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Oct 10, 1885

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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PHYSICIANS.

The first record is of a meeting on October 10th, 1885 at the office of Dr. Delafield of New York. Those present were Drs. Delafield, Draper, and George L. Peabody of New York; Dr. R. T. Edes of Boston, and Drs. Pepper, Osler and Tyson of Philadelphia.

Dr. Delafield acted as Chairman and Dr. Tyson as Secretary.

It was decided that the preliminary name should be "The Association of American Physicians" and a Committee was appointed to draw up plans regarding the order of business, etc. This Committee was composed of Dr. Edes, Dr. Peabody and Dr. Osler. There was a discussion of the men who should be invited to join the Association and a long list of names is given.

The second meeting was held on December 29th, 1885, at Dr. Delafield's office in New York. Several additional men were present: Dr. Loomis, Dr. Minot, Dr. F. C. Shattuck, Dr. George B. Shattuck and Dr. Fitz of Boston, and Dr. R. P. Howard of Montreal. They are in addition to the men who were at the first meeting.

The Committee reported with reference to the plans at the first meeting, order of business, etc. Various points were settled; that the meeting should be held once a year and at Washington, D.C., the number of members should be limited to 100, and a circular letter should be sent out to those to whom an invitation to membership was to be extended.

Officers were then elected for the first meeting: Dr. Delafield being chosen as President and Dr. Tyson as Secretary. The first meeting was held in Washington on June 17th and 18th, 1886.

There is nothing in the minutes of the Association to show who was the first man to propose the Association, if the idea came from one man only. No doubt the men who were called to the first meeting were particularly concerned. I think W.O. in one of his addresses suggested the name of the late Dr. G. E. Graham of Toronto as having a great deal to do with it. His name occurs in the first list of those who were invited to join and I find his letter of acceptance. There is nothing to show that he took any leading part in the formation of the Association.