

The medical history of a country cannot be considered complete without some account of its *medical schools*, but we have space for little more than a list of those which have flourished in the United States.

The following table gives a list of the regular chartered medical schools of this country, which have had the power of conferring the degree of doctor of medicine, with the date of first graduating class, date of cessation, and number of graduates to the spring of 1876, so far as it has been possible to obtain the data:—

It is possible that a few minor schools of short duration have been overlooked, but such must have been of small importance. No note is made in the list of the various changes of name which some of the schools have assumed. The number of graduates has been obtained by collation of all the catalogues that could be obtained, and by correspondence. From these data an estimate has been made for the missing years, and the limit of error in the total does not probably exceed one-half of one per cent. It should be observed that little reliance can be placed upon many of the catalogues as to the number of students in attendance, and there are some discrepancies even as to graduates.

Name.	Year of first graduation.	Date of cessation.	Total No. of graduates.
<i>Alabama.</i>			
Medical College of Alabama [Mobile]	1860	.....	203
<i>California.</i>			
Medical College of the Pacific, Med. Dept. of University (City) College [San Francisco]	1859	.....	90
University of California, Med. Dept. of (Toland Hall) [San Francisco]	1865	.....	86
<i>Connecticut.</i>			
Yale College, Med. Dept. of [New Haven]	1814	.....	899
<i>District of Columbia.</i>			
National Medical College, Med. Dept. of Columbian University [Washington]	1826	.....	427
Georgetown University, Med. Dept. of [Washington]	1852	.....	387
Howard University, Med. Dept. of [Washington]	1871	.....	37
<i>Georgia.</i>			
Medical College of Georgia [Augusta]	1833	.....	1278
Savannah Medical College [Savannah]	1854	.....	140
Atlanta Medical College [Atlanta]	1855	.....	560
Oglethorpe Medical College [Savannah]	1856	1861	86
<i>Illinois.</i>			
Rush Medical College, Med. Dept. of University of Chicago [Chicago]	1844	.....	1786
Illinois College, Med. Dept. of [Jacksonville]	1848	1848	39
Rock Island Medical School [Rock Island]	1849	1849	19
Chicago Medical College, Med. Dept. of Northwestern University [Chicago]	1860	.....	481
<i>Indiana.</i>			
Indiana Medical College, Med. Depart. of Laporte University [Laporte]	1842	1851	136
Medical College of Evansville [Evansville]	1850	.....	74
Indiana Central Medical College [Indianapolis]	1850	1852	39
Indiana Medical College [Indianapolis]	1870	.....	251
Indiana College of Physicians and Surgeons [Indianapolis]	1875	.....	.....

Name.	Year of first graduation.	Date of cessation.	Total No. of graduates.
<i>Iowa.</i>			
College of Physicians and Surgeons [Keokuk]	1850	.....	777
Iowa State University, Med. Dept. of [Iowa City]	1871	.....	111
<i>Kentucky.</i>			
Transylvania University, Med. Dept. of [Lexington]	1818	1859	1860
University of Louisville, Med. Dept. of [Louisville]	1838	.....	2395
Kentucky School of Medicine [Louisville]	1851	.....	520
Louisville Medical College [Louisville]	1870	.....	402
Hospital College of Medicine, Med. Dept. of Central University [Louisville]	1875	.....	91
<i>Louisiana.</i>			
University of Louisiana, Med. Dept. of [New Orleans]	1835	.....	1703
New Orleans School of Medicine " "	1857	1870	397
Charity Hospital Medical College of N. O. " "	1876	.....	10
<i>Maine.</i>			
Bowdoin College and Med. School of Maine [Brunswick]	1821	.....	1137
<i>Maryland.</i>			
University of Maryland, Med. Dept. of [Baltimore]	1811	.....	3104
Washington University, School of Medicine [Baltimore]	1828	.....	680
College of Physicians and Surgeons " "	1873	.....	118
<i>Massachusetts.</i>			
Harvard University, Med. Dept. of [Boston]	1785	.....	2206
Berkshire Medical College, [Pittsfield]	1823	1867	1136
<i>Michigan.</i>			
University of Michigan, Med. Dept. of [Ann Arbor]	1851	.....	1405
Detroit Medical College [Detroit]	1869	.....	204
<i>Missouri.</i>			
Missouri Medical College [St. Louis]	1841	.....	921
St. Louis Medical College " "	1843	.....	1293
Humboldt Medical College " "	1867	1869	16
Kansas City College of Physicians and Surgeons	1870	.....	46
St. Louis College of Physicians and Surgeons [St. Louis]	1870	1870	8
<i>New Hampshire.</i>			
Dartmouth College, Medical School of [Hanover]	1798	.....	1283
<i>New York.</i>			
College of Physicians and Surgeons of the City of New York, Med. Dept. of Columbia College [N. Y. City]	1769	.....	3179
College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Western District of New York [Fairfield]	1816	1840	585
Geneva College (Rutgers Med. Faculty) [N. Y. City]	1827	1830	104
Geneva Medical College [Geneva]	1835	1872	849
Albany Medical College [Albany]	1839	.....	1287
University of the City of New York, Medical Dept. of [N. Y. City]	1842	.....	3393
University of Buffalo, Med. Dept. of [Buffalo]	1847	.....	848
New York Medical College and Charity Hospital [N. Y. City]	1851	1864	310
Long Island College Hospital [Brooklyn]	1860	.....	531
Bellevue Hospital Medical College [N. Y. City]	1862	.....	1908
College of Medicine of Syracuse University [Syracuse]	1873	.....	26
<i>Ohio.</i>			
Medical College of Ohio [Cincinnati]	1821	.....	2170
Cincinnati College, Med. Dept. of [Cincinnati]	1836	1839	95
Starling Medical College [Columbus]	1836	.....	887

Name.	Year of first graduation.	Date of cessation.	Total No. of graduates.
Cleveland Medical College, Med. Dept. of Western Reserve College at Hudson [Cleveland]	1844	.....	1162
Cincinnati College of Med. and Surgery [Cincinnati]	1852	.....	760
Miami Medical College [Cincinnati]	1853	.....	578
University of Wooster, Med. Dept. of [Cleveland]	1865	.....	328
<i>Oregon.</i>			
Willamette University, Med. Dept. of [Salem]	1867	.....	63
<i>Pennsylvania.</i>			
University of Pennsylvania, Med. Dept. of [Philadelphia]	1768	.....	8845
College of Philadelphia [Philadelphia]	1790	1791	10
Jefferson Medical College	1826	.....	6668
Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg, Med. Dept. of [Philadelphia]	1840	1861	769
Franklin Med. College of Philadelphia [Philadelphia]	1847	1849	25
Philadelphia College of Medicine	1847	1859	502
<i>Rhode Island.</i>			
Brown University, Medical School of [Providence]	1814	1826	68
<i>South Carolina.</i>			
Medical School of the State of South Carolina [Charleston]	1825	.....	2439
University of South Carolina, Med. Dept. of [Columbia]	1868	.....	2;
<i>Tennessee.</i>			
Memphis Medical College [Memphis]	1847	1873	231
University of Nashville, Med. Dept. of [Nashville]	1852	.....	1741
Shelby Medical College [Nashville]	1859	1861	30
Vanderbilt University, Med. Dept. of [Nashville]	1875	.....	75
<i>Texas.</i>			
Galveston Medical College [Galveston]	1866	.....	123
Texas Medical College and Hospital [Galveston]	1874	.....	38
<i>Vermont.</i>			
Castleton Medical College [Castleton]	1820	1861	1449
University of Vermont and State Agricultural College, Med. Dept. of [Burlington]	1823	.....	573
Vermont Medical College [Woodstock]	1830	1860	575
<i>Virginia.</i>			
University of Virginia, Med. Dept. of [Charlottesville]	1828	.....	533
Medical College of Virginia [Richmond]	1839	.....	947
Winchester Medical College [Winchester]	1846	1862	75
Total			73,588

If we take the number of graduates by decades of years during the present century, the result is as follows:—

Years.	No. of graduates.	Years.	No. of graduates.
1769-1799	221	1840-1849	11,828
1800-1809	343	1850-1859	17,213
1810-1819	1,375	1860-1869	16,717
1820-1829	4,338	1870-1876	14,704
1830-1839	6,849		

The first medical school in this country was established by Drs. John Morgan and William Shippen at Philadelphia in 1765, and is now known as the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania. From its

halls have graduated the majority of the distinguished medical writers, teachers, and practitioners of the United States, and the names of its professors have become household words.

Organized upon the plan of the Edinburgh Medical School, of which its founders were graduates, it has been the model and pattern by which all our medical colleges have been shaped. Its largest graduating class was in 1849, numbering 191. In the following year Professor Chapman resigned, and for the next ten years the Jefferson School graduated the greater number, reaching its maximum of 269 in 1854. The Jefferson Medical College was founded in 1824, under the charter of Jefferson College in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. The first course of lectures was delivered in 1825-26, the Faculty being Drs. Eberle, McClellan, Rhees, Green, and Beattie. Numerous changes were made in professors, and its classes varied much in size until 1841, when all the chairs were vacated and refilled by Drs. Dunglison, J. K. Mitchell, Pancoast, R. M. Huston, Mütter, Meigs, and Bache. This Faculty continued until 1856, when Professor S. D. Gross succeeded Dr. Mütter. In 1857 Dr. T. B. Mitchell took the place of Dr. Huston, and in 1858 Dr. Dickson that of Dr. J. K. Mitchell.

The second medical school founded in this country was at New York, under the charter of King's College, in 1767. This school has had many vicissitudes, but is now in a flourishing condition, and known as the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the City of New York, being the Medical Department of Columbia College. Its largest graduating class was 110 in 1875.

The Medical Department of Harvard University was founded by Dr. John Warren in 1782. Its maximum class of graduates was 99 in 1866. Recently it has led the way in elevating the standard of medical education, by extending its curriculum to three years, establishing a graded course, and by having decided to institute a real examination into the preliminary education of its students. This has of course diminished its classes somewhat, but no one can doubt that the decision to aim at quality instead of quantity is a wise one, and will in the fulness of time receive its due reward.

The first medical school in the West was established in Lexington, Ky. So early as 1799 a Medical Department was added to Transylvania University, Dr. Samuel Brown being appointed the first professor. Various appointments in the Medical Faculty were made, and a few partial courses of lectures were delivered, but the first full course was not given until 1817, and the degree of M.D. was first conferred in 1818. The founders of the school were Drs. Dudley and Caldwell. Its period of greatest prosperity was from 1830 to 1837, at which last date a disruption took place, and a part of the Faculty removed to Louisville.

The Medical Department of the University of Louisville began as the Medical Institute, chartered in 1833. Nothing was accomplished, however, until the quarrel in the Transylvania School above referred to took place, when Dr. Caldwell enlisted in the cause of the Louisville School, and in 1837 succeeded in obtaining for it a grant of a square of ground, and money for buildings and apparatus. Lectures began the same year, the Faculty consisting of Drs. Caldwell, Cooke, and Yandell, from the Lexington School, and of Drs. Cobb, Henry Miller, and J. B. Flint. In 1839 Dr. Drake joined the School, and in the following year Dr. S. D. Gross took the place of Dr. Flint. In 1846 the School was transferred to the University, and in 1874 it had 123 graduates, its largest class.

In connection with these schools a special reference is due to Dr. Charles Caldwell, their principal promoter. He was of Irish descent, born in North Carolina in 1772; died 1853. After obtaining the best education which his native State could afford, he went to Philadelphia in 1792, and continued the study of medicine under Dr. Rush, passing his examination in 1794, and taking his diploma in 1796. During the next twenty years his pen was constantly busy with lectures, addresses, and controversial articles, many of which related to yellow fever. In 1819 he accepted an invitation to the Transylvania School, and from this time he gave his best energies to this institution, and subsequently to the Louisville School. He was one of the most voluminous writers which this country has produced, but he contributed little or nothing of permanent or scientific value to the literature of his profession, and the only work of his which is worth perusal to-day is his autobiography. His critical reviews, being dictated almost exclusively by personal prejudices, are in almost all cases samples of special pleading rather than true criticism, and characterized by their "smartness" rather than their justice.

In the South the Medical College of South Carolina, chartered in 1823, leads the way. The Medical College of Louisiana was incorporated in 1835, and in 1845 became the Medical Department of the University of Louisiana. This school is remarkable as having received State aid to the amount of \$121,000.

In connection with the medical schools, notice should be taken of the Medical Institute of Philadelphia, otherwise known as the Summer School, which, in addition to furnishing instruction to students and supplementing the winter course, was of very great value as a training school for Professors. It was founded in 1817 by Dr. Chapman, and with it were connected, from time to time, Drs. Chapman, Horner, Dewees, Samuel Jackson, J. K. Mitchell, John Bell, Hodge, Neill, Gibson, Gerhard, Norris, and Pepper.

The total number of graduates from our medical schools during the five years ending July 1, 1875, was about 10,250, that is, a little over 2000 per year; the number in 1875 being about 400 more than in 1871.

Dr. J. M. Toner estimated the average age of beginning practice to be $24\frac{1}{2}$ years, of death 58 years, making an average of about 34 years practice to each.¹

Dr. S. E. Chaillé estimates that there are about 47,000 regular physicians in the United States, being about one to every 700 of the population.²

Space is wanting for further details with regard to our medical schools. That there are too many of them is a general complaint, the answer to which is the same as that given above with regard to the like objection with regard to medical journals, and which answer is of about the same value in each case.

In attempting to estimate the quantity and value of the additions made by the medical profession of this country to the world's stock of knowledge of the laws of healthy and diseased action, and the means of modifying these actions, it is very difficult to make generalizations which shall be at once clear, comprehensive, and correct. This difficulty becomes an impossibility, if we are to speak of the education, mental

¹ Statistical Sketch, etc. Indiana Journ. of Med., 1873, vol. iv. p. 1.

² The Medical Colleges, etc. New Orleans Med. and Surg. Journ., 1874, vol. i. N. S. p. 818.

characteristics, and professional qualifications of the whole body of physicians of this, or any other country, since only the most vague and indefinite statements will hold good. We have had, and still have, a very few men who love science for its own sake, whose chief pleasure is in original investigations, and to whom the practice of their profession is mainly, or only, of interest as furnishing material for observation and comparison. Such men are to be found for the most part only in large cities where libraries, hospitals, and laboratories are available for their needs, although some of them have preferred the smaller towns and villages as fields of labour. The work of our physicians of this class has been for the most part fragmentary, and is found in scattered papers and essays which have been pointed out in preceding essays; but buds and flowers, rather than ripened fruit, are what we have to offer. Of the highest grade of this class we have thus far produced no specimens; the John Hunter, or Virchow, of the United States, has not yet given any sign of existence.

We have in our cities, great and small, a much larger class of physicians whose principal object is to obtain money, or rather the social position, pleasures, and power, which money only can bestow. They are clear-headed, shrewd, practical men, well educated, because "it pays," and for the same reason they take good care to be supplied with the best instruments, and the latest literature. Many of them take up specialties because the work is easier, and the hours of labour are more under their control than in general practice. They strive to become connected with hospitals and medical schools, not for the love of mental exertion, or of science for its own sake, but as a respectable means of advertising, and of obtaining consultations. They write and lecture to keep their names before the public, and they must do both well, or fall behind in the race. They have the greater part of the valuable practice, and their writings, which constitute the greater part of our medical literature, are respectable in quality, and eminently useful.

They are the patrons of medical literature, the active working members of municipal medical societies, the men who are usually accepted as the representatives of the profession, not only here, but in all civilized countries; they may be famous physicians and great surgeons in the usual sense of the words, and as such, and only as such, should they receive the honour which is justly their due. They work for the present, and they have their reward in their own generation.

There is another large class, whose defects in general culture and in knowledge of the latest improvements in medicine, have been much dwelt upon by those disposed to take gloomy views of the condition of medical education in this country. The preliminary education of these physicians was defective, in some cases from lack of desire for it, but in the great majority from lack of opportunity, and their work in the medical school was confined to so much memorizing of text-books as was necessary to secure a diploma. In the course of practice they gradually obtain from personal experience, sometimes of a disagreeable kind, a knowledge of therapeutics, which enables them to treat the majority of their cases as successfully, perhaps, as their brethren more learned in theory. Occasionally they contribute a paper to a journal, or a report to a medical society; but they would rather talk than write, and find it very difficult to explain how or why they have succeeded, being like many excellent cooks in this respect. They are honest, conscientious, hard-working men, who are

inclined to place great weight on their experience, and to be rather contemptuous of what they call "book learning and theories." To them our medical literature is indebted for a few interesting observations, and valuable suggestions in therapeutics, but for the most part, their experience, being unrecorded, has but a local usefulness.

These three classes have been referred to simply for the purpose of calling attention to the fact that, in speaking of "the physicians of the United States," it is necessary to be careful. There are many other classes, and they shade into each other and into empiricism in many ways. In discussions upon this subject, it seems to be often assumed that all physicians should possess the same qualifications, and be educated to the same standard, which, in one respect, is like saying that they should all be six feet high, and in another, is like the army regulations, which prescribe the same ration and allowance of clothing for Maine and Florida, Alaska and Oregon. A young and energetic man who has spent six years in obtaining a University education, and four more in the study of medicine as it ought to be studied, that is to say, in preparing himself to study and investigate for the rest of his life, will not settle in certain districts. He has invested ten years' labour, and from five to ten thousand dollars, and a locality which will give him a maximum income of, perhaps, fifteen hundred dollars per annum will not be satisfactory, in part because the capital should bring a better interest, in part because he will have acquired tastes which will make his life unpleasant in such places. Yet these places must have physicians of some sort, and it is not clear as to how they are to be supplied, if some of the universal and extensive reforms in medical education which have been proposed were to be enforced.

Certainly the standard for admission and for graduation at almost all our medical schools is too low, and one-half, at least, of these schools have no sufficient reason for existence; but it is not probable that it would improve matters much to establish a uniform, which must, of course, be a minimum, standard.

Of the material aids and instruments required for the advancement of medical science, such as hospitals, libraries, and museums, we have obtained as much as could be expected. With the proper use of those we now possess will come the demand for, and the supply of, still better facilities for the work of the scholar and observer.

The defects in American medicine are much the same as those observed in other branches of science in this country, and to a great extent are due to the same causes.

Culture, to flourish, requires appreciation and sympathy, to such an extent, at least, that its utterances shall not seem to its audience as if in an unknown tongue.

We have no reason to boast, or to be ashamed of what we have thus far accomplished; it has been but a little while since we have been furnished with the means of investigation needed to give our observations that accuracy and precision which alone can entitle medicine to a place among the sciences properly so called; and we may begin the new century in the hope and belief that to us applies the bright side of the maxim of Cousin, "It is better to have a future than a past."