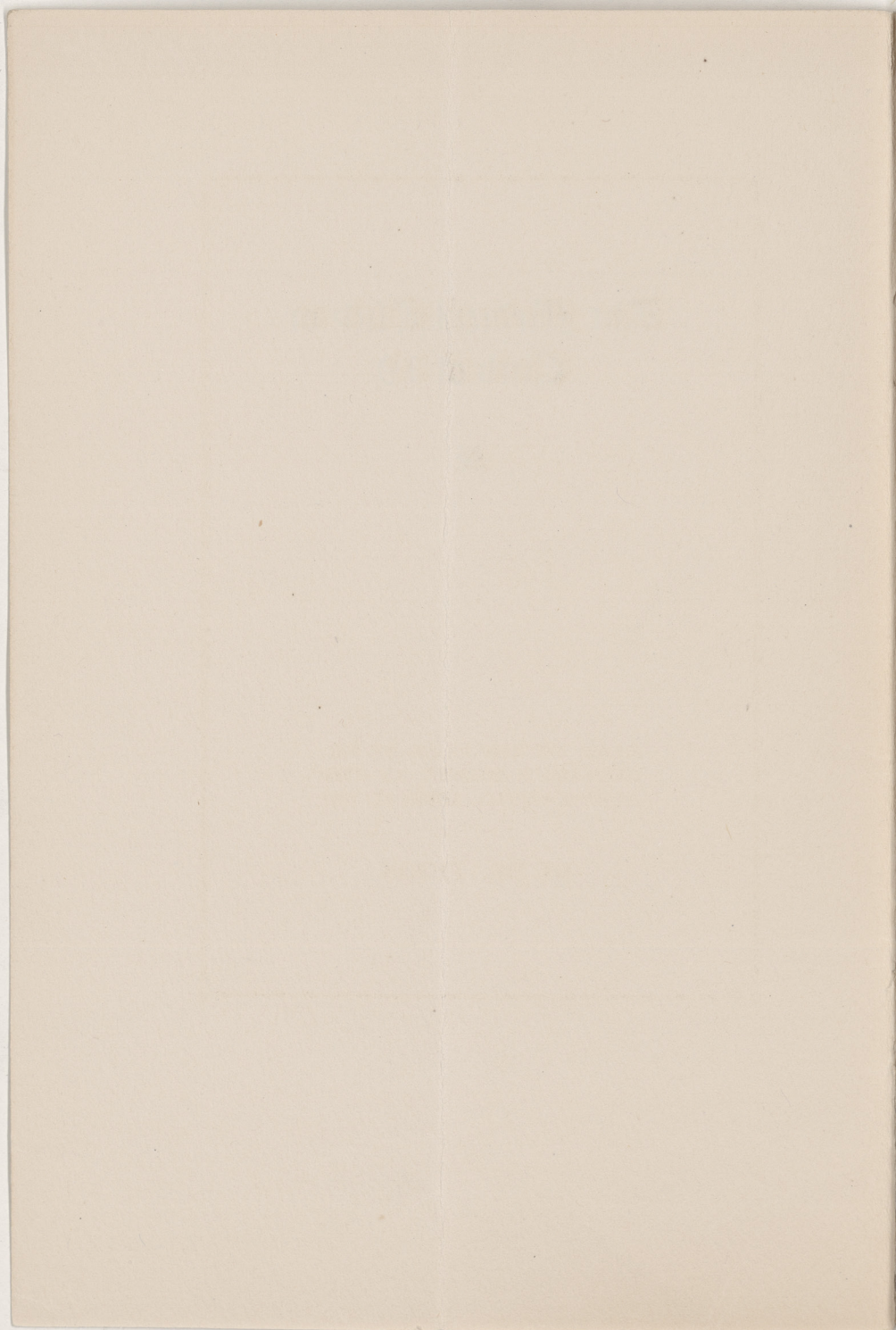


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The Medical Club or
Club of 19





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Club of 19



READ TO THE CLUB AT DR.
CHESTON'S DINNER AT THE
ALDINE HOTEL, APRIL 11, 1911

BY DR. TYSON

The Medical Club of
Chicago

MEETING OF THE CLUB AT THE
MAYOR'S OFFICE AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

BY DR. LYONS

The Medical Club or Club of 19

The actual founder of the Medical Club was undoubtedly Dr. George Pepper, who proposed also the name "The Club of Nineteen," it having been his intention to limit the number to this figure.

The precise date of the birth of the Club is not known, though it is reasonably certain that it was formed early in 1867. The writer was assisting Dr. Francis Gurney Smith, then Professor of Physiology in the University, and he remembers well his friend H. C. Wood coming into the private room of Professor Smith one afternoon during the lecture term, which then extended from October 1st to March 1st, and saying "Tyson, have you heard any talk of a social medical club forming?" "Yes," I replied, since the matter had been brought to my attention. The survivors of the original enrolment do not agree as to the time and place of the first meeting. Murray Cheston, the eighth on the list of original members, says that William Pepper, then living at 1215 Walnut

St., gave the first "club" early in September, 1867. Horace Williams, the ninth of the original roll, thinks that George Pepper was the first to give a "club," but he does not remember the place or date. The first club I personally recall was that of William Pepper alluded to by Murray Cheston. The approximate date is easily set (1st) because the rules provided a recess during July and August, and (2d) we had for dessert watermelon, an event also recalled by a guest who was not a member—Dr. J. Ewing Mears. Hence it must have been September. I feel pretty certain, however, that this was not the first "club," as it would make too long an interval between the organization in the winter of 1866-67 and the date of the first meeting. It is not unlikely, as Dr. Williams suggests, that George Pepper, who immediately preceded his brother William on the list, gave the first club; but there may have been others, as George Pepper was the fifth on the list and the clubs were given in the order named on the card unless by voluntary exchange.

There was ample time for Wood, Tyson, Hare, Maury, and George Pepper to have had a "club" at intervals of two weeks before July, 1867.

The first enrolment of members was as follows:—

Dr. H. C. Wood, 144 N. 12th St.

“ James Tyson, 332 S. 15th St.

“ H. B. Hare, 229 S. 6th St. Died March 21, 1878

“ F. F. Maury, 1005 Walnut St. Died June 4, 1879

“ George Pepper, 1537 Pine St. Died Sept. 14, 1872

“ Wm. Pepper, 1215 Walnut St. Died July 28, 1898

“ Edward Rhoads, 210 S. 12th St. Died Jan. 15, 1871

“ D. M. Cheston, 1428 Chestnut St.

“ Horace Williams, 1711 Pine St.

“ Harrison Allen, 225 N. 13th St. Died Nov. 14, 1897

These may be said to be the strictly original members.

Richard A. Cleemann, 340 S. 21st St., and

Samuel W. Gross, 201½ S. 11th St.

were the next elected. A card containing the ten names and another containing twelve are extant.

Subsequent additions were in the order of election as follows:

Dr. Herbert Norris, 313 S. 18th St.

“ Wm. F. Norris, S. E. Cor. 16th and Locust.
Died Nov. 19, 1901

“ William Goodell, Preston Retreat. Died Oct.
27, 1894

“ Charles T. Hunter, 1905 Walnut St. Died Apr.
27, 1884

- Dr. Wm. F. Jenks, 1620 Locust St. Died October
31, 1881
- " Wharton Sinkler, 1534 Pine St. Died March 16,
1910
- " Louis Starr, 1818 S. Rittenhouse Square. Re-
signed 1885
- " William Osler. Elected 1884. Moved to Balti-
more in 1889, to Oxford, England, in 1905
- " George C. Harlan, 1515 Walnut St. Died Sept.
25, 1909
- " Frederick P. Henry, 1635 Locust St. Elected
1890
- " Henry R. Wharton, 1725 Spruce St. Elected
1892
- " S. S. Stryker, N. E. Cor. Walnut and 39th St.
Elected 1904
- " John G. Clark, 2017 Walnut St. Elected 1907
- " James C. Wilson, 1509 Walnut St. Elected 1908
- " Richard H. Harte, 1503 Spruce St. Elected 1909
- " George W. Norris, 1530 Locust St. Elected
1910
- " Francis W. Sinkler, 1606 Walnut St. Elected
1910
- " William Pepper, 3d, 1811 Spruce St. Elected
1910*

On the reverse of the first card are the Rules:

I. The meetings of the Club are held at the

* In 1910 it was decided to make especially eligible the sons of
deceased members. Succeeding this decision, Drs. Geo. W.
Norris, Francis W. Sinkler and Dr. William Pepper, 3d, were
elected.

residences of the different members in rotation, on alternate Tuesday evenings, at 8.15 o'clock, excepting during the months of July and August.

II. The number of members shall be limited to 19, and no one shall be elected but by a unanimous vote.

III. The entertainment shall be absolutely limited to coffee, chocolate or ale, and biscuit, with either tongue or ham; apples and nuts may be added at the option of the host.

IV. The host shall have the privilege of inviting five gentlemen to the meeting; and any member may have friends included in this number by application to the host.

A later card omitted a statement of the hour of assembling and ordered the entertainment to be served punctually at 9.30. Rule 4 was altered to read "The host shall have the privilege of inviting five gentlemen to the meeting; and any member may have a friend invited in addition by applying to the host."

An attempt was made to substitute the supper by a dinner in 1884, but after two or three dinners the supper was resumed chiefly because of the objection of Dr. Williams.

After his retirement from the club in 1905 the dinner was resumed and with it a more elaborate menu. As the men grew older their fondness for beer grew less and desire to substitute whisky grew more. Some said that beer produced gout and lumbago, and gradually it disappeared from the table, while a still wine has also been introduced now and then in addition to the spirit of corn.

The first break in the Club was by the death of Edward Rhoads.* Dr. Rhoads had suffered from rheumatic fever before he studied medicine, the last attack being in the winter of 1859-60. He was graduated from Haverford College in 1859 and chose a year for reading and further study before beginning the study of medicine; but almost the whole year was spent in invalidism and although he seemed to recover it was evident from subsequent events that he was left with a crippled heart. He was my classmate in the medical school and we graduated in 1863. It was not until 1870 that his heart disease appeared in an aggravated form. In the autumn of this year he suffered greatly with the usual trying symptoms of heart disease, including general anasarca, and he died January 15, 1871. Dr. Rhoads was a noble character.

* The sketches are of the dead only.

Dignified and scholarly, gentle, yet courageous, a consistent Christian, he seemed to me nearest perfect of all men I knew. Although he had the courage of his opinions and was not afraid to speak them I do not believe he had an enemy.

The next to leave us was George Pepper, who died of pulmonary consumption September 14, 1872, after a year's illness. Tall and slender but easy and graceful he was always neatly dressed, and commonly carried a cane. He appeared what he always was, a thorough gentleman, and was a great favorite. He adopted obstetrics as a specialty, and was already very successful when death summoned him.

Horace Binney Hare died of consumption, March 31, 1879. He was delicate even while a student and never became robust. Chemistry was his specialty, and had he been spared he would doubtless have succeeded to the chair of chemistry in the University. In the construction of the then new University Hospital, finished in its first stage in 1874, a thoroughly up to date chemical laboratory was fitted for him. He and I formed a partnership and conducted the first clinical laboratory in which were made microscopic and chemical analyses

for physicians and for which a fee was charged. He struggled valiantly for his life, spending much of the last two or three years of it at sea, for the sake of the continuous ozonic effect and the purity of the sea air, which seemed to keep him alive. He died on his yacht, the "Resolute," just as she was dropping anchor in the harbor of St. Thomas, W. I.

Frank F. Maury also died of consumption June 4, 1879. He was a brilliant but not highly educated man, born in Kentucky, and had attained at the time of his death considerable eminence as a surgeon and genito-urinary specialist. He began his surgical career as the assistant of Prof. Samuel D. Gross, the elder Gross, as he was then called, Professor of Surgery at the Jefferson Medical College. Dr. Maury and Dr. Louis A. Duhring became joint editors of a journal of skin diseases, the first published in this country, which had, however, a brief existence. Dr. Maury was a good talker and impressive teacher but no writer. He always drove a fine equipage and his brougham and pair of handsome small dark chestnut horses attracted much attention. He was the most successful of the members of our club at the time of its organization.

Wm. F. Jenks died October 31, 1881, also of consumption. He was a graduate of Harvard College, but studied medicine in the University of Pennsylvania. He was a nephew of the late Rev. Dr. Wm. H. Furness, for many years the pastor of the first Unitarian Church in Philadelphia, and a cousin of Dr. Horace Howard Furness, Shakesperian scholar and commentator. He possessed the grace and charming manner of this cultured family. He, too, sought to make a specialty of obstetrics and diseases of women, but like George Pepper fell a victim to consumption, and died after a brave fight extending over several years, during which he visited every clime reputed for its curative effect on this disease.

Charles T. Hunter died April 27, 1884, with meningeal symptoms succeeding an infected wound with which he was ill many months and suffered greatly. He was a surgeon and for many years the assistant of Professor Agnew. He was Demonstrator of Surgery and later, also, of Anatomy in the University. He was a quiet, earnest, and conscientious worker, a sound and capable surgeon.

Sam Gross died of pneumonia, April 16, 1889, after a hard struggle with the disease. He was

a good surgeon, but overshadowed by his distinguished father, Professor Samuel D. Gross. He was an excellent and impressive teacher of surgery, and took the ground that a teacher should never hesitatingly accept an opinion; that he must believe it or reject it. He was Professor of Principles and Practice of Surgery in the Jefferson Medical College at the time of his death, in the prime of life. He had written a useful book on Cancer of the Breast and revised another by his father on Genito-urinary Diseases.

William Goodell died October 27, 1894, of Bright's disease. He came among us at middle life, having practiced medicine in Constantinople for a number of years after graduating at the Jefferson Medical College. He was the first Professor of Gynecology in the University of Pennsylvania, and became one of the leaders of this branch in America. He was an admirable writer; indeed, it may be said that he at least started his fame largely by an able review of Byford's book on the Diseases of Women, a most brilliant essay which was read the world over.

Harrison Allen died November 14, 1897. He was the philosopher, the dreamer and literary

member of our club. A graduate of the Philadelphia High School, he became early interested in natural history, and studied medicine as the pupil of Professor Leidy. He was devoted to anatomy, especially comparative anatomy, and was the first Professor of Comparative Anatomy on the George B. Wood foundation.

His book on anatomy published in quarto-fasciculi issued at various dates is one of the classics of medicine. Naturally he became a surgeon and was early elected one of the surgeons of the Philadelphia Hospital. He was the very opposite type of man from Dr. Maury, who was also a surgeon on the Blockley staff. The difference between these men is strikingly shown by the following incident: Dr. Allen and Dr. Maury were in consultation over a surgical case. Dr. Allen was deeply interested in the case, and was discussing it from the standpoint of embryology and comparative pathology. Dr. Maury listened for a short time and finally said, "That is all very nice, Allen, but what shall we do for the patient?"

Dr. Allen approached nearer to Dr. Leidy in his scientific tastes and philosophic meditative turn of mind, but while he was a man of broader

literary culture he was not so great a man as Leidy.

Dr. Allen, as might be supposed, was not very successful as a surgeon, although he had opportunities, among which was his position as surgeon in the regular army during the civil war. He was chosen Professor of Physiology in the University in 1878 and held the place for a few years. About this time he left the broader field of general surgery for that of the nose and throat. Here his thorough knowledge of anatomy served him to great advantage and he soon became successful, acquiring a large and lucrative practice from which he was, however, cut off too soon, by angina pectoris, previous to which his appendix was removed because of appendicitis.

William Pepper was the most brilliant and the most distinguished of our number, too fresh in our memory to need a lengthy sketch. A leader in his class at college, he continued to lead while he lived. Professor of Medicine in the University and Provost of the same, he suggested the prolongation of the course to three years and then to four full academic years, he conceived and was the foremost in giving and raising money toward building the University hospital, the laboratories of chemistry and anat-

omy and of hygiene, the University library, and the Pepper clinical laboratory in memory of his father and brother. He originated the Pennsylvania School of Industrial Art, the Philadelphia Commercial Museum, the Museum of Science and Art, and the Free Library of Philadelphia.

He died July 28, 1898, of angina pectoris, in California, at the home of his friend, Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst.

Wm. F. Norris followed Dr. Pepper in little more than three years—November 19, 1901. He was one of the three pioneers in ophthalmology in Philadelphia, Ezra Dyer and William Thomson completing the trio. He was the first Professor of Ophthalmology in the University of Pennsylvania, a most careful and painstaking student of diseases of the eye and most successful in their treatment. He was quiet and undemonstrative but forceful in character, a good friend, liberal patron, and hospitable host.

George C. Harlan died September 25, 1909, from the effects of an accident which is still fresh in our memories. Dr. Harlan was one of the most loyal of the members of the club, and was very rarely absent from our dinners. My earliest recollection of him lies in an incident picturesque enough to be narrated. In June,

1862, the Union army lay before Richmond and a great battle was momentarily expected. Every preparation was being made to transport the wounded to northern cities. I was then a student and medical cadet in the U. S. Army Hospital at Broad and Cherry Sts. A large hospital transport, the Louisiana, lay in the Delaware, loading with food and stores previously to leaving for White House Landing on the Pamunkey River, a branch of the James. My friend and classmate, Mr. E. M. Corson, also a medical cadet, and I applied for permission to go down on the boat. It was granted, and in a couple of days, after a short stop at Fort Monroe, we ascended to our destination and lay out in the river, the air heavy with the fragrance of magnolia lining its banks, awaiting the battle. But the battle did not come off, and as we had nothing to do we occupied the time in loitering about camp and visiting neighboring places of interest, having an ambulance at our disposal. One of these places was an interesting old church into which we wandered. While there Dr. Harlan, who was surgeon to a cavalry regiment, came into the church to which he had ridden from camp. I had known Dr. Harlan slightly at home so that I recognized him. After a half hour's pleasant chat we parted.

This was the beginning of a long friendship terminated only by his death. After his return to civil life he took up ophthalmology as a specialty, and soon acquired a large practice, becoming the trusted adviser of many good families.

Wharton Sinkler died March 16, 1910, of heart disease, of which he had been a victim for several years without serious inconvenience until the last attack which was attended by the usual discomfort of obstructed circulation and lost compensation. Genial, generous, warm hearted and hospitable, the "clubs" at his house were always enjoyed. His baked Virginia hams were unequalled. For many years he gave an additional "club" on New Year's Eve, when he invited us all with others to welcome the New Year in. Early devoting himself to nervous diseases he became eminent in this branch. He was a manager of the Episcopal Hospital and a Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania at his death.

Two of the original members of the club who withdrew several years ago, one can hardly say resigned, for no formal resignations were ever received, are living and in fair health—Dr. Horatio C. Wood, Sr., and Dr. Horace Williams.

Dr. Wood was the first named on the original list and dropped out about ten years ago after an illness which shattered his health.

Dr. Williams, the ninth of the original roll, retired in 1905, also after an attack of severe illness which withdrew him for a year from professional life. He has seemingly quite recovered, but is indisposed to rejoin us although we would much like to have him. We miss him the more because he was for many years before his retirement the Dean or Director, not by age but by selection, who would remind us that our turns had come, and to him we went for information. Since Dr. Williams withdrew, Dr. Wharton has performed these duties to our entire satisfaction.

Herbert Norris, although not an original member, was early chosen. He was for a time in bad health and withdrew even before Dr. Williams. He married a second time and he and his wife reside in Italy much of the time, making flying trips to this country about once a year.

Dr. Starr withdrew from the club in 1884.

Dr. William Osler was chosen a member of the club soon after his election to the chair of

Clinical Medicine in the University in 1884. He withdrew in 1889 on his removal to Baltimore when elected to the chair of Medicine in Johns Hopkins University, whence in 1904 he was appointed Regius Professor of Medicine, Oxford University, England, where he now resides.

MEDICAL CLUB

January, 1912

- DR. JAMES TYSON.....1506 Spruce Street
“ D. MURRAY CHESTON...Harwood P. O., Md.
“ RICHARD A. CLEEMANN.....2135 Spruce Street
“ FRED’K P. HENRY.....114 S. Eighteenth Street
“ HENRY R. WHARTON.....1725 Spruce Street
“ SAMUEL S. STRYKER.....3823 Walnut Street
“ JOHN G. CLARK.....2017 Walnut Street
“ JAMES C. WILSON.....1509 Walnut Street
“ RICHARD H. HARTE.....1503 Spruce Street
“ GEORGE W. NORRIS.....1526 Locust Street
“ FRANCIS W. SINKLER.....1606 Walnut Street
“ WILLIAM PEPPER, 3D.....1811 Spruce Street

THE FOLLOWING LIST

includes all past and present members of the Club

DR. HORATIO C. WOOD†	DR. WILLIAM GOODELL*
DR. JAMES TYSON	DR. WM. F. JENKS*
DR. HORACE B. HARE*	DR. WHARTON SINKLER*
DR. F. F. MAURY*	DR. LOUIS STARR†
DR. GEORGE PEPPER*	DR. WILLIAM OSLER†
DR. WILLIAM PEPPER*	DR. GEO. C. HARLAN*
DR. EDWARD RHODES*	DR. FRED'K P. HENRY
DR. D. MURRAY CHESTON	DR. HENRY R. WHARTON
DR. HORACE WILLIAMS†	DR. SAM'L S. STRYKER
DR. HARRISON ALLEN*	DR. JOHN G. CLARK
DR. RICHARD A. CLEEMANN	DR. JAMES C. WILSON
DR. SAMUEL W. GROSS*	DR. RICHARD H. HARTE
DR. HERBERT NORRIS†	DR. GEO. W. NORRIS
DR. WILLIAM F. NORRIS*	DR. FRANCIS W. SINKLER
DR. CHARLES T. HUNTER*	DR. WM. PEPPER, 3D

* Deceased.

† Withdrew.

THE MEDICAL CLUB

PRESENT RULES, 1912

I.—The meetings of the Club are held at the residences of the members in rotation on the second Tuesday of each month from November to April, inclusive. The April meeting shall be set aside for the election of members and the transaction of business, to which meeting no guests shall be invited.

II.—The number of members shall be limited to twelve, and no member shall be elected but by a unanimous vote.

III.—The dinner shall be served at seven-thirty, and shall consist of oysters, soup, meat, salad, one still wine, beer, and whisky.

IV.—The host shall have the privilege of inviting not more than five guests to the meeting.

HENRY R. WHARTON,

Secretary.

January, 1912.

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