, the building at Thirteenth and Locust Streets was finished and ready for occupation. The trustees thereupon, after being satisfied by expert opinion of the fireproof quality of the new home for the collection, announced their intention of paying to the chairman of the Mütter Museum Committee, the income of the deed of trust executed by Dr. Mütter. This deed provided for the payment annually of \$300 to a curator and \$200 to a lecturer, "and the remainder of said income to the preparing, fitting up, keeping in order, increasing and insuring of pathological and anatomical preparations and specimens," etc. The specimens already belonging to the College Museum were then combined with those of the Mütter Museum and placed under the care of the Curator and the Mütter Museum Committee. The Museum grew steadily for many years through the acquisition of many new specimens by purchase and gifts. The income of the fund, however, was by no means expended, and surplusage arose which, from time to time, was partly invested, and in part disbursed to secure valuable new collections.

In 1876, the new building became inadequate for the large



and steady increase in size of these two valuable branches of the institution, the library, and the museum. Further addition of specimens was curtailed, and the income of the Mütter fund was allowed to accumulate until, in 1883, the balance reached \$7000. The College proposed to borrow from this accumulated income of the Mütter fund in order to enlarge the building and provide suitable accommodation for the specimens. This, however, could not be done until a legal opinion had been obtained to determine if this expenditure would fall properly within the deed of trust which, by any misappropriation of the funds, would be forfeited by the College. An amicable suit was arranged which was heard before a master and finally reported to the court, when the judge directed that the accumulated income, or some part of it, might be borrowed by the College. Articles of covenant were then drawn up which gave leave to the Mütter Museum Committee to lend the College a sum of \$5000 for the specific purpose of enlarging the space for the Mütter Museum and, at the same time, contained a clause indemnifying the museum committee from any liability in the future. The enlargement of the building was then undertaken and a large, well-lighted third story was added to the Hall, and the College and Mütter collections were placed therein and included under the name of the latter.

Dr. Mütter's gift provided, as already stated, a sum of money for the payment of a lecturer on surgical pathology to be appointed once in three years, and to deliver annually a course of lectures. The terms of the legacy state that such courses should consist of not less than ten lectures annually. In spite of every reasonable effort this requirement of the legacy has not been lived up to. At the present time one lecture is delivered annually on some point of interest in surgical pathology, and usually a large audience of Fellows and other physicians is attracted. This departure from the original provision of the legacy has been sanctioned by the College on request of the Mütter Museum Committee. The Mütter lectures have in successive years been delivered by Drs. John H. Packard, Harrison Allen, John H. Brinton, J. Solis-Cohen, Samuel W. Gross, Edward O. Shakespeare, Henry F. Formad, Oscar H. Allis, Roswell Park, De Forest Willard, John B. Roberts, H. W. Cushing, George H. Monks, John Rogers, and George W. Crile, whose names alone suffice to prove the value of their discourses.



HALL OF THE COLLEGE AT THIRTEENTH AND LOCUST STREETS.



For several years past valuable courses of instruction have been given in the Museum to the students of the different medical schools. The specimens, illustrating gross pathological anatomy and especially the diseases of bones, are probably unrivaled by any similar collection in this country.

In 1867, the College had memorialized the Legislature to legalize dissection, and the efficient law of 1883, which now governs the practice of this essential part of medical education, and with which the name of Dr. William S. Forbes is indelibly associated, took its origin in this proceeding.

In January, 1883, Dr. Alfred Stillé was elected President, and in February, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell established an entertainment fund by a generous gift of \$5000. During this month also the College memorialized Congress concerning the National Board of Health, and recommended an increased appropriation.

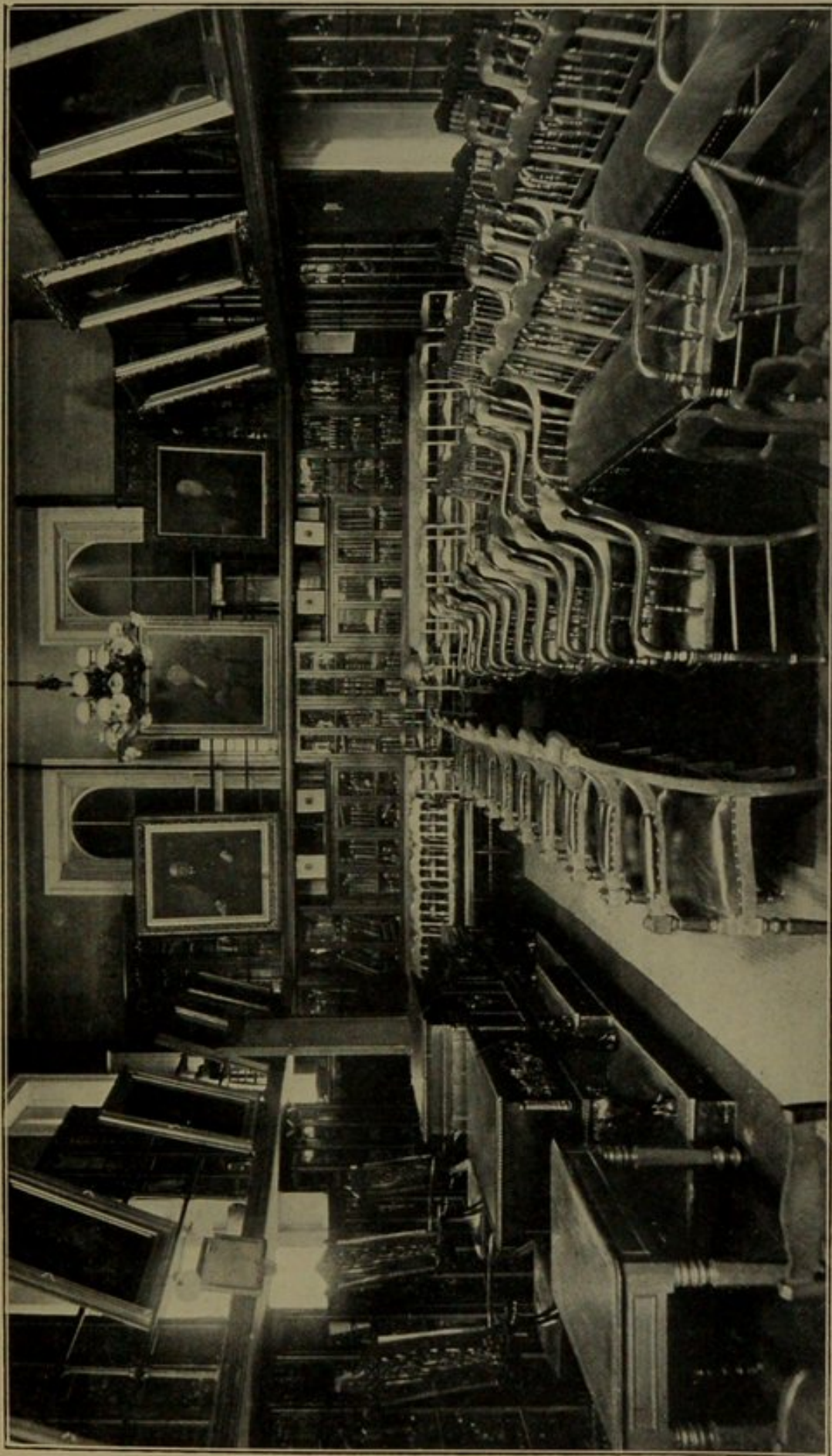
Between 1875 and 1883, the College, either alone or in conjunction with other medical societies, petitioned Congress against reducing the appropriation for the Army Medical Museum Library, and in favor of publishing the subject catalogue of the "National Medical Library" (Library of the Surgeon-General's Office). The College also petitioned the Legislature for a law protecting professional communications between physicians and patients.

In April, 1883, a committee was appointed to confer with the College of Pharmacy on the question of amending the present laws governing the sale of poisons, and in October the Council was constituted.

In November, 1883, Dr. Joseph Leidy was exempted from the payment of dues as a mark of appreciation of his scientific achievements. Dr. Samuel Lewis was elected President in January, 1884, and resigned the same year, and Dr. J. M. DaCosta was elected to complete his unexpired term. Dr. J. G. Hunt and Dr. Henry F. Formad were exempted from the payment of dues in recognition of their scientific attainments. In June, 1884, the Samuel D. Gross Library was received from the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery as a special deposit, and in July, a bust of Dr. Gross, by Obermeyer, was presented by A. Haller Gross, Esq., executor of Dr. Gross's estate. In September, 1884, a reception was held in honor of the members of the American and British Associations for the advancement of Science, the first under the

provisions of the S. Weir Mitchell Entertainment Fund. A sum of \$2153.23 was received from the estate of Dr. George B Wood on account of the legacy of \$10,000 and an annuity of \$500, left by him to the College. The meetings in July, August, and September were omitted by a vote amending the by-laws governing stated monthly meetings. In November, 1884, a committee of five was appointed to consider the union of the library of the Pennsylvania Hospital with that of the College of Physicians. This proposition was indefinitely postponed. A committee to arrange a celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the College was appointed. A committee was also appointed to address Select and Common Council on the question of the precautions to be taken to avert the threatened invasion of Asiatic cholera during the coming year. A communication on this subject from the National Board of Health was read and referred to this committee. In February, 1885, the College sent to the Legislature a remonstrance against a bill to prevent physiological experiments upon living animals, declaring, as its opinion, "that scientific experimentation upon the lower animals is essential to the progress of medical science." A copy of Rembrandt's School of Anatomy was presented to the College by Mrs. Small and Mrs. S. Weir Mitchell. In 1885, the Publication Committee was in debt to the extent of \$822.33, and a proposition was made to publish the Transactions in the *Medical Times*. By the generosity of Dr. DaCosta this debt was paid in great part, and the method of publishing the Transactions was continued. In November, 1885, Mrs. Helen C. Jenks established, in memory of her husband, the William F. Jenks Fund by presenting \$5000, the income of which was to be awarded every three years to the author of the best essay on a subject connected with obstetrics and the diseases of women and children. This sum, which had accumulated until it amounted to \$7000, was, in 1900, with the approval of Mrs. Jenks, converted into a library fund for the purchase of literature relating to obstetrics and the diseases of women and children.

In January, 1886, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell was elected President. In June, 1886, 512 volumes, principally on ophthalmological subjects, were presented by Mrs. J. F. Weightman. The College accepted the Parry Library and the library of the Obstetrical Society as permanent deposits. The celebration of the cen-



College of Physicians.

LECTURE HALL.



ennial of the foundation of the College was held on January 3 and 4, 1887. The program on this occasion was as follows: A commemorative address by the President, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, was delivered at Association Hall, Fifteenth and Chestnut Streets, at 7.30 P.M.; a reception in the Hall of the College, at 9.30 P.M., followed. On January 4th, a special meeting was held at which Dr. Alfred Stillé delivered an address. This was followed by the introduction of newly-elected Associate Fellows, who were welcomed in an address by Dr. J. M. DaCosta. Luncheon was served in the museum room, and a dinner on the same evening was held in the ball room of the Union League. Dr. Mitchell was re-elected President. In April, 1887, a portrait of Dr. John Morgan was hung in the Hall of the College, with the understanding that the owner, Dr. Collins, of Louisville, Ky., might remove it at any time he desired. The Alvarenga legacy of \$4140.38 was received in April, 1888. A portrait of Dr. Benjamin Rush was presented by the Misses Rush in November, 1888. In January, 1889, Dr. D. Hayes Agnew was elected President. In May, 1891, the death of Dr. Joseph Leidy was announced. A special meeting was held March 24, 1892, to take action on the death of Dr. Agnew.

In accordance with a resolution of the College on January 4, 1893, a committee of five, consisting of Drs. J. M. DaCosta, J. C. Wilson, E. O. Shakespeare, H. C. Wood, and Morris J. Lewis, was appointed by the President, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, to report at the next meeting of the College a plan of action in regard to the threatened epidemic of cholera.

The Committee made an elaborate report on February 1, 1893, dividing the subject into three heads: National, State, and Municipal Quarantine. Their most important recommendations came under the first head and consisted (1) in the recommendation that "quarantine at all frontiers of the country should be immediately taken and kept under the exclusive regulation and control of the National Government; (2) that steerage passengers should be absolutely prohibited from landing in this country during the year 1893, and (3) that a Department of Health in the United States Government, "presided over by Special Cabinet Officer," should be established or, failing this, a "National Commission similar to those now existing in England, Germany, France, and other countries, the scope of whose functions and



authority shall cover quarantine and other subjects connected with public health." The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

At the meeting of April 5th, in pursuance of a resolution introduced by Dr. Morris J. Lewis on March 1st, a permanent Committee on Cholera, consisting of E. O. Shakespeare, J. M. DaCosta, H. C. Wood, J. C. Wilson, F. P. Henry, Morris J. Lewis, and J. K. Mitchell, was appointed. On May 3d Dr. J. H. Musser was appointed in place of Dr. Lewis, who declined to serve.

Thanks to the vigorous measures adopted at our seaports, especially New York, the threatened visitation of cholera was averted.

In March, 1893, Dr. Osler proposed that The College of Physicians take the initiative in causing to be erected in England a hospital in memory of Dr. Edward Jenner who, ninety-one years before, had been denied the honor of being elected an Associate Fellow. In June, 1893, a photograph of the famous painting of Dr. John Morgan, by Angelica Kauffman, was presented by D. T. Watson, Esq., of Pittsburgh. In 1893 a resolution was adopted congratulating the Chairman of the Committee on the Revision of the Pharmacopœia on the successful conclusion of his labors. In April, 1894, Clement A. Griscom, Esq., presented \$5000 to establish the John D. Griscom Book Fund. During January, 1895, a further effort was made to take steps to secure a Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine in the United States Government. In April, 1896, the College again urged upon City Councils the importance of establishing filtration of the drinking water. In April, 1897, the College memorialized Congress, protesting against the removal of books and philosophical apparatus from the duty-free list when imported for scientific societies. In January, 1898, Dr. John Ashurst, Jr., was elected President. A gift of \$5000, to which another \$1000 was subsequently added, was made to the College by H. R. Hatfield, Esq., and Walter Hatfield, Esq., the interest of which was to be devoted to the giving of a prize for original research in medicine every three years. In the event of no essay being deemed of sufficient merit to gain the prize, the trustees were empowered to appoint some one to pursue a line of investigation and to appropriate a sum of money toward the expenses. In October, 1898, announcement of the death of Dr. William Pepper was made. The Oliver A. Judson Prize was established by the

deposit of \$1000, the prize to be awarded when the interest should amount to \$100, and the subject of the competing essays to be the practical prevention of disease. This bequest was subsequently converted by Mrs. Judson into a fund for the purchase of books on preventive medicine. The Henrietta Rush Fales Baker Fund was established by the gift of \$5000 by Dr. George Fales Baker, the income to be used for the purchase of books. A gift of \$5000 to the Library Endowment Fund was secured upon condition that \$50,000 be raised. In January, 1900, Dr. W. W. Keen was elected President. The W. W. Keen Library Fund of \$5000 was started by a gift of \$1000 by Dr. Keen. In May, 1900, the Library Endowment Fund reached the sum of \$50,000. During this year the College suffered heavily in the loss by death of three of its most distinguished members, Drs. John Ashhurst, Jr., J. M. DaCosta, and Alfred Stillé. Dr. DaCosta, in a legacy, presented to the College a sum of \$5000 for the endowment of the Publication Fund. Mrs. S. Weir Mitchell presented a portrait of Dr. Mitchell. In December, 1900, Dr. Mitchell pointed out the need of more space for the library, and advised abandoning the museum. The matter was referred to the Council.

In January, 1901, the portrait of Dr. Joseph Leidy was presented by Mrs. Joseph Leidy, Jr. Dr. W. W. Keen was elected President. In May, 1901, a committee of seven was appointed to consider the present condition and the future needs of the College. On December 8, 1901, the death of Dr. William F. Norris was announced. In January, 1902, Dr. H. C. Wood was elected President. A portrait of Dr. W. W. Keen was presented by a committee of the Fellows. In December, 1902, a committee of five was appointed to confer with committees appointed by other organizations upon the advisability of moving the City Almshouse, the Insane Hospital, and the Municipal Hospital from their present location. In January, 1903, Dr. Mitchell announced that he had secured from Mr. Andrew Carnegie the promise of a gift to the College of \$50,000 conditional upon the College raising an equal amount. This fund was to be used to furnish increased accommodation for the Library. A resolution was adopted and sent to the President of the United States, advising the bestowal of the "amplest powers upon the medical officers in charge of the sanitation of the Panama Canal." "And that to attain this end a medical officer should be a member of the com-

mission which the President of the United States is authorized to appoint to conduct the affairs of the proposed canal." A resolution was adopted favoring the passage of a bill to give a pension of \$4000 a year to Mrs. Reed, the widow of Dr. Walter Reed, who died a martyr to his researches on yellow fever. On January 21, 1903, a special meeting was held. The President in an address referred to the growing needs of the library for increased space, and exhibited a plan for alterations to the building. A committee of seven was appointed to collect a sum of \$50,000 to comply with the conditions attached to the gift of Mr. Carnegie. A committee was also appointed to consider plans. In March, 1903, Dr. Mitchell announced that the subscriptions to the building fund had reached the sum of \$53,000, and on April 1, 1903, the subscriptions amounted to \$105,000. The names of Andrew Carnegie, Clement A. Griscom, and Frederick W. Vanderbilt, were ordered to be placed on a tablet containing the names of eminent benefactors of the College. The committee to consider plans reported and was discharged. A committee was then appointed to consider the question of either moving to a new building or altering the present one. This committee was given power to secure options on one or more properties, and was ordered to report at a special meeting not later than November 1, 1903. On May 29, 1903, at a special meeting, the purchase of a lot at Twenty-second and Ludlow Streets was authorized by the College for a sum of \$80,000. In June, 1903, the death of Dr. Thomas G. Morton was announced. A committee of five was appointed to report at the next meeting of the College on the municipal control of contagious diseases. In November, 1903, a committee on plans for the new building was appointed. In January, 1904, Dr. A. V. Meigs was elected President. In March, 1904, resolutions were adopted containing "desirable regulations for the prevention of infectious diseases in Philadelphia" (fifteen paragraphs). At a special meeting March 30th, the College voted to move to Twenty-second and Ludlow Streets. A building committee of six was appointed and directed to select an architect and secure plans, specifications, and bids, so that the cost of building might be known. This committee was ordered to report in the Autumn, and was authorized to spend \$3000 in its investigations. In May, 1904, a minority committee was appointed to report to the College in November an alternative

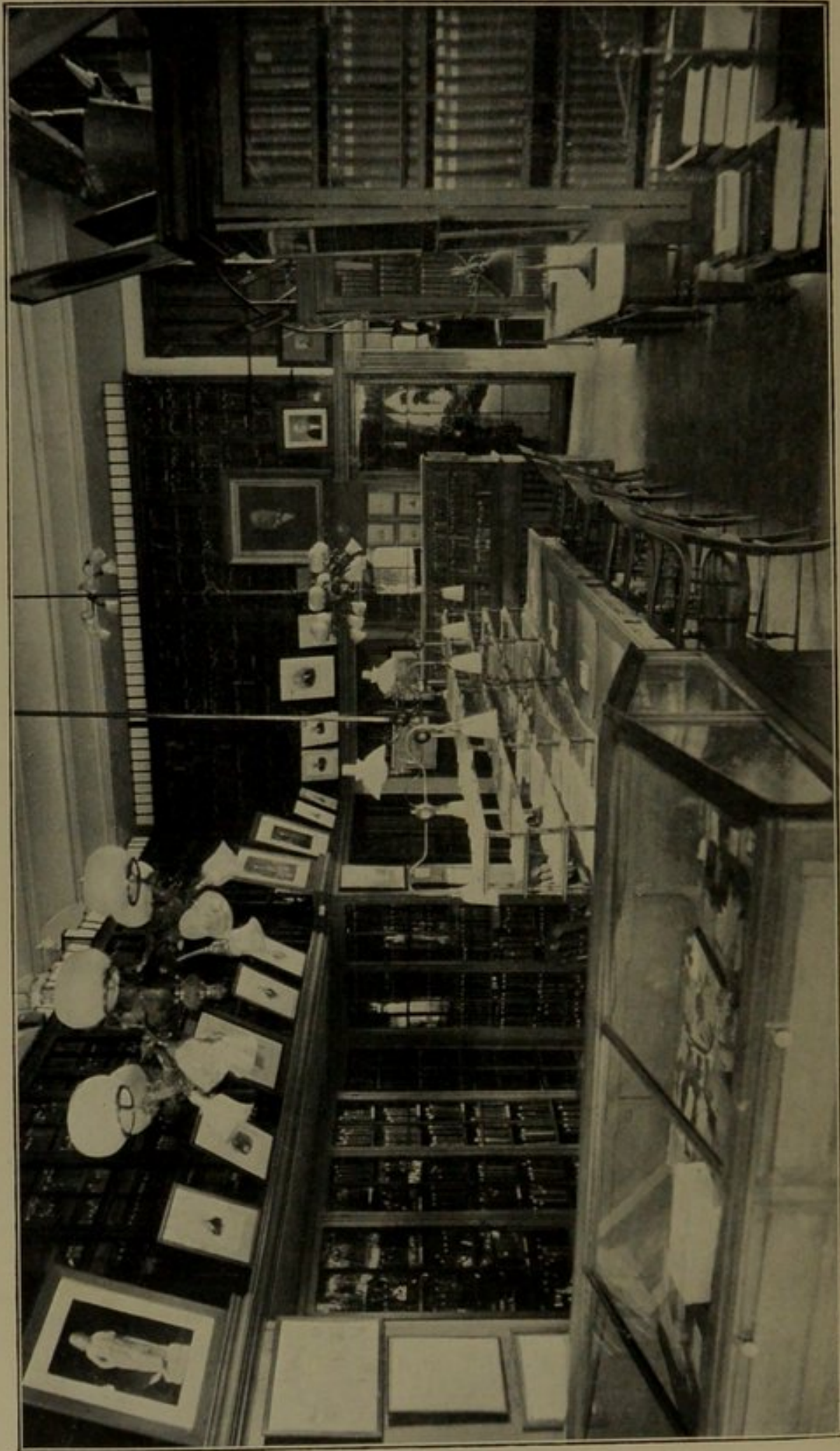
proposition to that of moving from its location. Following the report of this committee in November, the sale of the lot at Twenty-second and Ludlow Streets was directed, and an option ordered to be taken on a lot at Eighteenth and Rittenhouse Streets. This option, however, was not assumed because of building restrictions on the property. At a special meeting, December 13, 1904, a resolution to remain at Thirteenth and Locust Streets was laid on the table; a resolution to buy 1233 and 1235 Locust Street was laid on the table. The minority committee was discharged and a new committee of five was appointed to report at the next meeting a desirable site. In January, 1905, the committee on site recommended the purchase from the city of a property at Seventeenth and Pine Streets, occupied as a schoolhouse, for \$50,000, and asked for power to secure the passage of an ordinance in Councils legalizing the transfer. This proposition was referred back to the committee. In February, 1905, the Officers of the College were authorized to enter into an agreement with the city to purchase the property within three years and, one month later, Councils gave the necessary authority. The President of the College appointed three delegates to represent the College at the installation of Edmund Jones James, Ph.D., LL.D., as President of the University of Illinois. The death of Dr. William S. Forbes was announced in January, 1906. In February, 1906, an invitation was received from the American Philosophical Society to send representatives of the College to the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin. In May, 1906, the Board of Education stated that they could not vacate the Grant School, situated at Seventeenth and Pine Streets, in the time mentioned in the resolution of Councils. The Fellows of the College were requested to cooperate with the Philadelphia County Medical Society in its efforts to raise funds for the immediate and permanent relief of the physicians of San Francisco who had suffered so greatly in the recent earthquake. At this meeting also the College reaffirmed its intention of erecting a building on the lot at Twenty-second and Ludlow Streets. The old building committee, constituted in April, 1904, was directed to proceed with the duty assigned to it in the matter of plans and estimates, and to present its findings at the October meeting. In June, 1906, the library committee was authorized, at its discretion, to present duplicate books to

the medical libraries of San Francisco. In December, 1906, Messrs. C. C. Harrison and W. W. Frazier each presented \$10,000 to the Building Fund, and one of the Fellows promised \$5,000 if five more subscriptions of the same amount could be obtained. In January, 1907, Dr. James Tyson was elected President, and a subscription of \$1000 to the Building Fund was received from Mrs. S. Weir Mitchell. The building committee reported that architects had been selected and submitted plans. Mr. Clement B. Newbold contributed \$10,000 to the Building Fund, and Dr. John K. Mitchell also gave \$1,000. In April, 1907, the Officers of the College were authorized to sign a contract for the erection of the new building, and the report of the building committee was accepted. The new building was to be erected at a cost not to exceed \$250,000, and in accordance with the plans submitted by the committee and adopted by the College. The death of Dr. John H. Packard was announced in June, 1907, and in October, 1907, that of Dr. William Thomson. The Elizabeth K. Newcomet Fund of \$1000 was established for the purchase of books. The College authorized the annual appointment of a committee on scientific business. In November, 1907, announcement was made of the death of Dr. Charles S. Wurts, former Treasurer of the College. In January, 1908, the William F. Norris Book Fund, founded by a bequest of John Lambert, Esq., was announced. In February, the College approved the order placing naval surgeons in command of United States Hospital ships. In March, 1908, a gift of \$50,000 was received from Mrs. Frederick Penfield in memory of her father, the late William Weightman, Esq., the income alone from this sum to be devoted to whatever purpose the College might elect. A committee was appointed to dispose of the College real estate at Thirteenth and Locust Streets by sale. On April 29th the cornerstone of the new College building was laid by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, and appropriate ceremonies were held in the presence of a large number of Fellows and invited guests. To meet the estimated increase in the cost of maintenance the annual dues were raised to \$30, and the initiation fee made \$35.

#### DIRECTORY FOR NURSES

On February 1, 1882, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell suggested the project of establishing a registration of nurses and, on his motion, a committee was appointed to organize a Directory for





College of Physicians.

LEWIS LIBRARY.

Nurses. On March 1st, the committee reported that more than \$1,000 had been subscribed, largely by ladies who had become interested in the enterprise. On May 15th, the office of the Directory was opened on the ground floor of the College building, with Miss Emily Thomas as Secretary. The Directory is under the direct control of three Fellows of the College, annually elected, assisted by a committee of ladies appointed by them. The number of these ladies, at first four, was subsequently reduced to three. The income of the Directory, derived, in part, from the registration fees of the nurses, but chiefly from the fees paid by those who obtain nurses through its agency, usually exceeds its expenses, and the surplus is appropriated to the use of the library.

#### THE LIBRARY

Very early in the history of the College the necessity of a library became apparent, and on June 3, 1788, a committee was appointed to formulate a plan for its establishment. In consequence of its report a resolution was adopted "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, 1789, Dr. John Morgan presented twenty-four volumes and added a further gift in the following month, thus forming the nucleus of the present library. The following report of the committee for the formation of a library was submitted and adopted on 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, the College do grant such sums as they may think proper for the service of the library for the ensuing year."

In October, 1789, Drs. William Shippen, Jr., John Morris, and John Jones presented volumes to the library. In November, the President was authorized to expend fifty pounds for the purchase of books. In 1790, some volumes were imported, and in 1793, Dr.



Rush presented Sydenham's works. In 1795, Dr. Parke sent thirty-five pounds to purchase books and reported the receipt of twelve volumes from London. From that date until 1818 frequent additions to the library were made by gifts, and by purchase at home and abroad. On the report of the Censors that some volumes from the library were missing, a committee was appointed to make a catalogue. Drs. William Currie, Samuel P. Griffitts, and Thomas T. Hewson completed the catalogue in January, 1819. On June 7, 1836, the Library Committee reported that the library contained 291 volumes and some unbound pamphlets. From that time until 1843 very few volumes were added, and the library was "rarely, if ever, used." In May, 1844, the medical library of Dr. Otto was purchased for \$200, and, as there was no space for this collection in the College apartments, it was placed in a room over the office of Dr. Hodge at the northwest corner of Ninth and Walnut Streets. The Library Committee advised that a librarian be present for one hour, twice monthly, to deliver books. In June, 1845, the committee reported that the library was but seldom used. On August 5th it was resolved that the library should be kept open from 11 A.M. until 2 P.M. Most of the medical periodicals of 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. On June 6, 1855, the library, then installed in the "picture house" of the Pennsylvania Hospital, had been rearranged and catalogued, and 350 volumes had been added during the past year. On November 4th, 900 volumes were received from Dr. Thomas F. Betton, including some rare and important works. The library then contained 3560 volumes. On May 4, 1859, because of increased interest, the library was kept open one evening in each week. On December 3, 1862, the State Medical Society presented a complete set of its Transactions and 192 volumes of French theses were presented by Fellows of the College. The most important event in the history of the library was the gift of 2500 volumes by Dr. Samuel F. Lewis in 1864. These books, which were the origin of the "Lewis Library," had been carefully selected by Dr. Lewis, who was an accomplished scholar and an ardent lover of books. For about twenty-five years he devoted the greater portion of his time to his library which, at the date of his death in 1890, contained

more than 11,000 volumes. The choicest treasures of the library of the College of Physicians are to be found in the Lewis collection.

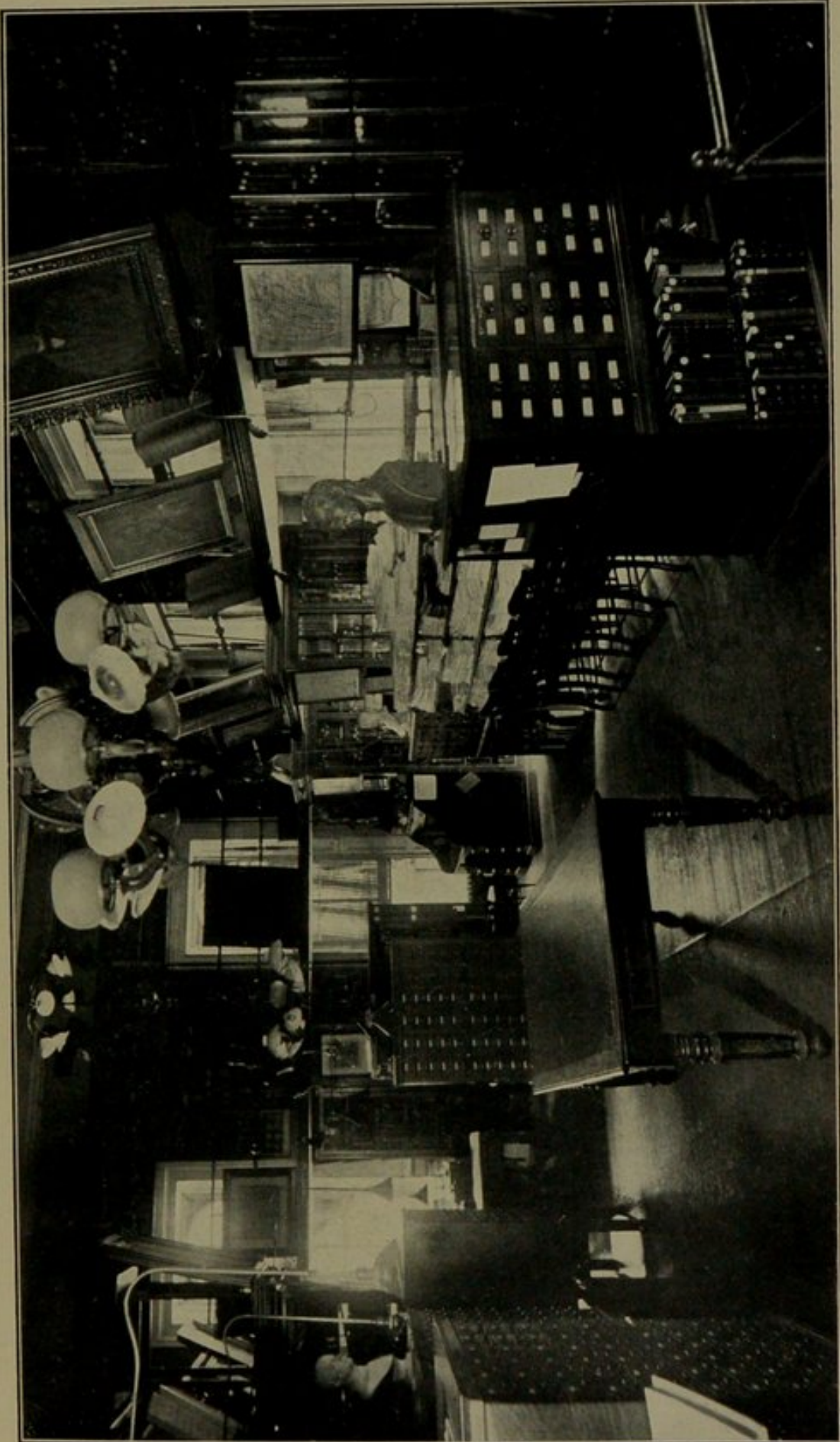
On April 4, 1866, Dr. George B. Wood agreed to give \$500 annually for the salary of a librarian in order that the library might be kept open daily. The library was then in charge of the Standing Committee on the Library, and the first librarian was elected January 3, 1855. In March, 1871, a Journal Association was formed, and subscriptions were made to a few of the best English, French, and German journals. On November 5, 1880, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell presented \$1000, and subsequently increased this sum to a total of \$5000, the money being invested under the title of the Weir Mitchell Library Fund, and the income therefrom devoted to the purchase of books and journals. On February 20, 1881, a card catalogue was commenced. In 1882, by amendment of the ordinances and by-laws, the office of Honorary Librarian was created. During this year the libraries of four deceased Fellows were received, namely, those of Drs. Charles D. Meigs, John Forsyth Meigs, R. M. Bertolet, and William F. Jenks. On January 3, 1883, Dr. James H. Hutchinson was elected the first Honorary Librarian, and the Library Committee was empowered to appoint an assistant librarian on a salary. In 1884, the Samuel D. Gross Library of the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery, consisting of 5128 volumes, was presented as a permanent deposit. The library of Dr. H. Lenox Hodge was deposited in the library of the College during the same year, and subsequently was presented to the College by Dr. Hodge's son. 901 volumes were presented by Dr. I. Minis Hays during this year. In 1886, Mrs. Weightman presented the library of her husband, Dr. John F. Weightman, and the sum of \$1000, the income therefrom to be devoted to purchase of books on ophthalmology. The library of the Obstetrical Society was presented as a permanent deposit during the same year. The College library was now beginning to exceed its accommodations, and the Library Committee reported that some 1500 volumes were packed on top of the cases. In 1888, book cases were placed in the lower west reading room, and in 1889, a gallery was erected and filled with book cases and a spiral stairway was built from this room to the second-story reading room. In 1890, Dr. Frederick P. Henry was elected Honorary Librarian to succeed the late Dr. James H. Hutchinson. In 1891, Mrs. Deborah

K. Rodman presented the College with \$5000, the income to be used for the purchase of books. The gift was in memory of her husband, Dr. Lewis Rodman, and the fund bears his name. In 1892, iron book stacks were erected in the lower east room. In 1894, Mr. Clement A. Griscom presented \$5000 in memory of his father, Dr. John D. Griscom, the income from this fund to be used for the purchase of books. During this year the Library Committee procured 796 French and German dissertations, 377 volumes of foreign journals, and began the completion of the files of thirty-three of the most valuable French and German periodicals; this latter event was accomplished in the following year, and 294 additional volumes of foreign journals were purchased. During 1896 and 1897 Dr. DaCosta presented 293 volumes to complete the files of several important foreign periodicals. In 1899, Dr. Baker presented \$5000 to establish a fund to be known as the Henrietta Rush Fales Baker Library Fund, the income to be used for the purchase of books.

In 1896, the College passed a resolution proposed by Dr. F. P. Henry "To obtain subscriptions from the general public toward a fund for the endowment of the Library." During 1899, many subscriptions to the Library endowment fund, both from Fellows and from the public, were obtained, and by July 1, 1900, the sum had reached \$50,000. During this year also the Library Committee was directed to obtain by exchange the French theses and German dissertations.

In 1900, the Library received 6963 theses and inaugural dissertations, and exchanged publications with six foreign universities. These were mainly effected through the efforts of the President of the College, Dr. W. W. Keen. In the same year the valuable library of the late J. M. DaCosta, 2466 volumes, was presented to the College. During this year the Librarian called the attention of the Library Committee to the condition of the card catalogue, with the result that a committee was appointed by the College to obtain by subscription the sum of \$2500 for the purpose of bringing it up to the standard of modern library equipment. The sum of \$1900 was collected by this committee.

In 1901, by legacy of Dr. John Ashhurst, Jr., 1500 volumes from his library were presented to the College. This bequest contained many valuable works.



College of Physicians.

READING ROOM.



In April, 1901, the Library Committee purchased the valuable collection of books of the late Dr. J. Stockton Hough. They were enabled to accomplish this largely by the aid of generous subscriptions from Drs. George Fales Baker, S. Weir Mitchell, and John K. Mitchell. Duplicate copies and non-medical books of the collection were sold to the Library of the University of Pennsylvania for \$1500. The Hough collection was from the standard of the bibliophile, the most important addition that has ever been made to the library, and the opportunity of securing it was chiefly due to the energy of Dr. W. W. Keen, who visited New York on behalf of the College and negotiated the terms of its purchase.

In 1902, the library of Dr. William F. Norris, containing 1177 volumes on Ophthalmology, was presented by his family.

In October, 1903, Dr. George W. Norris presented to the library three volumes containing the colored plates of eye grounds, made from the original drawings and notes of Prof. Edward Jaeger, of Vienna. These volumes also contained ophthalmological drawings from cases seen in Dr. Norris's practice.

In 1904, there were received 958 volumes from the library of the late Dr. Thomas M. Drysdale. In 1905, gifts of 1982 volumes and 548 volumes were made by the Board of Managers of the Episcopal Hospital and by Dr. James V. Ingham, respectively. In 1906, the Library contained 82,305 volumes, 56,116 pamphlets, 20,978 dissertations.

In 1908, 33 rare and very valuable books were obtained through the efforts of Dr. W. W. Keen, 21 of these being of the Fifteenth Century.

In 1908, the Library contained 86,718 volumes, 67,122 pamphlets, and 22,681 dissertations. During this year exchanges with the Faculté de Médecine de Paris were effected through the efforts of Drs. Keen and Osler, and Drs. A. J. Magnin and Louis Landouzy, Dean of the Medical Faculty of the University of Paris. "The importance of completing our files of the *Thèses de Paris* was so great that an appeal was made to certain Fellows of the College for subscriptions; this was generously responded to, and \$1415 were collected for the purpose. Of this amount Dr. Keen obtained \$315, and the Librarian the remainder. This money has been most judiciously expended by Dr. Keen while in

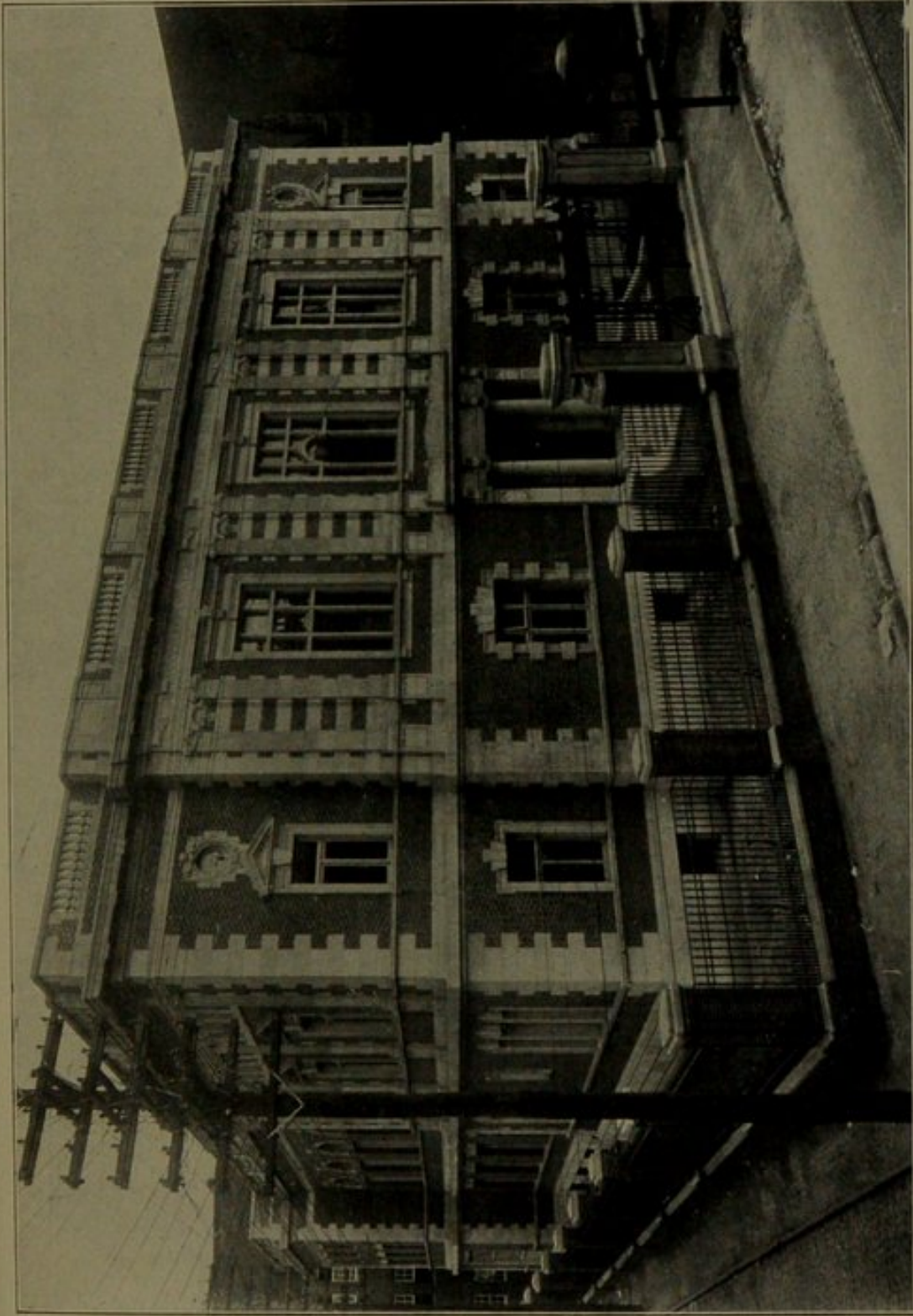
Paris, and his purchases will complete our files from 1882 to 1907—more than 850 bound volumes.”<sup>3</sup>

It is impossible in this space to enter into further details concerning this valuable collection of medical books. As remarked by Mr. Charles Perry Fisher in his interesting Account of the Library of the College of Physicians: “The Library of the College of Physicians contains treasures enough to fill a good sized printed volume.”

#### THE BUILDING FUNDS

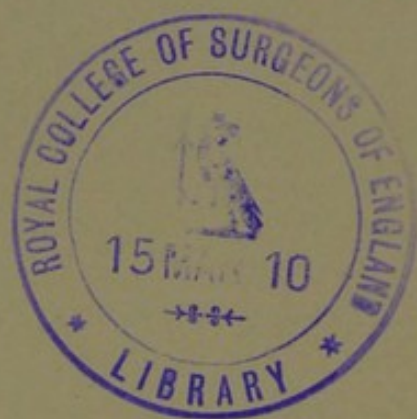
In November, 1849, a committee was appointed to inquire into the cost of purchasing a lot of ground and constructing a building suitable to meet the expanding conditions of the College. This committee subsequently reported that at least \$20,000 would be required for the purpose, and that the best means of raising such a sum was to take the invested securities of the College, amounting to \$945, as a nucleus, and to add to that sum such contributions as might be received from time to time. In 1850, a committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions. In 1859, after nearly ten years of patient work, the trustees of the fund announced to the College that they had in their possession securities to the value of \$21,545. In receiving this report the College continued the Building Fund Trustees in office for another five years, and a committee was appointed to obtain a building site. On January 4, 1860, this committee announced that the northeast corner of Thirteenth and Locust Streets had been purchased for \$10,867.93. Subsequently an adjoining lot 18 by 118 feet, on the eastern side of the property was purchased for a sum of \$3540.67, thus making the total expenditure for the site of the building \$14,408.60. On December 18, 1861, the College determined to begin the construction of its new building at Thirteenth and Locust Streets, which was completed and occupied for the first time in March, 1863. At that time the Trustees of the Building Fund announced a debt of \$5000 in the shape of a mortgage on the building of which, however, the College was soon relieved by a generous provision in the will of Dr. George B. Wood. On February 3, 1864, the following statement appears in the report of the Building Committee: “It must be manifest that we have reason to be proud of what the profession of our

<sup>3</sup> Annual Report of the Library Committee of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia for the year 1908.



HALL OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, TWENTY-SECOND AND LUDLOW STREETS.





city has done for the promotion of our science, the improvement of the healing art and the relief of suffering. And this has nearly all been accomplished by the contributions from our hard-worked and inadequately-compensated profession, the whole sum furnished from other sources amounting to only about \$2500." In a very few years a second building fund was started to meet the necessity of larger accommodation. In 1883, Dr. J. M. Da Costa presented \$1000 to serve as a nucleus for this fund. Two years later it had increased to a sum of \$14,581, and the committee was authorized to add a third story to the Hall. This was finally accomplished without incurring debt, the last \$2500 being generously contributed by Mr. George W. Childs.

Again, in a few years, the tremendous growth of the College, or, more particularly of the Library, necessitated larger quarters. The walls of the old building were pronounced inadequate to sustain the weight of more book shelves or books, and for the third time in the history of the College a building fund was instituted and so generously supported as to make possible the construction of the splendid new home of the College at Twenty-second and Ludlow Streets. The story of this fund is so closely interwoven with the intimate history of the College that no detailed account of it will here be given.

It is not possible in a history of these necessarily narrow limits to give in any detail accounts of the individual benefactors of the College throughout its long and honorable career. In all its financial crises strong men have arisen among its Fellows either to help with money from their own pockets, or by raising interest in others, to aid in the development of their valuable Institution. Without making any invidious comparisons, we may mention some names among the Fellowship which stand forth as those of conspicuous benefactors: John Redman, the first President, who served for eighteen years; John Morgan, a Founder of the College, who presented the first volumes to form a library; George B. Wood, who served the College as President for thirty years and gave liberally to its needs; Thomas D. Mütter, who presented his museum and endowed a lectureship which bears his name; Samuel F. Lewis, who presented his large and valuable library; Drs. Gross, Ashhurst, DaCosta, Stillé, and many others who left their libraries after their death to the College; William W. Keen, who has aided in collecting large sums of money for the

new home of the College, established exchanges with many foreign universities, and given most liberally to its various needs; S. Weir Mitchell, who for a period of fifty years has been most active in every advance. To him, more than any one, is due the collection of the great sums that were necessary to build the new home of the College. It is difficult to mention any of its activities without recording the fact that Dr. Mitchell was in the forefront not only with valuable counsel and advice, but also with generous gifts of money and unflagging zeal in interesting others to give of their plenty to a great cause.

In conclusion the name of Andrew Carnegie should never be omitted from a history of the College of Physicians. His generous gifts of two sums of \$50,000 each have laid upon it a debt of honor to live up to the record of great achievement and public utility that has been handed down by the great Fellows of the past.

Memorable dates in the history of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia:

Institution of the College, January 2, 1787.

Institution of the Library, March 3, 1788.

Incorporation of the College, March 26, 1789.

Institution of the Pathological Museum, June 5, 1849.

Institution of the first building fund, November 2, 1849.

Institution of the Mütter Museum, December 11, 1858.

Institution of the second building fund, April 7, 1875.

The College first occupied its own premises in March, 1863.

Completion of a third story for accommodation of the Museum, May 31, 1886.

Celebration of the Centennial anniversary, January 3, 1887.

Institution of a third building fund, January 21, 1903.

Purchase of lot at Twenty-second and Ludlow Streets, May 29, 1903.

Laying of cornerstone of new building at Twenty-second and Ludlow Streets, April 29, 1908.

*Presidents.*—John Redman, 1786; William Shippen, Jr., 1805; Adam Kuhn, 1808; Thomas Parke, 1818; Thomas C. James, 1835; Thomas T. Hewson, 1835; George B. Wood, 1848; W. S. W. Ruschenberger, 1879; Alfred Stillé, 1883; Samuel Lewis, 1884; J. M. DaCosta, 1884; S. Weir Mitchell, 1886; D. Hayes Agnew, 1889; S. Weir Mitchell, 1892; J. M. DaCosta, 1895;

John Ashhurst, Jr., 1898; W. W. Keen, 1900; H. C. Wood, 1902; A. V. Meigs, 1904; James Tyson, 1907.

*Vice-Presidents.*—John Jones, 1786; William Shippen, Jr., 1791; Adam Kuhn, 1805; Samuel Duffield, 1808; Thomas Parke, 1813; Samuel P. Griffiths, 1818; Thomas C. James, 1826; Thomas T. Hewson, 1835; Joseph Parrish, 1835; John C. Otto, 1840; Henry Neill, 1844; George B. Wood, 1845; Charles D. Meigs, 1848; Franklin Bache, 1855; George W. Norris, 1864; W. S. W. Ruschenberger, 1875; Alfred Stillé, 1879; J. M. DaCosta, 1883; S. Weir Mitchell, 1884; John H. Packard, 1886; James H. Hutchinson, 1889; S. Weir Mitchell, 1890; J. M. DaCosta, 1892; John Ashhurst, Jr., 1895; W. W. Keen, 1898; H. C. Wood, 1900; Arthur V. Meigs, 1902; James Tyson, 1904; George E. De Schweinitz, 1907.

*Secretaries.*—James Hutchinson, 1786; Samuel P. Griffiths, 1788; Thomas C. James, 1796; Thomas T. Hewson, 1802; Joseph Parrish, 1812; J. Wilson Moore, 1819; Samuel Emlen, 1820; Charles D. Meigs, 1828; Henry Bond, 1833; D. Francis Condie, 1843; Francis West, 1854; W. S. W. Ruschenberger, 1854; Alfred Stillé, 1854; Edward Hartshorne, 1858; John H. Packard, 1862; William G. Porter, 1877; Richard A. Cleemann, 1879; Isaac Norris, Jr., 1885; Charles W. Dulles, 1891; Thomas R. Neilson, 1896.

*Treasurers.*—Gerardus Clarkson, 1786; Samuel Duffield, 1790; Benjamin Say, 1791; Thomas C. James, 1809; J. Wilson Moore, 1825; J. Rodman Paul, 1839; Charles S. Wurts, 1877; Henry M. Fisher, 1894; Richard H. Harte, 1899.

*Honorary Librarians.*—James H. Hutchinson, 1883; Frederick P. Henry, 1890.

*Librarians.*—T. Hewson Bache, 1855; C. S. Boker, 1864; J. H. Slack, 1865; Robert Bridges, 1868; Frank Woodbury, 1881; Charles P. Fisher,<sup>4</sup> 1882.

---

<sup>4</sup>Mr. Fisher was engaged as Assistant Librarian, subsequently appointed Librarian, and at present has also the title and function of Superintendent of the building.

