

THE
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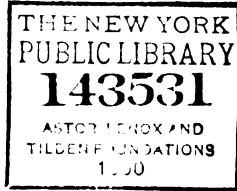
A Centennial Record.

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S. S. Fodd M.D.

State, has been indeed a mother to the motherless, and has, by her devotion, industry and practical sympathy and work, earned a name that will ever be spoken with gratitude and admiration by all who know her.

JOSEPH M. WOOD

was born in Mercer county, Kentucky, March 27th, 1810. Having completed his medical education in 1832, he left Kentucky and settled that year in Clay county, Missouri, making it his home, with the exception of a few months, until 1857, when he removed to Kansas City, having achieved his professional reputation, however, in Clay county. Dr. Wood has, since his settlement in Missouri, always been in the front rank of his profession. The operation of lithotomy is one of his specialties. In this he has probably had as extensive and successful an experience as any one living. He is a broad-minded man of general culture and genial disposition, and a leader in society.

He stands at the very front rank of his profession, both as a physician and surgeon, commanding the esteem and respect of all who know him, as a gentleman and a physician.

THE KANSAS CITY COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

was incorporated in September, 1869. The course comprises a full series of Didactic and Clinical Lectures on the usual branches of study, practical anatomy, and daily examinations on the subjects taught. The college building is situated at the junction of Main and Delaware streets, and the rooms are ample, well furnished and fitted with every necessary convenience. The college is in successful operation, with the following faculty:

S. S. Todd, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women.

T. B. Lester, M. D., Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine. President of the Faculty.

A. B. Taylor, M. D., Professor of Surgery.

E. W. Schauffler, M. D., Professor of Physiology. Secretary of the Faculty.

T. J. Eaton, M. D., Professor of Chemistry.

G. Halley, M. D., Professor of Anatomy.

D. R. Porter, M. D., Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

J. D. Griffith, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.

SIMEON SEYMOUR TODD, M.D.,

Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women in the Kansas City College of Physicians and Surgeons, was born at the house of his maternal grandfather, near Vevay, Indiana, March 10th, 1826.

Dr. Todd, through his paternal ancestry, is of Scotch descent. John Todd, his great-grandfather, was of a noble Mid-Lothian family, formerly of great power and influence, but who suffered much because of their allegiance to the waning fortunes of their kinsfolk of the house of Stuarts. He and two brothers emigrated to Virginia about the year 1740, where John married. He was for a time contented, but love of adventure led him to move, with his family of four sons and one daughter, about

1780, to what is now the site of Lexington, Kentucky; where his remains lie in the "Old Cemetery" near the heart of the city. His children shared the perils of all pioneers, and his oldest son, John, who was a colonel in the United States' service, was killed at the battle of Blue Lick, in which Boone, Trigg and himself, jointly commanded against the Indians, and in which desperate engagement Trigg also fell. The State of Kentucky has named a county in honor of each of these heroes. Owen, the youngest brother, and Dr. Todd's grandfather, was a civil engineer, and at an early day moved to Ohio, settling on a tributary of the Little Miami River which bears his name. It was here that David A. Todd was born, who had just attained his twentieth year when the family moved to Vevay, Indiana, where Owen Todd soon after died. David Todd married Mary, daughter of Hiram Ogle, a sturdy old gentleman of Welsh descent. The subject of this sketch was the third son of ten children resulting from this marriage. Though born in Vevay, the family home was in Madison, Indiana. David Todd was a carpenter, but had abandoned plane and bench and engaged in a small mercantile business, which yielded rather an inadequate support for his large family. Here young Simeon had only limited opportunities for school privileges, but at the age of nineteen, having acquired a fair English Education, with some knowledge of Greek, Latin and French, he became a student in the office of Dr. William Davidson a Scotch physician of mere local repute in Madison. After four years of study and few months of practice in the army hospitals during the Mexican War, he entered the senior class in the Indiana Medical College, then located at La Porte, where he graduated with the highest honors in a class of nineteen, February 22d, 1849. In June of the same year, Dr. Todd began the practice of his profession in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky. In October, 1850, he was married to Judith Ann, daughter of Jeremiah Ridgway, of La Porte, Indiana, a most estimable young lady, a member of the Society of Friends, and a native of Camden, New Jersey, who bore him two sons.

His health failing, a change of location became necessary, and in the spring of 1854, he, with his family, went to California by the overland route, reaching Sacramento in September. Like most of the early emigrants to California, Dr. Todd was lured to the gold fields and the novel excitement among the miners, where, he built a house for his family. We will let the Doctor relate his mining experience in his own words:

"It had always been the great dread of my life that I should some day be rich and become mean like other people. This fear beset me night and day after I went to the mines. I entered at once into a lucrative practice, and as I conducted mining operations also, and in a locality where miners by some lucky venture often got rich in a day, it will be seen that my fears were not wholly imaginary—indeed, it was clear to me that I was in the greatest possible peril of going to bed some night a ruinously rich man. By running a tunnel into the solid rock a thousand feet, however, without finding any gold, and by other and similar investments, in all of which I had the counsel of friends, I managed to dodge prosperity at every threatened point and keep poor as a rat. Thus I was able, after two years of this kind of life, to leave the mines, fully imbued with the feeling (not shared by any one else) that I had succeeded in my mining venture beyond all reasonable expectation."

Dr. Todd left the mines and located in the beautiful little city of Santa Rosa. Here, in 1856, he met and formed a very agreeable co-partnership with his old classmate, Dr. J. F. Boyce. During his stay here, Dr. Todd's two sons were born. The outbreak of the civil war, in 1861, found Dr. Todd practicing his profession in

San Francisco. Espousing at once the cause of his government, he was appointed surgeon of the Second and afterwards of the Fourth Regiment of California Volunteers. He was first placed in charge of the hospitals at the Presidio at San Francisco. Afterwards in charge at Fort Humboldt, but for the greater part of the time he was in charge at Drum Barracks, in Los Angeles county, where he remained till the close of the war. At the solicitation of friends, Dr. Todd was induced to settle up his affairs on the Pacific Coast and take a final leave of California. He returned to New York *via* the Isthmus of Panama; and in September, 1865, he settled at his present home—Kansas City. Having lost his wife while in California, Dr. Todd was on January 21st, 1867, married to Mrs. Thirza F. Dean, a native of Detroit, widow of Dr. William H. Dean and daughter of Thomas Scott, an English Friend, and a resident of Ann Arbor. In September, 1867, he was instrumental, aided by others, in securing a charter for and establishing the Kansas City College of Physicians and Surgeons, and he has filled the chair of “Obstetrics and Diseases of Women,” and has been Dean of the Faculty ever since its organization.

In 1872, Dr. Todd was elected Vice-President of the Medical Association of the State of Missouri, and was the following year elected President of the same. Dr. Todd is an ardent worker in the cause of medical education, and has for many years been a constant contributor to the journalistic medical literature of the day, furnishing also many society papers relating principally to obstetrical and gynecological subjects. Of late years his special studies have been mainly directed in the above designated channels of medicine and surgery, in which he is gaining celebrity.

Dr. Todd is an honorary member of the State Medical Society of Kansas, honorary member of the Medical Association of the State of Missouri, corresponding member of the Boston Gynecological Society, and member of the American Medical Association, and it is needless to add has a large and lucrative practice.

Dr. Todd is five feet ten inches high, of slender, sinewy build, with dark, nearly black hair and eyes, and clear-cut features, indicating enthusiasm, industry, refinement and culture. He is a close observer, an original thinker, a brilliant conversationalist, and a clear, concise and forcible writer and lecturer.

THOMAS BRYAN LESTER, M.D.,

was born in Charlotte county, Virginia, June 24th, 1824. His parents, Bryan W. and Elizabeth Friend Lester, lived forty years on one farm, where their family of ten children were all born, all of whom lived to years of maturity. The family emigrated to Salem, Marion county, Illinois, in March, 1836.

Thomas received a liberal education, beginning at the village school in Salem, then attending Mount Vernon Academy, and from there to Shurtliff College, Upper Alton, Illinois. He commenced the study of Medicine, in 1842, with Dr. M. W. Hall, now of Saline county, Missouri, and attended his first course of medical lectures at the session of 1845-6 at the Medical Department of Kemper College, St. Louis. He, for a short time, practiced medicine in Marion county, Illinois, and in 1847 entered the United States Army as Acting Assistant Surgeon in the First Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was mustered into service in May, 1847, for five years, or “during the war” with Mexico. Dr. Lester was assigned to duty with Lieutenant Colonel H. P. Boyakin, in command of three companies, which crossed the plains from Fort Leavenworth to Santa Fe, where he remained on duty with the regiment until the arrival of General Sterling Price, early in the winter of