



# The Story Behind The Surgeons

“These are very interesting little histories of life’s beginnings of some of the great men in our profession, and I treasure them very highly.” – Dr. Francis Reder, *The Surgeon and His Work*

FRANCIS REDER, M.D.  
4629 COOK AVENUE.  
ST. LOUIS.



My Dear Doctor

*Zobbe!*  
A Paper which I have in preparation:

“THE SURGEON AND HIS WORK,”

I wish to present at the next meeting of the Missouri State Medical Association, May 1910.

I feel that it would be of interest to embody in this essay how Surgeons happened to become Surgeons.

If I may be pardoned for the pertinence of my question:  
What incentive prompted you to become a Surgeon?

With the most cordial expressions of my sincere esteem,

I remain,

Very truly yours,

*3/29/10*  
*F. Reder*

In 1910, surgery in mid-America was emerging as a medical specialty: no board, no formal training scheme, and no defined route to practice. Dr. Francis Reder, a general surgeon of the time, established order in the surgical field by leading an inclusive medical group, The Missouri State Medical Association.

Despite surgery’s novelty, many surgical innovations were created during this era that forever changed how surgeons operated. Dr. Reder, in response to these innovations, wondered about the individuals behind them. Specifically, what had motivated these people to undertake a profession that was known to be inherently difficult and time consuming?

In order to obtain an answer, Dr. Reder ambitiously sought the opinion of approximately fifty well-known surgeons, inquiring as to why they chose a career in surgery. Amazingly, he received forty-four responses that offer remarkable insight into an exciting time in the field of surgery. The responses were collected from all over the world, many having to be translated from a surgeon’s native language to English. The responses, both original and translated, were printed in The Journal of the Missouri State Medical Association in November 1910, as well as presented by Dr. Reder at the Missouri State Medical Association, in May 1910. The work was titled, “The Surgeon And His Work”.

These letters and publication came into the possession of Paul H. Young, MD, a neurological surgeon in St. Louis, MO. Dr. Young is mid-America’s go-to surgeon for complex and/or re-operative spinal procedures. In addition to a published author, Dr. Young has created the first neurosurgical training entity on the African continent, and has maintained it remarkably. Through a long friendship with Dr. Hiram C. Polk Jr., these documents came into the possession of the Price Institute of Surgical Research.

Copies of the original letters, along with a synopsis of each corresponding surgeon, adorn the walls of the Price Institute. In addition, copies of the material have been donated to the University of Louisville Medical Library for students to utilize. The Department of Surgery is honored to host these special tributes in perpetuity and expresses appreciation to Doctors Reder and Young.



## Francis Reder

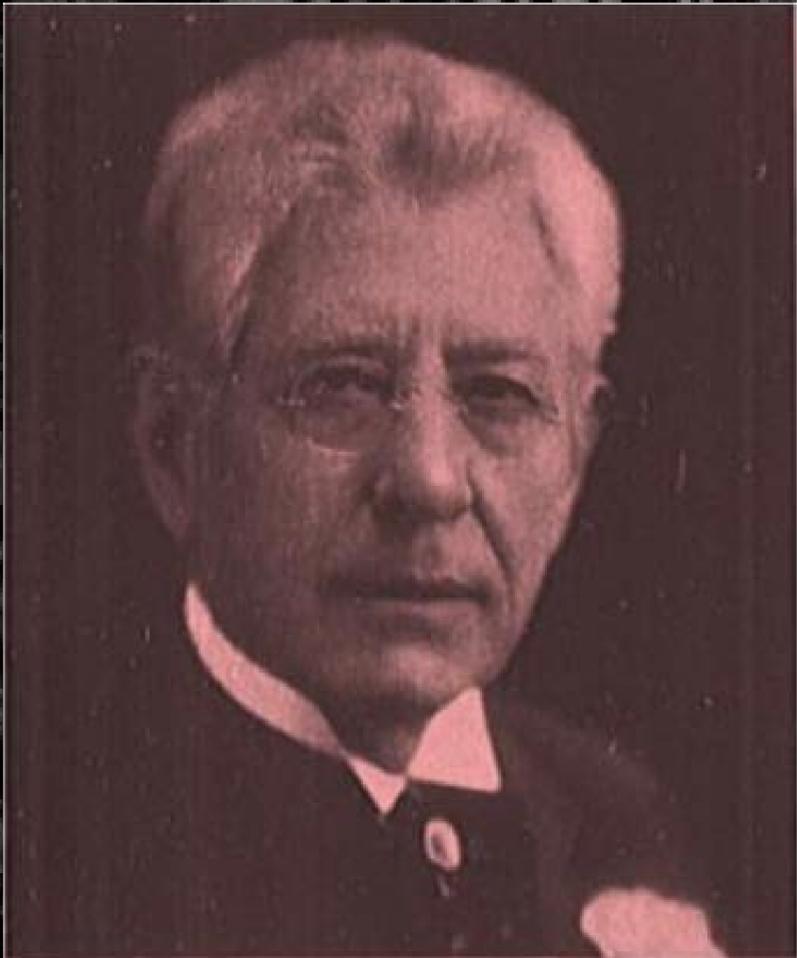
(January 8, 1864 – May 8, 1936)

**Born In:** U.S.A

**Practicing U.S.A.**

**Medical School:** Washington University Medical School

**Areas of Practice:** General Surgery



Dr. Francis Reder, the son of Dr. Franz Reder, a graduate of Heidelberg University who migrated from Germany in 1848 and practiced medicine in New Athens, Ill. for many years, was born in New Athens on January 9, 1864. He was educated in the public schools of his native city, under private tutors and at Washington University in St. Louis. At the age of 20, Dr. Reder graduated from the St. Louis Medical College (now Washington University Medical School) and after internships at St. Louis City and Female Hospitals, he spent two years with Dr. G. A. Gerster at the German Hospital in New York City. From 1888-1891 he studied at the University of Berlin and took special courses in Munich, Vienna and Paris.

Dr. Reder served as a surgeon for the Burlington Railway System for many years located in Brookfield, Mo. In 1897 he married Ella Castle of Quincy, Ill., relocated to St. Louis and specialized in general surgery. He was chief of the Clinic for Diseases of the Rectum in the Medical Department at Washington University and Visiting and Consulting Surgeon to St. Louis City Hospital, Mo. Baptist Sanitarium and St. John's Hospital.

Dr. Reder served as a member of the St. Louis Medical Society (which he served as president in 1932 and elected Honor Member in 1935), the St. Louis and American Obstetrical and Gynecological Societies (Honorary Fellow 1938), the St. Louis Surgical Society, Verein Deutscher Aerzte of St. Louis, the Missouri State and American Medical Associations, the Southern Medical and Surgical Societies, the American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Reder devised and perfected a rubber bulb for use in operations for resection of the intestines and another rubber bulb for operations upon the bladder. Both of these methods were described in multiple books and articles, one entitled *'The Rubber Bulb as an Aid in Intestinal Resection'* and the other *'The Intravesical Bulb in Operations upon the Bladder.'* In 1910 Dr. Reder was an invited guest of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Congress of the Association Francaise de Chirurgie in Paris

Dr. Reder's major publications include: *'Surgical Treatment of Chronic Empyema'* in the International Journal of Surgery in 1900, *'The Near Normal Restoration of a Limb Afflicted with the Disabling Consequences of an Old Potts Fracture'* in the Transactions of the Southern Surgical Society in 1900, *'The Surgeon and His Work'* in the Journal of the Missouri State Medical Association in 1910 and *'Treatment of angiomas by injection of boiling water'* in the Transactions of the Southern Surgical and Gynecological Association in 1914 and in a book by the same title by CV Mosby in 1918.

Dr. Reder retired to a farm in New Athens and died on May 8, 1936 at Deaconess Hospital in St. Louis of Chronic Interstitial Nephritis at the age of 84.

In the Annals of Surgery July, 1939, Dr. Reder was given the following tribute: "Honored at home and abroad, loved and respected by all who knew him, he possessed the admirable attributes of professional dignity, ability and congenial personality. To him the world was a stage, and his profession the plot, in which he labored daily, administering to the needs of his fellow man."



<http://bit.ly/37oJlbX>

## Robert Abbe

(April 13, 1851– March 7, 1928)

Born In: U.S.A.

Practicing country: U.S.A.

Medical School: Columbia University

Areas of Practice: Plastic Surgery

Robert Abbe was born in New York City, New York, on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 1851. Abbe obtained his Bachelors of Science from the College of the City of New York in 1871. From there, he went on to receive his Doctorate of Medicine from Columbia University in 1874. In the following years, 1877-1884, he practiced as surgeon and professor of surgery at the New York Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, and the New York Babies Hospital. Abbe is best known for his work as a plastic surgeon. His most notable discovery is the modern-day Abbe lip switch for lip reconstruction.

In 1904, he became affiliated with Professor and Madame Curie after visiting their lab in Paris. In particular, Abbe worked closely with Madame Curie to produce radium, and study the applications of radiation and x-ray in medicine. Upon returning to the United States, Abbe brought back his knowledge of radiation and x-rays, utilizing them in his surgical practice. Abbe's utilization of these techniques earned him the title as the founder of radiation therapy in the United States. Dr. Abbe was also one of the first surgeons to start using radiation as a way to treat cancer, thereby helping to found the field of radiation oncology. Abbe died of anemia on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1928, possibly due to his continual exposure to radium.

FRANCIS REDER, M.D.  
4629 COOK AVENUE,  
ST. LOUIS.

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*Abbe*

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With the most cordial expressions of my sincere esteem,

I remain,

Very truly yours,

*3/29-10*

*F. Reder*

*Dear Doctor I chose medicine rather than law or clergy because of my admiration for my father's family physician, a man of nobility & impressive type. I chose, after my college & hospital course, to become a surgeon because of my admiration for Dr. Ross F. Weir whose wonderful work and learning inspired me - Thus as often it must be, we follow noble examples with whom circumstance brings us in contact.*  
*Sincerely Robert Abbe*

March 29, 1910.  
DEAR DOCTOR:—I chose medicine rather than law or clergy or business because of my admiration for my father's family physician, a man of nobility and impressive type.

I chose, after my college and hospital course, to become a surgeon because of my admiration for Dr. Robt. F. Weir, whose wonderful work and learning inspired me.

Thus, as often it must be, we follow noble examples with whom circumstances brings us in contact.

Sincerely,

ROBERT ABBE.

### Bibliography

Bondi, M. (2016). Abbe, Robert, MD, Papers and Reprints, 1888-1928. Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/37l18Zs>

Dr. Robert Abbe (1851-1928). Archive.AbbeMuseum.org. <http://bit.ly/37yaFtU> Published 2012. Accessed July 8, 2019.

STARK RB. Robert Abbe: pioneer in plastic surgery. *Bull N Y Acad Med.* 1955;31(12):927-950.



# Roberto Alessandri

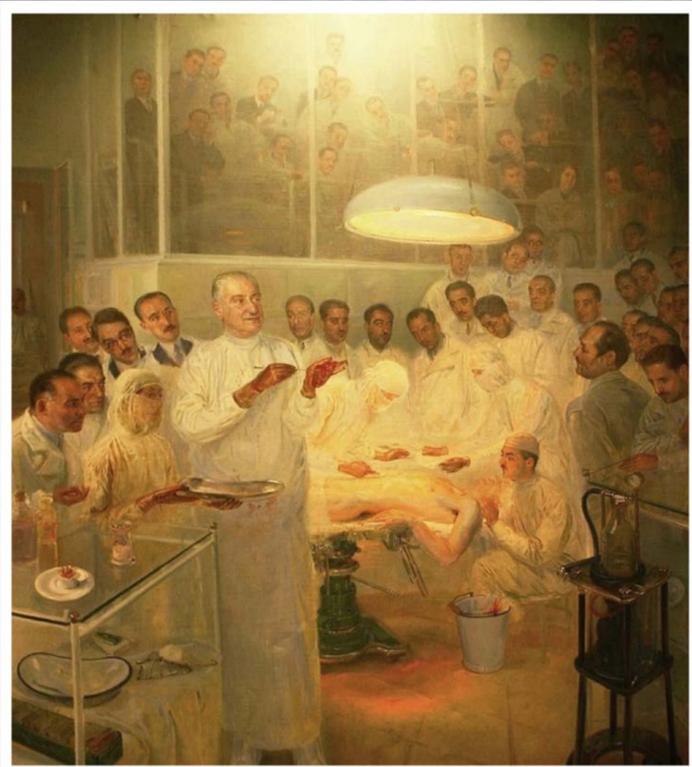
(December 1, 1867 – August 8, 1948)

Born In: Italy

Practicing Country: Italy

Medical School: United Hospitals

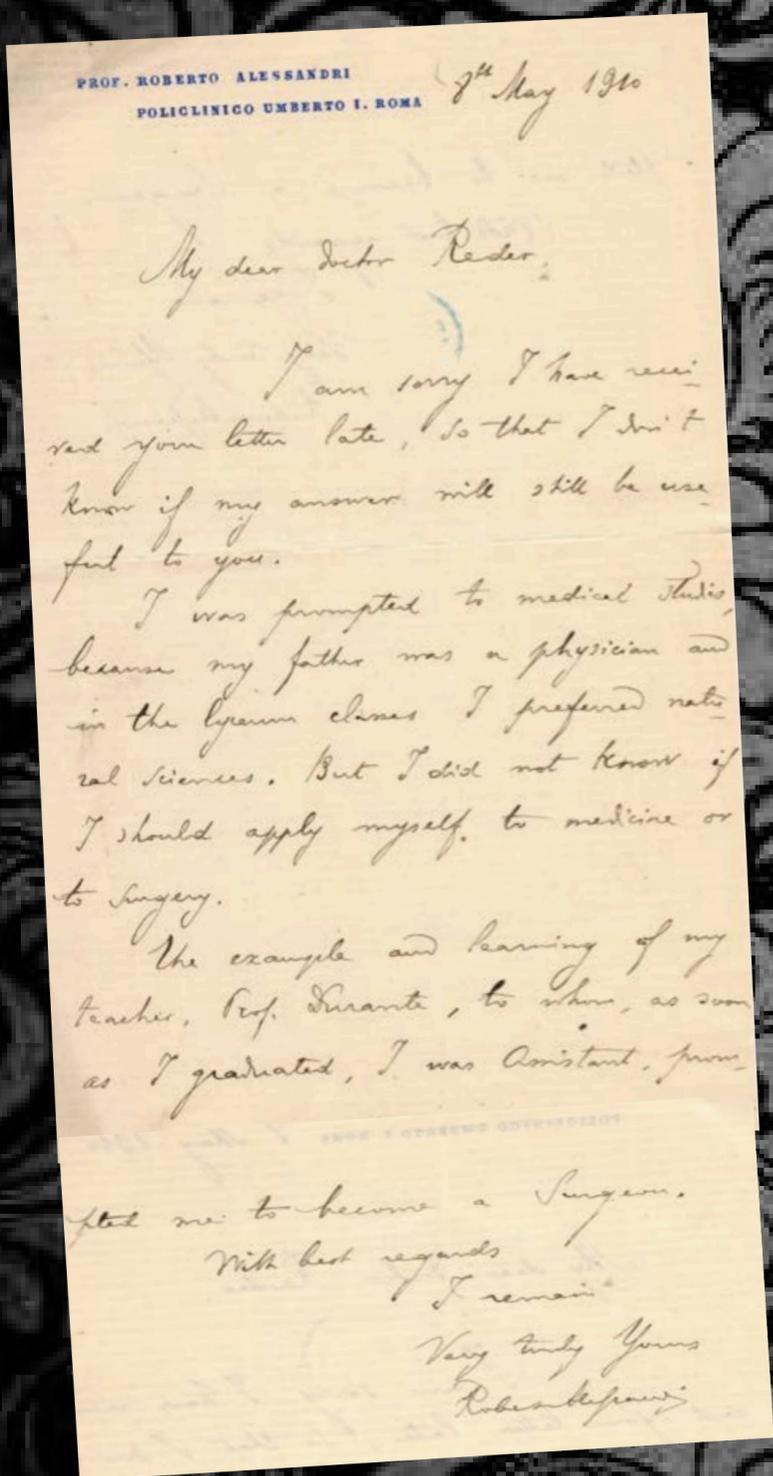
Areas of Practice: General Surgery



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Roberto Alessandri was born in Civitavecchia, Italy on December 1, 1867. He studied at the United Hospitals of Rome, and graduated with his M.D. degree in 1892. He then became a clinical assistant to Francesco Durante. Later, he went on to become a surgeon at San Giacomo Hospital from 1903 to 1905, and then at the Umberto Policlinic from 1905 to 1923. Alessandri was most interested in teaching students, and excelled at this endeavor. He became the director of the Institute of Surgical Pathology at Rome from 1902 to 1919, and successor of Durante as the professor of clinical surgery at the university from 1919 to 1938. During World War I, he was director of the second army surgical service. He won the silver medal for valor for operating under fire at the battle of Gorizia.

Roberto Alessandri was an all-round surgeon. He practiced surgery on the nervous system for the treatment of epilepsy, spinal-cord tumors, and pulsating skeletal tumors. He was also an early pioneer of coledochoduodenostomy, and he advocated for early radical intervention for gastro-duodenal ulcers. Furthermore, as first director of the Forlanini Institute for Thoracic Surgery, he introduced apicolysis, thoracoplasty, and lobectomy in Italy. Alessandri was involved in a number of organizations throughout his life, including the Italian Surgical and Anesthetic Societies, the Academy of Medicine at Rome, and the International Society of Urology. He died in Rome on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 1948 of cerebral thrombosis.



ROME, May 8, 1910.

MY DEAR DOCTOR REDER:—I am sorry I have received your letter late, so that I don't know if my answer will still be useful to you.

I was prompted to medical studies because my father was a physician, and in the lyceum classes I preferred natural sciences. But I did not know if I should apply myself to medicine or to surgery.

The example and learning of my teacher, Professor Durante, to whom, as soon as I graduated, I was assistant, prompted me to become a surgeon. With best regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,

ROBERTO ALESSANDRI.

### Bibliography

- Cappelletti, V. (1960). Alessandri, Roberto. *Biographical Dictionary of Italians*, 2. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/2NZPitJ>
- Iascone, C., Moraldi, A., Cavallario, A., Sterpetti, A.V., Marzo, L., & Stipa, S. (2019). The Italian surgeons who helped build international relationship. *Bulletin of The American College of Surgeons*. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/2O1NjLX>



## John Montgomery Baldy

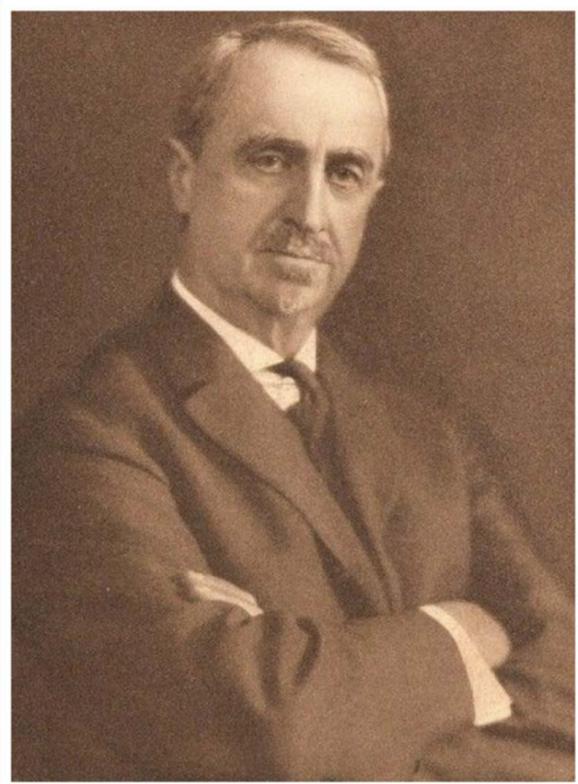
(June 16, 1860 – December 12, 1934)

Born In: U.S.A.

Practicing Country: U.S.A

Medical School: University of Pennsylvania

Areas of Practice: Gynecological Surgery



<http://bit.ly/2KFuohw>

John Montgomery Baldy was born in Danville, Pennsylvania on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1860. Baldy attended medical school at the University of Pennsylvania where he graduated with his M.D. in 1884. After graduation, he went on to practice in Scranton, Pennsylvania from 1885-1891 where he specialized in gynecology. Eventually, he moved to Philadelphia where he practiced gynecology at multiple institutions including: St. Agnes Hospital (1891-1894), the Pennsylvania Hospital (1893-1905), and the Philadelphia Dispensary (1885-1889). After a long and successful career, Baldy retired in 1923. Baldy held multiple prestigious positions including being a professor of gynecology at the Philadelphia Polyclinic, as well becoming president of the American Gynecological Society in 1908.

Baldy had contributed much to the field of gynecology. In 1895 Baldy published the American Text-book of Gynecology. Baldy also has two surgical procedures that harbor his name: the Baldy-Webster and the Baldy-Franke operations. The Baldy-Webster operation is for treating retroversion of the uterus by shortening the round ligaments. The operation was first described by John Webster in 1901, and modified by Baldy in 1903. The Baldy-Franke operation is for treatment of ante-fixation of the uterus; it was described by Baldy in 1903. Although Baldy is responsible for a number of different contributions to the field of gynecology, he is best remembered for performing one of the earliest gastrostomy operations in the United States in 1898, although it was unsuccessful.

PHILADELPHIA, April 6, 1910.

MY DEAR DOCTOR REDER:—In answer to your letter of March 29, I had been to school at Concord, N. H., and had finished and was spending my summer at my home, Danville, Pa. My father, an attorney-at-law, had made lawyers of two of his sons and intended me for one. I rebelled, saying there were enough lawyers in the family, and at any rate, as he insisted on my going through college as a preliminary, I declined. I had had enough of Greek and Latin and the higher mathematics. I wanted to go to work. I was asked what I wanted to do. I replied, I had no idea. What should he advise? He said: "I can help you in law—I know nothing else, and you had better look around among your friends and get their advice. You may take six months to it and at the end of that time I expect you to come to me with your decision and start in."

The subject was never referred to between us again, but I knew my good old dad quite well enough to know that when the six months were up I was expected in his office with my decision. I had as soon jumped in fire as to not be there on time. Five months passed and no decision and no prospect. Fourth of July approached. A friend and myself had been amusing ourselves from time to time shooting rats in our back yard on Sundays. A narrow-minded old Methodist minister complained to our fathers and got us in trouble. We grasped the opportunity of the Fourth to even up scores with the preacher and 4 o'clock in the morning saw us under his windows with a small cannon. The first discharge was a great success; it aroused the whole neighborhood. While loading up for the second one, the cannon exploded into a hundred pieces in our hands. The doctor, an old army surgeon, subsequently amputated what was left of the first finger and thumb of my left hand and patched me up generally, hands, arms and legs. These powder burns were three weeks to a month healing, and I have never seen anyone suffer from similar wounds for so long a time since. After each dressing for three weeks I sat holding my wrist, grunting with pain, and finally came to the conclusion I would like to be in the surgeon's place and have him in mine; he seemed so cool and complacent about it.

One week later I walked into my father's office and told him I wished to study medicine. It was the first thought I had ever had in that direction. He told me to talk it over with my doctor and ask him to take me as a student. I did so. My answer was: "If you were my son I should prefer to see you dead than study medicine—think it over to-night and if to-morrow you are of the same mind, come to see me again." The next day saw me installed in the office with a Gray's anatomy before me, and I am now well convinced his advice was a grave mistake. The old gentle-

man was an excellent, hard-headed surgeon, whose skill had not been appreciated as it deserved, and he was a disappointed man with his success in life. I learned, in the year I read in his office and assisted him, many things that have stood me in good stead in many a tight place (amongst others never to lose my head), and have ever since had a wholesome respect for the county surgeon. Send me a copy of your paper. I would like to see what influenced others.

Very truly yours,

J. M. BALDY.

### Bibliography

*The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*. Fourteenth Ed. Brooklyn, New York: James T. White & Company; 1910: 144. <http://bit.ly/347Fkfc>



# Thomas Bryant

(May 20, 1828 – December 31, 1914)

Born In: England

Practicing England

Medical School: Guy's Hospital

Areas of Practice: General Surgery



<http://bit.ly/206LAOS>

Thomas Bryant was born in London on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 1828. He went to King's College for his general education, and then proceeded to attend medical school at Guy's Hospital in 1846. While there he obtained his M.R.C.S. in 1849, and the status of Fellow in 1853. In 1857, Bryant became an assistant surgeon at Guy's Hospital, and became a lecturer at the institute the following year. In 1871 he became a full surgeon and lecturer, and continued on in these positions till his retirement. In 1888, he was elected a consulting surgeon at Guy's Hospital.

Bryant was an excellent surgeon, and was interested in the advantage of various surgical instruments during operations. While alive, he was interested in hemostasis without ligatures. In 1872, Bryant published, *Practice of Surgery*, which contained information on "Bryant's forceps". Although Bryant created a number of other instruments, he is most well known for the practice of haemostasis, with his preferred method of torsion. He published a number of works including *Diseases of the Breast* and *Villous Growths and Common Diseases of the Rectum*.

Throughout Bryant's life, he was a member of a number of different organizations. In 1863, he was the secretary of the first committee in London to meet on the use of chloroform. He was also a member of the College of Surgeons. In 1882 he was elected a member of the Court of Examiners, eventually becoming president in 1890. He was titled surgeon-extraordinary to Queen Victoria in 1896. He served as vice president to the Section of Surgery at the British Medical Association meeting, and was president of the Metropolitan Counties Branch from 1899 to 1900. Bryant passed away on December 31, 1914.

19 Fitzgibbon Avenue  
Kensington W  
London  
April 11 1910.

Dear Sir  
My father was a Surgeon and held the post of Surgeon to a large infirmary where he did much good work. He was a great friend of Sir Astley Cooper who was constantly at my father's house, with other leading men. I feel sure that it was due to the association of these men and their high character my father had won that I entered as a pupil at Guy's Hospital in 1846, subsequently becoming Surgeon to the Hospital and retired in 1888. I am now eighty years of age and next month will be or may be 81.

Yours sincerely,  
Thomas Bryant  
Past President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England

(Temporarily at Napan.)

LONDON, April 11, 1910.

DEAR SIR:—My father was a surgeon and held the post of surgeon to a large infirmary where he did much good work. He was a great friend of Sir Astley Cooper, who was constantly at my father's house, with other leading men.

I feel sure that it was owing to the association of these men and the high character my father had won that I entered as a pupil at Guy's Hospital in 1846, subsequently becoming surgeon to the hospital and retired in 1888. I am now 80 years of age and next month will be, on May 2, 81.

Yours sincerely,

THOMAS BRYANT,

Past President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.



### Bibliography

Thomas Bryant, F.R.C.S., Consulting Surgeon To Guy's Hospital; Sergeant-Surgeon To H.M. Queen Victoria; Surgeon In Ordinary To H.M. King Edward VII. (1915). *The British Medical Journal*, 1(2819):96-98. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/37yf2VQ>



# Frédéric François Burghard

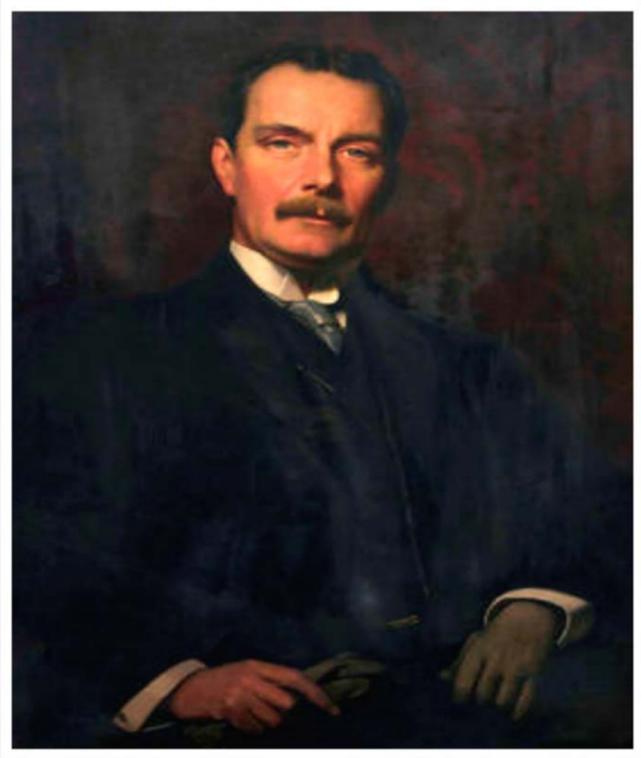
(February 27, 1864– October 31, 1947)

Born In: England

Practicing Country: Austria

Medical School: Guy's Hospital

Areas of Practice: General Surgery



<http://bit.ly/2qp58oD>

Frédéric François Burghard was born in Clapham, London, on February 27, 1864. Burghard performed his medical training at Guy's Hospital. After graduating, he was appointed assistant surgeon at King's College Hospital in 1889. Later, Burghard then went on to become a senior surgeon at the hospital in 1898. In 1909, he was elected a Fellow of King's College. Similar to many other recognized surgeons of the time, he became a member of the council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England from 1915 to 1923. Dr. Burghard is most known for his publication of, *A System of Operative Surgery*, in 1909.

86 Harley Street,

LONDON, April 9, 1910.

MY DEAR DOCTOR REDER:—I am very glad to answer your query as far as I am able.

I chose the medical profession in preference to any other, because it seemed to me to be the only one in which a man needed no influences to secure his advancement beyond his own personal attainments. And I chose to become a surgeon rather than a physician from a desire to feel sure that the results produced were the direct effect of the remedies employed, and

also because actual manipulation work has always appealed to me. With all kind regards,

Yours truly,

F. F. BURGHARD.

*Proposed*  
April 11. 1910.  
86, HARLEY STREET, W.  
My dear Dr. Reder,  
I am very glad to answer your query as far as I am able.  
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any other because it seemed to me to be the <sup>only</sup> one in which a man needed no influences to secure his advancement beyond his own personal attainments.

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With all kind regards  
Yours truly  
F. F. Burghard



# John Chiene

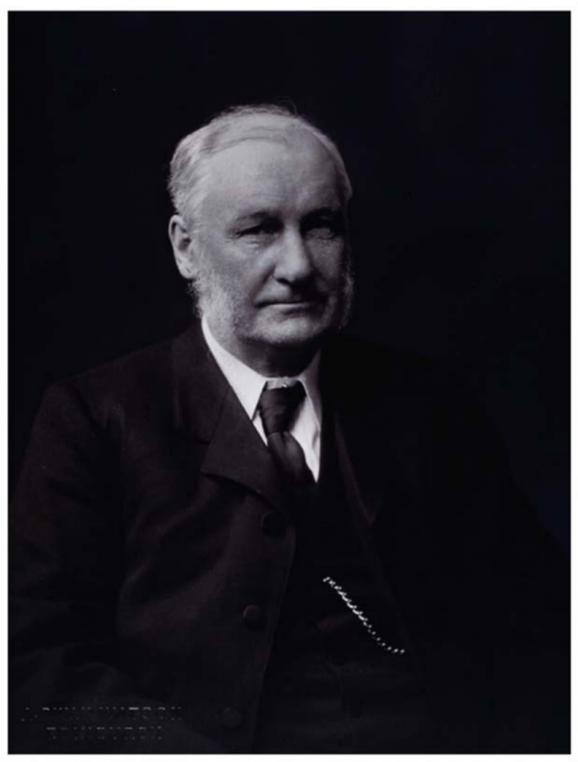
(February 25, 1843 – May 29 1923)

Born In: Scotland

Practicing Country: Scotland

Medical School: University of Edinburgh

Areas of Practice: General Surgery



<http://bit.ly/2KyzCLY>

John Chiene was born in Edinburgh, Scotland on February 25, 1843. Prior to medical school, Chiene attended Edinburg Academy (1854-1860), where he earned prizes for his skills in mathematics. After graduating with honors, Chiene went on to study medicine in Berlin, Paris, and Vienna before eventually receiving his M.D. degree from the University of Edinburgh in 1865. After graduation Chiene worked as House Surgeon for famed physician, James Syme. After a year, Chiene began working as an anatomy demonstrator alongside John Goodsir. In 1870, Chiene became a lecturer of surgery at the Extra-Mural School. The following year, he became an Assistant Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary. When Joseph Lister replaced Syme as Chair of Clinical Surgery, Chiene developed a close relationship with him, and served as one of his most ardent supporters. While working for Lister, Chiene published his work, *Surgical Anatomy*.

In 1882, Chiene became Professor of Surgery at Edinburgh University. After his appointment, he donated a fourth of his pay to establish a laboratory for young students to work in and perform research. The laboratory was used to examine pathological and bacteriological samples, and is perhaps the first of its kind in the United Kingdom. Chiene had a passion for teaching, and was loved by all his students.

Chiene traveled around the world in order to both learn and teach about various surgical techniques. He collaborated with Dr. Yandell of the United States to publish, *Principles of Surgery*. He was a member of a number of collaborative groups including being president of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh from 1897 to 1899, as well as a fellow of the American Surgical Association. Chiene was also a pioneer in establishing ambulatory care in Edinburgh.

In the Second Boer War (1899-1902) he served as Consulting Surgeon to the Field Forces in South Africa. He retired in 1909, and passed away in Edinburgh on May 29, 1923. One of the axioms he commonly said to students was "patients, not cases" and is a testament to his character and his passion for patient care and advancement of medicine.

EDINBURGH, April 9, 1910.

MY DEAR DOCTOR:—Your question, why I became a surgeon is difficult to answer. I never was asked the question before. I have hunted back in the past, and my first recollection is as a schoolboy, when asked what I would be, I said "a surgeon." I was told by an old gentleman it was poor work. Simply a handcraft—not worthy of a man—but still it stuck to me, although I never knew of a relative who had been a surgeon. I have since discovered that long ago a young man called Chiene hived off from the old home, came to Edinburgh, changed his name to Cheyne and became a surgeon in Leith. His picture is in the College of Surgeons in Edinburgh. From him rose the famous Dr. Cheyne of Bath and Dr. Cheyne of Dublin; so perhaps my views of life were hereditary—an instinct. To come to the time I went to college, Professor Goodier gave me a helping hand (he came from Fife, so did my ancestors). He sent me to Professor Syme, also a Fife man, and Professor Syme introduced me to Professor Lister, his son-in-law, and that is all I know. This is a rigmarole account of my genesis, and it comes to this, that man is made out of two distinct factors: 1. Something he has gotten from the past; 2. His environment. I have always held that the past is the more important.

Yours truly,

JOHN CHIENE.

April 9, 1910  
Aithernie  
Davidsons Mains  
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From him arose the famous Dr. Cheyne of Bath and Dr. Cheyne of Dublin - So perhaps my views of life were hereditary - an instinct. To come to the time I went to college - Professor Goodier gave me a helping hand - he came from Fife so did my ancestors. He sent me to Prof Syme also a Fife man and Prof Syme introduced

me to Prof Lister - and that is all I know. - This is a rigmarole account of my genesis - and it comes to this that man is made out of two distinct factors - something he has got from the past and his environment. I have always held that the past is the more important.  
Yours truly  
John Chiene

### Bibliography

John Chiene. (n.d.). Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh Archive. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/37jTWtV>

D.W. (n.d.). Obituary: John Chiene, C.B., F.R.C.S., LL.D. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/37dCveB>



# Gregory F. Connell

(January 12, 1875– May 29, 1968)

Born In: U.S.A

Practicing Countries: U.S.A

Medical School: Rush Medical College

Areas of Practice: Gastrointestinal Surgery



<http://bit.ly/2KzRxS>

## Fun Fact

Dr. Connell maintained a life-long correspondence with author, Ernest Hemingway, who greatly appreciated Dr. Connell's literary critique of his work.

Gregory Connell was born in Milwaukee, Michigan on January 12, 1875. Connell's father and mother were both physicians, which allowed Connell to spend his childhood immersed in the medical field. He was also highly influenced by one of his father's associates, Dr. Nicholas Senn, who had a laboratory focused on studying the gastrointestinal tract. After high school Connell attended the University of Wisconsin for a year, and then transferred to Rush Medical School where he obtained his M.D. degree in 1896. Connell then attended postgraduate school at the University of Illinois, followed by a yearlong internship at Alexian Brothers Hospital in Chicago. He returned to the University of Illinois after his internship, serving as an assistant to Dr. Christian Fenger and Dr. Dean Bevan. He was simultaneously serving as a consulting surgeon at Cook County Hospital.

In 1902 Connell contracted an unknown illness, and moved to Salena, Colorado, in an attempt to improve his health. It was here that Connell improved upon his father's technique, the "Connell Stitch", a technique still used today for which he received international recognition. While in Colorado Connell married his wife, Isabella Stickney. Stickney was an artist, and did most of Connell's illustrating. In 1906, Connell moved to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and practiced as an attending surgeon at St. Mary's Hospital and Mercer Hospital. Connell only operated as a solo surgeon, never joining a surgical group as was common at that time.

Dr. Connell had a passion for research, as well as medical education. He was a member of a number of societies including: the Western Surgical Society, International College of Surgeons, and Gastroenterology Society. Connell also helped found a number of prominent societies including: American College of Surgeons, American Board of Surgery, Wisconsin Surgical Society and Wisconsin Surgical Travel Club. In 1947, he received the State Medical Society's Council Award. Connell also served as an advisor to the Surgeon General during both world wars. During his active practice before retirement in 1956, Dr. Connell published more than 90 medical papers on a variety of surgical procedures and studies. He passed away on May 29, 1968, in his home at the age of 93.

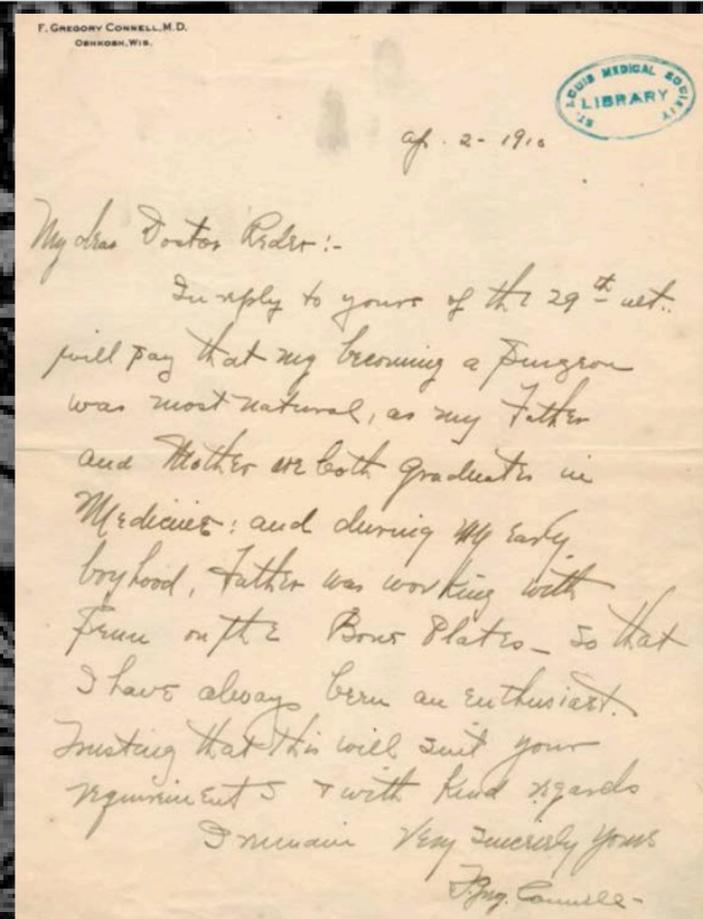
OSHKOSH, Wis., April 2, 1910.

MY DEAR DOCTOR REDER:—In reply to yours of the 29th ult., will say that my becoming a surgeon was most natural, as my father and mother are both graduates in medicine; and during my early boyhood father was working with Senn on the bone plates—so that I have always been an enthusiast.

Trusting that this will suit your requirements, and with kind regards, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

F. GREGORY CONNELL.



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Nationally Known Doctor Dies at Home. (1968). *Oshkosh Daily Northwestern*, 13. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/2r0fWcX>



## Harvey Cushing

(April 8, 1868– October 7, 1939)

Born In: U.S.A.

Practicing Country: U.S.A

Medical School: Harvard Medical School

Areas of Practice: Neurosurgery



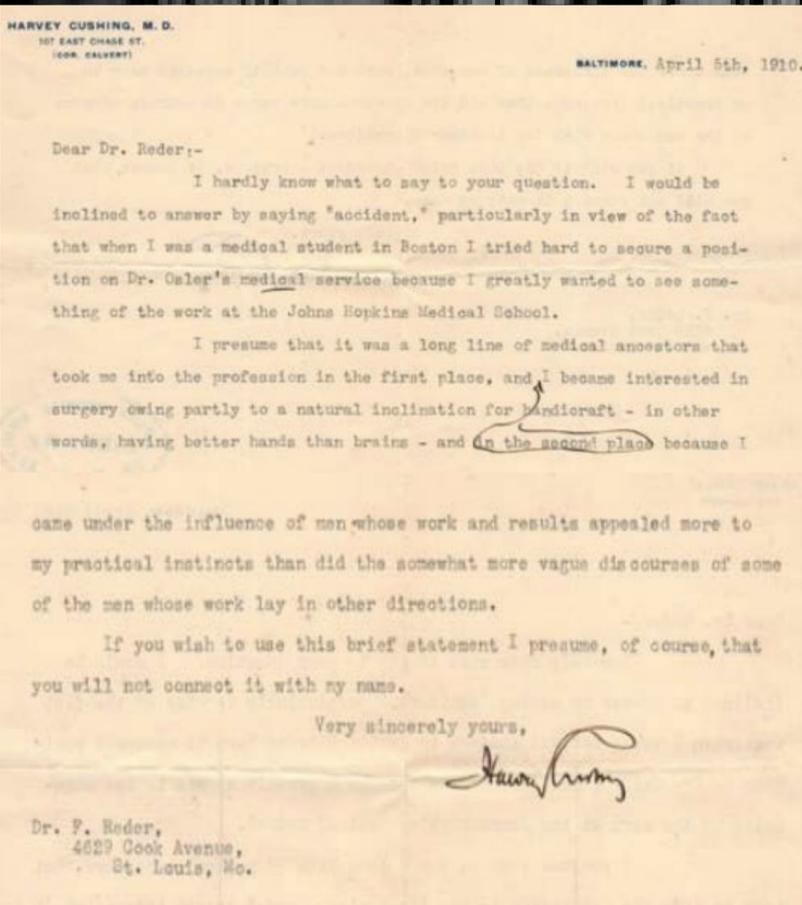
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Harvey Cushing, known as the “father of neurosurgery”, was born in Cleveland, Ohio on April 8, 1869. His father, grandfather and great grandfather were physicians. He was the youngest of 10 children. From a young age, Cushing had an interest in the sciences. He received his A.B. Degree from Yale in 1891, and his M.D. from Harvard in 1895. Early on in his medical career, Cushing made important contributions to the surgical specialty. During an externship, a patient had died while under his care. This led him and a fellow classmate to develop the system of monitoring vital signs such as blood pressure, pulse, temperature and respirations while patients were under anesthesia. He later went on to complete a surgical residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital under William Stewart Halsted, known as the “father of American surgery”. Cushing developed careful and meticulous surgical techniques working under Halsted. During this time he also began researching the first use of local anesthetic nerve block using cocaine. Unfortunately Halsted developed a cocaine addiction due to self-injection intravenously, leading Cushing to take responsibility of complex surgical patients at a young age.

In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, Cushing spent a little over a year in Europe training under prolific physicians, one of particular interest being Kocher. While with Kocher in Switzerland, they discovered the “Cushing reflex”, in which increased intracranial pressure was directly related to increased systemic blood pressure following acute head injury. Towards the end of his time in Europe, Cushing encountered the Riva-Rocci device, the first sphygmomanometer. Upon returning to the U.S., he brought a prototype of the device, and blood pressure measurement quickly became widely used across the United States.

In 1912, he became a professor of surgery at the Harvard Medical School. As the United States entered into WWI, Cushing was made a major in 1917, and later he was made director of a hospital in France. The following year he was promoted to lieutenant colonel, and was assigned as senior consultant in neurological surgery. Eventually, he was made a colonel and it was in this time that he treated Lieutenant Edward Revere Osler, father of Sir William Osler. Cushing later went on to write a biography on Sir William Osler, which won the Pulitzer Prize. Cushing returned to the United States in 1919, and was discharged the same year. He continued working diligently for the next decade and wrote several books and papers. It was during this time that he described the condition pituitary basophilia, which is now known as Cushing’s disease. In 1931, he completed his 2000<sup>th</sup> confirmed brain tumor operation.

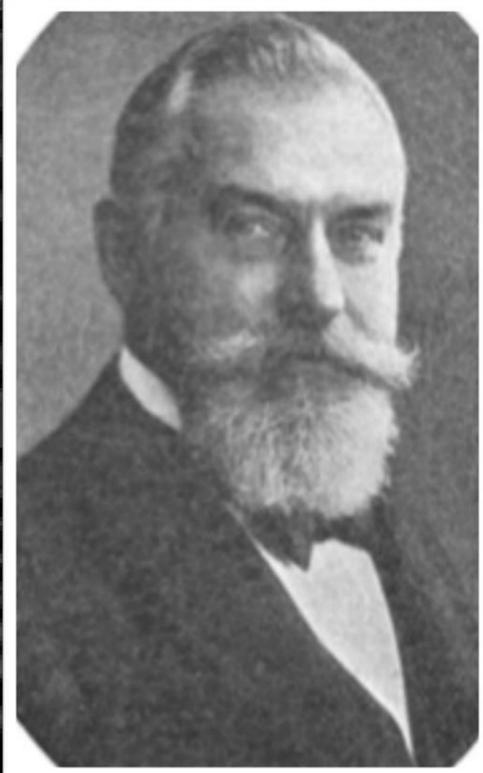
Cushing was known for being a great scholar, and a lover of antique medical texts. Throughout his career he authored more than 300 articles and 13 books. Additionally, he was known for documenting all of his cases meticulously. Interestingly, after the Johns Hopkins Pathology department had misplaced one of his specimens, he began to personally retain specimens from each of his procedures. This collection is today known as The Cushing Brain Tumor registry and contains samples from over 2,200 case studies. These samples included whole brain tissue, tumor specimens, hand-written notes and more than 15,000 photographic negatives from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This collection is now located in the Cushing Center at Yale Medical Library. He passed away on October 7, 1939, due to myocardial infarction after having lifted a Vesalius anatomy textbook.



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<http://bit.ly/359e5B2>

# Vincenz Czerny

(November 19, 1842-October 3, 1916)

Born In: Czech Republic

Practicing Country: Germany

Medical School: Karl-Ferdinand University & University of Vienna

Areas of Practice: Oncology & Gynecology

Vincenz Czerny was born November 19, 1842 in modern day Czech Republic. He studied medicine at the Karl-Ferdinand University as well as the University of Vienna. While at Vienna, he studied under the esteemed physician Ernst Wilhelm von Brücke. In 1866, Czerny graduated with his M.D. degree as summa cum laude. After graduating, he worked in a skin clinic under Ferdinand Ritter von Hebra as well as Salomon Stricker's institute. He also served as an assistant to both Johann Ritter von Oppolzer (1808-1871) and Theodor Billroth (1829-1894).

In 1877, Czerny became a professor at the University of Heidelberg. While at the university, Czerny worked mainly in the field of surgical oncology and gynecological surgery. Eventually, Czerny resigned from his position as professor in order to devote his remaining years to studying cancer. In fact in 1906, Czerny founded the New Cancer Institute in Heidelberg, a predecessor to the German Cancer Research Center. The institute consisted of a hospital for 47 cancer patients, and was known as the "Samaritan House."

Czerny is known for treating patients with inoperable cancer. He is attributed with performing the first open partial nephrectomy for renal carcinoma in 1887. In addition to oncology, Czerny also contributed to the fields of abdominal and plastic surgery. In 1877 he wrote a series of papers on a radical operation for the inguinal hernia. Furthermore, he is credited with performing the first total hysterectomy via the vagina in 1879. A year later, he completed a successful pyelolithotomy to cure kidney stone disease.

HEIDELBERG, April 9, 1910.

MY DEAR DR. REDER: I became a surgeon through the instrumentality of Th. Billroth. I intended to be a natural philosopher, Alexander von Humboldt being my ideal. In the last semester of my studies I was attracted to ophthalmology and I became private assistant to T. von Arl and Otto Becker. After my promotion, in 1866, I became assistant to Oppolzer through Professor Strickler, in whose institute I worked.

When Billroth came to Vienna, in 1867, I was charmed with his method and his pleasing personality. In delivering a lecture, which I gave before the physiological society, his attention was drawn to me and he requested me to become his assistant. I commenced with him in the spring of 1868 and remained until December, 1871, when I was called as Professor in Ordinary in Freiberg.

In 1877 I went to Heidelberg, where until 1906 I was at the head of the surgical clinic. Ever since then I have been the director of the institute, founded by me, for cancer examinations.

With great respect,

CZERNY.

Heidelberg, den 9. April 1910.

Mein lieber Herr Dr. Reder!

Ich bin Chirurg geworden durch und wegen Th. Billroth. Ich wollte Naturforscher werden und Alex. v. Humboldt schwebte mir als Ideal vor. In den letzten Semestern meiner Studien fesselte mich die Augenheilkunde. Ich wurde Privatassistent bei T. v. Arl u. Otto Becker. Dann kam ich nach meiner Promotion 1866 als Assistent zu Oppolzer und zwar durch Prof. Stricker, in dessen Institut ich arbeitete. Als Billroth 1867 nach Wien kam, fesselte mich seine Art zu arbeiten und seine künstlerische Persönlichkeit. Durch einen Vortrag, den ich im physiologischen Verein hielt, wurde er auf mich aufmerksam und forderte mich auf, sein Assistent zu werden. Ostern 1868 trat ich bei ihm ein und blieb bis Dezember 1871, wo ich als ordentlicher Professor nach Freiburg i. B. berufen wurde. 1877 kam ich nach Heidelberg, wo ich bis 1906 die chirurgische Klinik leitete. Seitdem bin ich Director des von mir gegründeten Instituts für Krebsforschung.

Hochachtungsvoll

Dr. Vincenz Czerny.

Heidelberg den 9. April 1910

Mein lieber Herr Dr. Reder!

Ich bin Chirurg geworden durch und wegen Th. Billroth. Ich wollte Naturforscher werden und Alex. v. Humboldt schwebte mir als Ideal vor. In den letzten Semestern meiner Studien fesselte mich die Augenheilkunde. Ich wurde Privatassistent bei T. v. Arl u. Otto Becker. Dann kam ich nach meiner Promotion 1866 als Assistent zu Oppolzer und zwar durch Prof. Stricker, in dessen Institut ich arbeitete. Als Billroth 1867 nach Wien kam, fesselte mich seine Art zu arbeiten und seine künstlerische Persönlichkeit. Durch einen Vortrag, den ich im physiologischen Verein hielt, wurde er auf mich aufmerksam und forderte mich auf, sein Assistent zu werden. Ostern 1868 trat ich bei ihm ein und blieb bis Dezember 1871, wo ich als ordentlicher Professor nach Freiburg i. B. berufen wurde. 1877 kam ich nach Heidelberg, wo ich bis 1906 die chirurgische Klinik leitete. Seitdem bin ich Director des von mir gegründeten Instituts für Krebsforschung.

Mein lieber Herr Prof. Czerny!  
Liesten Sie  
meine Fundamentale  
über Ovarien  
ab?  
Befehlsweilhaft  
3/28-10. F. Reder.

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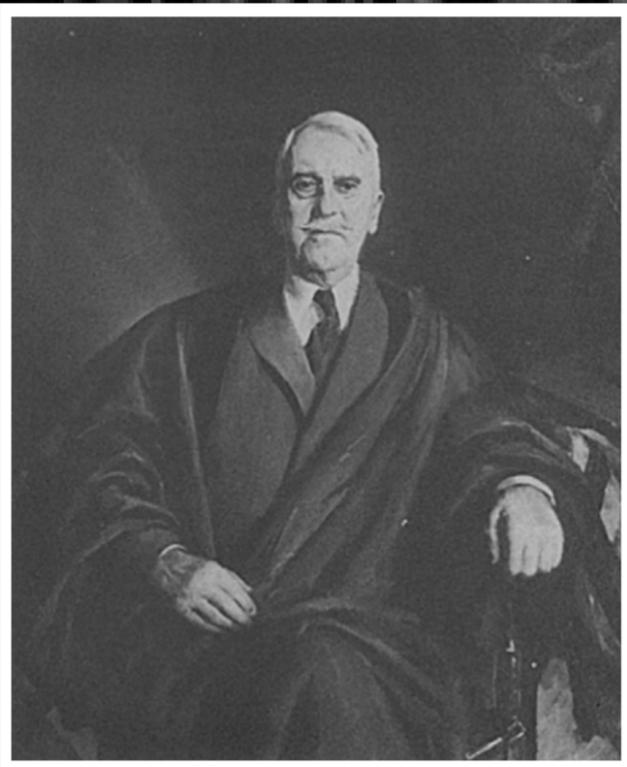
A Visit To Professor Czerny's Cancer Institute. (1906, October 6). *The Lancet*, 2(2), 957-958. Available from <http://bit.ly/359e5B2>  
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# John Blair Deaver

(July 25, 1855 – September 25, 1931)

Born In: U.S.A  
Practicing Country: U.S.A  
Medical School: University of Pennsylvania  
Areas of Practice: General Surgery



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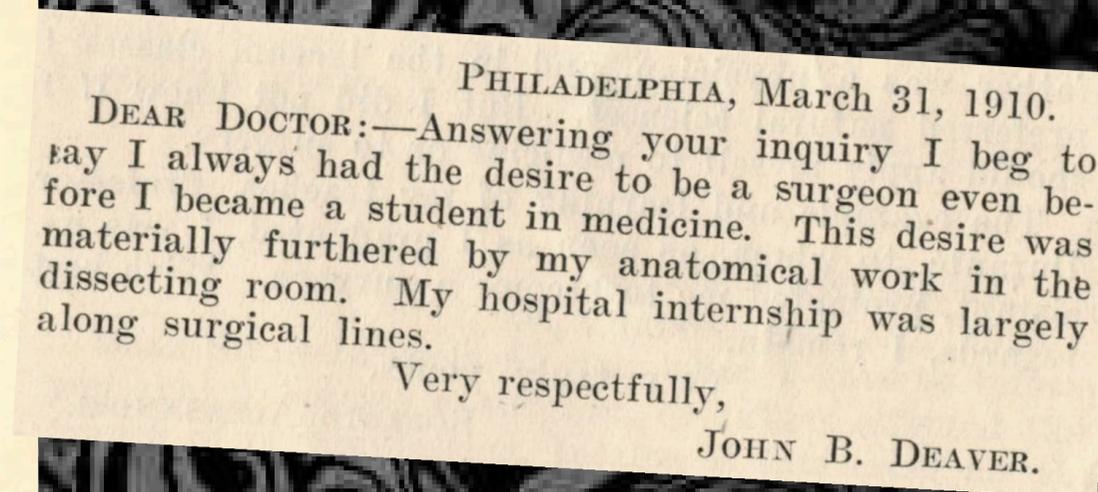
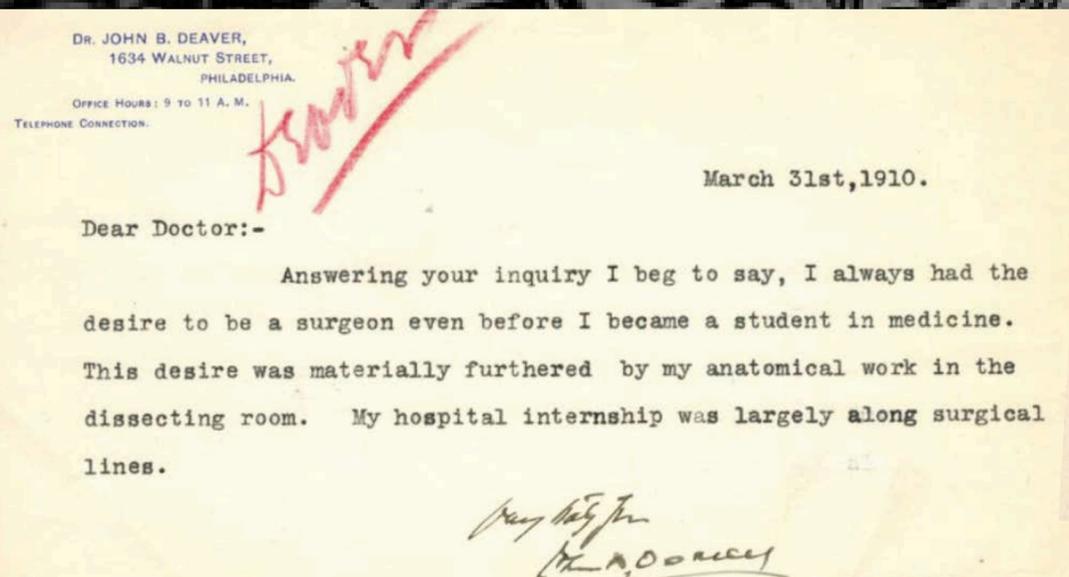
## Fun Fact

Regarding appendectomies, Deaver said, “an inch and a half, a minute and a half, a week and a half”. This is referring to the length of the incision, the time it took to perform the operation, and the duration of the hospital stay, respectively.

John B. Deaver was born on July 25, 1855, in Buck, Pennsylvania. Deaver attended boarding school at West Nottingham Academy in Maryland. After graduation, Deaver taught at country schools in Lancaster County in order to save up money to attend the United States’ first medical school, the University of Pennsylvania. He did matriculate and graduate from the University of Pennsylvania in 1878. He went on to complete internships at German Hospital and Philadelphia’s Children Hospital. After Deaver completed his internships, he established a highly successful private practice in Philadelphia. Due to Deaver’s growing reputation, he became a Professor of Anatomy at his alma mater from 1881-1899. In 1886 Deaver also obtained a job at German Hospital, which is now known as Lankenau Hospital. Due to a rivalry with another faculty member Deaver left the University of Pennsylvania in 1899, and solely worked at German Hospital.

German Hospital is where Deaver accumulated his fame as a surgeon. In 1896, he was appointed Chief of the Surgical Department. His “Saturday Clinics” were world renowned, with physicians coming from all over the world to watch him operate. Deaver is said to have performed more surgeries in Philadelphia than any previous surgeons, as he would perform around 25 operations on his clinic days. In 1911, Deaver returned to the University of Pennsylvania, and accumulated the following titles throughout his career: Professor of the Practice of Surgery (1911-1918), John Rhea Barton Professor of Surgery (1918-1922) and Emeritus Professor of Surgery (1922-1931). He was also a founding member of the American College of Surgeons, and served as the society’s fifth president (1921-1922).

Deaver was a gifted writer, publishing over 240 articles and writing 5 books. Although a general surgeon, he focused heavily on surgeries of the abdomen. He is well known for his radical approach to appendectomies, and was an early advocate of immediate appendectomies for appendicitis. Additionally, Deaver is attributed with the invention of the Deaver retractor, a tool still used in the operating room today. He was known to make students hold the retractor for long periods of time, as he did not allow anyone to perform any aspect of the surgery except himself. Deaver passed away on September 25, 1931. The cause of Deaver’s death is unknown as he made his pathologist promise to destroy all radiological films following his death.



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## Alexander Hugh Ferguson

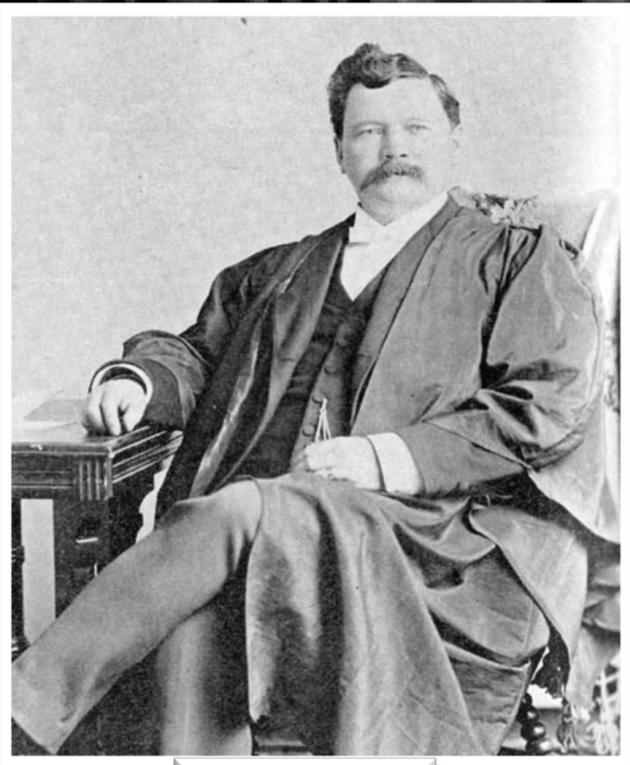
(February 27, 1853-October 20, 1911)

Born In: Canada

Practicing Countries: Canada & U.S.A

Medical School: Trinity School of Medicine

Areas of Practice: General Surgery

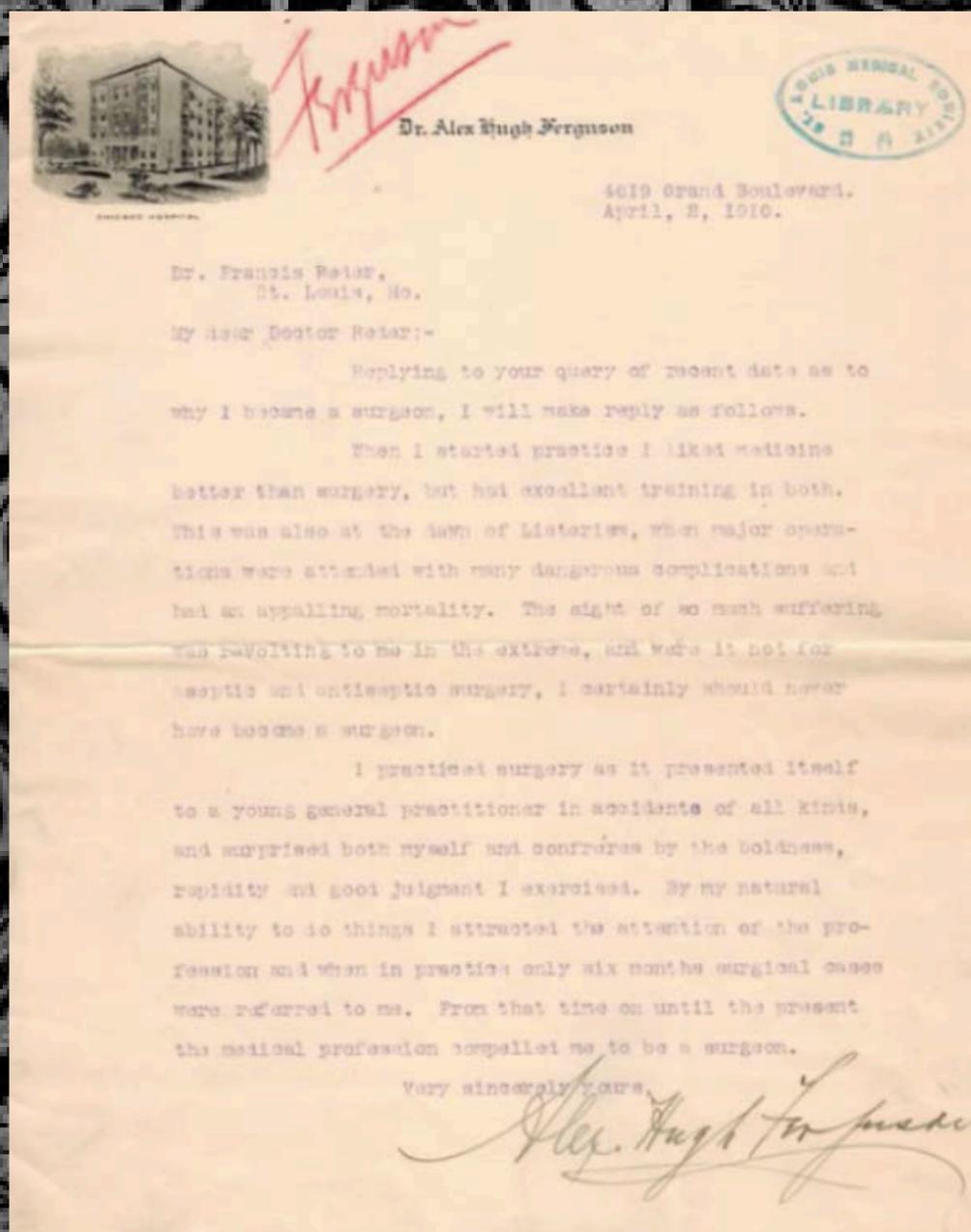


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Ferguson was born in Woodville, Ontario, Canada on February 27, 1853. He did his undergraduate career at Manitoba College, and graduated medical school from Trinity School of Medicine in 1881. Ferguson received advanced training at institutions in New York City, Glasgow, London and Berlin. He also worked at a laboratory with famed German physician Robert Koch, and while doing so received a certificate in bacteriology from the University of Berlin.

Ferguson began practicing medicine in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, shortly after his graduation from medical school. He also helped found the Manitoba Medical College, and was a Professor of Physiology and a Professor of Surgery at the school until 1886 and 1894 respectively. In 1893, he accepted a position as Chair of Surgery at the Postgraduate Medical School in Chicago. Seven years later, he became a Professor of Clinical Surgery at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. In 1906, the King of Portugal honored Ferguson with the title of Commander of the Order of Christ due to his outstanding surgical career.

Ferguson is responsible many surgical techniques relating to hernia repair. He is responsible for creating the Ferguson herniotomy. Two of his most well known publications are *On the radical cure of inguinal and femoral hernia by operation* and *Oblique inguinal hernia, typic operation for its radical cure*.



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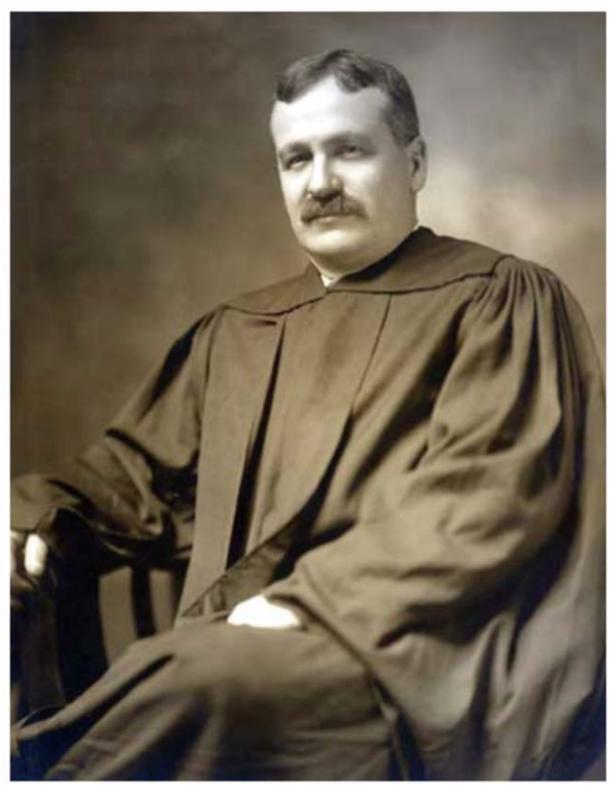
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## John M.T. Finney

(June 30, 1863-May 30, 1942)

Born In: U.S.A  
Practicing Country: U.S.A  
Medical School: Harvard Medical School  
Areas of Practice: General Surgery



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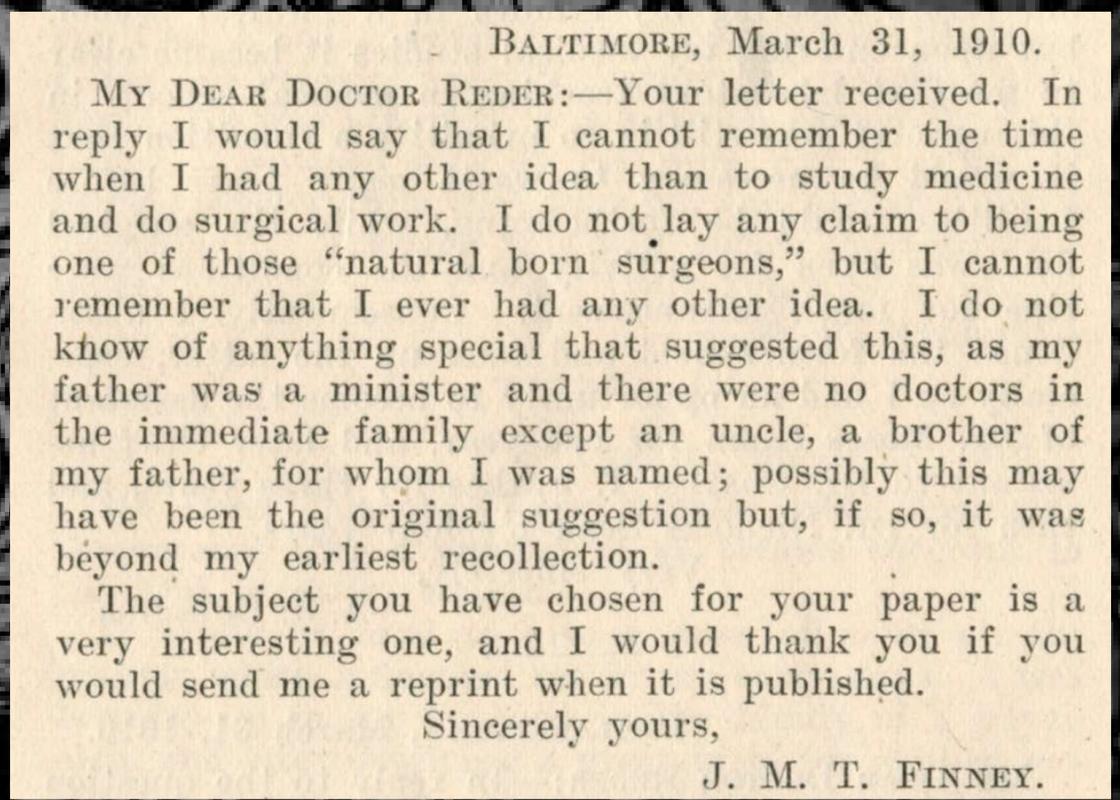
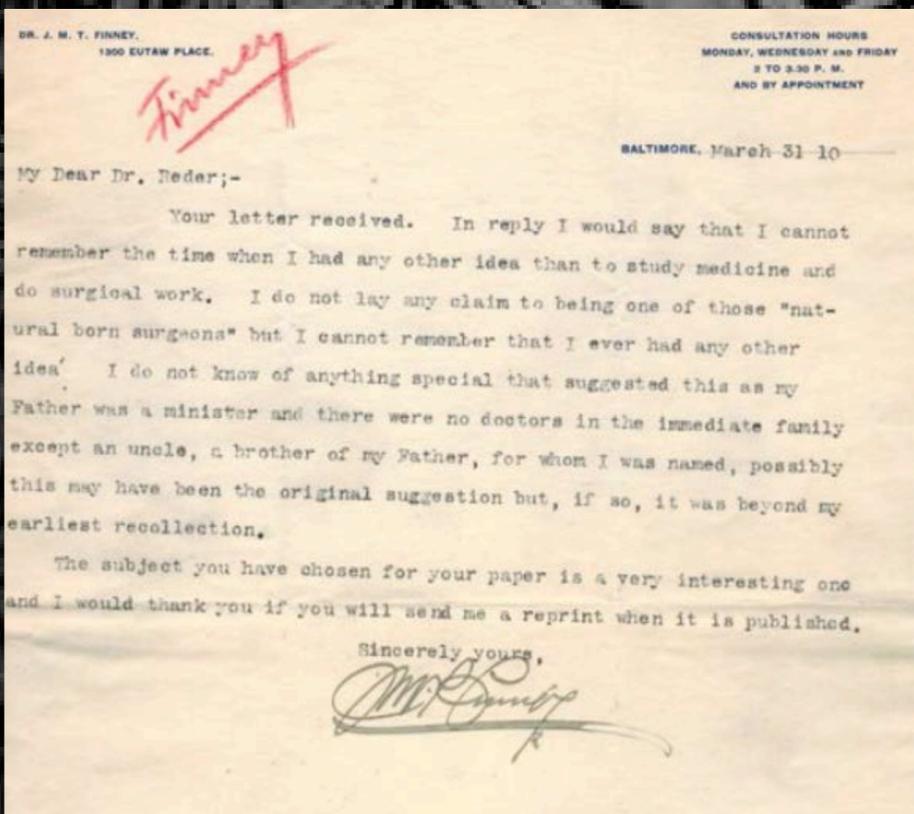
### Fun Fact

Finney is the only person to play football for both Princeton and Harvard. He played for Princeton while in college, and for Harvard during his first year at medical school.

John Finney was born on June 30, 1863, in Natchez, Massachusetts. Finney's academic career began at Princeton University, from which he graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1884. After completing college, Finney went on to attend Harvard Medical College. He graduated in 1888, and was promptly invited by William Halsted, who introduced the radical mastectomy for breast cancer, to become a doctor at the brand new Johns Hopkins Hospital. While at Johns Hopkins, Finney worked under the "Big Four": William Halstead, William Welch, William Osler and Howard Kelly. Although a general surgeon, Finney focused much of his work on the abdominal region.

During World War I, Finney was Brigadier General in the Medical Corps of the U.S. Army. One of the most notable achievements of Finney's lifetime, is becoming the first president of the American College of Surgeons (1913-1916), and also served on the Board of Regents for the societies first 20 years. Finney was also president of the Southern Surgical Association (1912), the American Surgical Association (1921), and the Medical & Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland (1943-1935). Finney was highly devoted to medical education, and was on the editorial board for *Surgery* and *Gynecology & Obstetrics*. He was also an honorary member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England and the Medical Society of London.

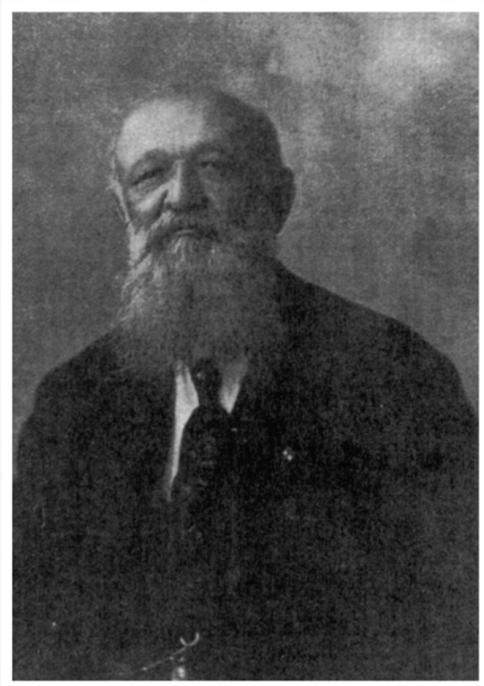
Finney's skill as a clinician brought him many job offers throughout his life. In fact, he was asked to become president of Princeton University, but turned down the offer. Instead Finney became a life trustee of the university. He often served as a mentor to Princeton students, and a collection of small address he wrote to the students as part of a small medical club can be found in , *The Physician*. Finney was also asked to become the chair of surgery at Johns Hopkins. However he felt that he was too old for the position, and said it should go to someone younger. Finney passed away at age 78 in 1942.



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<http://bit.ly/2QpiRdQ>

## Davide Giordano

( March 22, 1864- February 1, 1954)

Born In: Italy

Practicing Country: Italy

Medical School: University of Turin

Areas of Practice: General Surgery

Davide Giordano was born in Piedmont, Italy on March 22, 1864. He attended medical school at the University of Turin along with the Division of Surgery at S. Giovanni Battista Hospital. Giordano was an exceptional medical student, and while in medical school published his findings regarding auto sterilization and tetanus. He graduated in 1887, and presented his thesis on acute pyogenic osteomyelitis. Upon graduating, Giordano became a surgeon at Torre Pellice Hospital. In 1890, he became an assistant surgery professor at the University of Bologna and director of the Surgical Pathology Clinic. Four years later, he became chairman of Venice Hospital. In 1893, Giordano published, *Trattato di Chirurgia*, along with his mentors Filippo Novaro, Simone Duplay and Paolo Reclus.

Giordano remained at Venice Hospital for 60 years. During that time he became a pioneer in skull base surgery. One of his greatest contributions is the translabellar-nasal approach to the pituitary. However, he is most well remembered for his contributions regarding evaluation and operation of the kidneys. The "Giordano" sign is named after him, which corresponds to pain in the renal region when hit with a hand. The sign is used to diagnose nephrolithiasis, pyelonephritis, paranephritis, and renal tuberculosis.

In addition to surgery, Giordano had a passion for politics and medical history. He was a surgeon for the Third Army in World War I. In 1920 he was actually named mayor of Venice, a position he held until his nomination for Senator of the Kingdom of Italy in 1923. He was involved in a number of different societies including the International Congress of Surgery in Rome (1926) and the Italian Society of Surgery (1946). He was founder of the Surgery International Society in Brussels. He passed away in Venice on February 1, 1954.

VENICE, April 14, 1910.

DEAR COLLEAGUE: I received your communication and in answer will say: I desired to become a doctor by an inclination acquired, I do not know where, as far back as I remember in my childhood. I had this desire without there ever having been a doctor in the family, my father being a school teacher in the country.

When I was in college my professor would have directed my mind toward the study of mathematics, but I felt myself drawn to medicine.

At the University of Turin, I was a pupil at the college founded by Victor Amedee for students of the province of Sardes, they earning the place by com-

petitive examinations. The pupils at the end of each year must have at least 9 or 10 in the examinations in order to hold their places; furthermore, from the second year (we have six in Italy) of their studies the medical students have to serve in a surgical section of the hospital San Giovanni in Turin. The three pupils making the highest grades during the last year are appointed interns, that is to say, they live in the hospital and serve in emergency cases under the direction of the chief. This institute is the preparatory school for surgeons of Piedmont.

It was during these years of study that the love of surgery came on me, although I certainly owe it, partly, to the fact that I had fallen into the service of one of the best surgeons of Italy, Professor Novaro (now at Genes), who had been a pupil of the same college. I believe that I was also as much struck by the remarkable success of the surgery which Professor Novaro had been one of the first to practice in Italy, that of modern antiseptic surgery; while near by in the other rooms one would still see the deplorable results of the preantiseptic methods practiced by older doctors.

I assure you that surgery did not seem easy to me; the first time I assisted at an operation (it was trephining of the mastoid); I felt at the first blow of the hammer such a shock that I had to leave the room, but the professor encouraged me and told me that he himself was on the point of fainting at his first operation. However, I accustomed myself rapidly to the work as I understood and grasped the beauty of the art and the beneficence of its results.

I am mailing you some of my publications, choosing for the occasion those of a special nature.

Devotedly,

DR. GIORDANO.

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**Davide Giordano**  
( March 22, 1864- February 1, 1954)

Venise, le 14 Avril 1910

D. Giordano

Cher Collègue

Je reçois votre aimable invitation, à laquelle je dois répondre d'abord que j'ai voulu être médecin par disposition acquise je ne sais d'où. Aussi loin que je me souviens dans mon enfance, j'avais ce désir, sans avoir eu cependant de médecin dans ma famille, mon père étant maître d'école en campagne.

Lors de mes études lycéales mon professeur de physique aurait voulu me pousser vers les mathématiques, mais je me sentais attiré à la médecine. A l'université de Turin, je fus élève du Collegio Carlo Alberto fondé par Victor Amédée II pour les étudiants des provinces Sardes qui gagnaient la place au concours. Ces élèves doivent avoir à la fin de chaque année au moins les 9/10 aux examens pour conserver la place; de plus les étudiants de médecine doivent dès la 2<sup>me</sup> année d'études (nous en avons 6 en Italie) faire service d'élèves dans une section chirurgicale de l'Hôpital San Giovanni de Turin. Les 3 classifiés premiers sont pendant la dernière année élèves internes, c'est à dire qu'ils logent dans l'hôpital même, pour le service de garde et d'urgence, sous la direction d'un chef. Cette institution est la pépinière des chirurgiens du Piémont. En effet, c'est pendant ces années d'études que m'est venu l'amour de la chirurgie. Je le dois certes en grande partie à ce que j'étais tombé dans le service d'un des meilleurs chirurgiens d'Italie, le Prof. Novaro, (maintenant à Gènes), qui avait été, lui aussi, élève du même collège. Je crois aussi que je fus d'autant plus frappé de la puissance et de la beauté de la chirurgie que le Prof. Novaro avait été un des premiers à pratiquer en Italie la Chirurgie moderne et antiseptique, tandis que, à côté, dans d'autres salles, l'on voyait encore les déplorables résultats de la méthode pré-antiseptique, conservée par tel vieux chirurgien.

Je vous avouerai que la chirurgie ne me parut pas facile dès le premier jour, où j'assistai à la première opération (une trépanation de l'apophyse mastoïde) en en subissant aux premiers coups de marteau une telle angoisse que je dus sortir de la salle. Mais le Prof. Novaro m'encouragea, et voulut bien me dire que lui, il avait failli s'évanouir à la première opération, une piqûre d'hydrocèle!

En effet, j'ai pu m'habituer rapidement, à mesure que je comprenais et saisisais la beauté de cet art et la bonté de ses résultats.

Je me permets de vous envoyer par ce même courrier quelques-unes de mes publications, en choisissant, pour la circonstance, celles de nature plus particulièrement professionnelle.

Très dévoué,  
Dr. GIORDANO.

in curriculum vitae.

à Turin je fus élève du Collegio Carlo Alberto fondé par Victor Amédée II pour les étudiants des provinces Sardes qui gagnaient la place au concours. Ces élèves doivent avoir à la fin de chaque année au moins les 9/10 aux examens pour conserver la place; de plus les étudiants de médecine doivent dès la 2<sup>me</sup> année d'études (nous en avons 6 en Italie) faire service d'élèves dans une section chirurgicale de l'Hôpital San Giovanni de Turin. Les 3 premiers sont pendant la dernière année élèves internes, c'est à dire qu'ils

Venise, le 14 Avril 1910.

Cher Collègue:

Je reçois votre aimable invitation, à laquelle je dois répondre d'abord que j'ai voulu être médecin par disposition acquise je ne sais d'où. Aussi loin que je me souviens dans mon enfance, j'avais ce désir, sans avoir eu cependant de médecin dans ma famille, mon père étant maître d'école en campagne.

Lors de mes études lycéales, mon professeur aurait voulu me pousser vers les mathématiques, mais je me sentais attiré à la médecine. A l'Université de Turin, je fus élève du Collegio Carlo Alberto, fondé par Victor Amédée II pour les étudiants des provinces Sardes qui gagnaient la place au concours. Ces élèves doivent avoir à la fin de chaque année au moins les 9/10 aux examens pour conserver la place; de plus, les étudiants de médecine doivent dès la 2<sup>me</sup> année d'études (nous en avons 6 en Italie) faire service d'élèves dans une section chirurgicale de l'Hôpital San Giovanni de Turin. Les 3 classifiés premiers sont pendant la dernière année élèves internes, c'est à dire qu'ils logent dans l'hôpital même, pour le service de garde et d'urgence, sous la direction d'un chef. Cette institution est la pépinière des chirurgiens du Piémont. En effet, c'est pendant ces années d'études que m'est venu l'amour de la chirurgie. Je le dois certes en grande partie à ce que j'étais tombé dans le service d'un des meilleurs chirurgiens d'Italie, le Prof. Novaro, (maintenant à Gènes), qui avait été, lui aussi, élève du même collège. Je crois aussi que je fus d'autant plus frappé de la puissance et de la beauté de la chirurgie que le Prof. Novaro avait été un des premiers à pratiquer en Italie la Chirurgie moderne et antiseptique, tandis que, à côté, dans d'autres salles, l'on voyait encore les déplorables résultats de la méthode pré-antiseptique, conservée par tel vieux chirurgien.

Je vous avouerai que la chirurgie ne me parut pas facile dès le premier jour, où j'assistai à la première opération (une trépanation de l'apophyse mastoïde) en en subissant aux premiers coups de marteau une telle angoisse que je dus sortir de la salle. Mais le Prof. Novaro m'encouragea, et voulut bien me dire que lui, il avait failli s'évanouir à la première opération, une piqûre d'hydrocèle!

En effet, j'ai pu m'habituer rapidement, à mesure que je comprenais et saisisais la beauté de cet art et la bonté de ses résultats.

Je me permets de vous envoyer par ce même courrier quelques-unes de mes publications, en choisissant, pour la circonstance, celles de nature plus particulièrement professionnelle.

Très dévoué,  
Dr. GIORDANO.

in curriculum vitae.

logent dans l'hôpital même, pour le service de garde et d'urgence, sous la direction d'un chef. Cette institution est la pépinière des chirurgiens du Piémont. En effet, c'est pendant ces années d'études que m'est venu l'amour de la chirurgie. Je le dois certes en grande partie à ce que j'étais tombé dans le service d'un des meilleurs chirurgiens d'Italie, le prof. Novaro, (maintenant à Gènes), qui avait été lui aussi élève du même Collège Carlo Alberto. Je crois aussi que je fus d'autant plus frappé de la puissance et de la beauté de la chirurgie que le prof. Novaro avait été un des premiers à pratiquer en Italie la chirurgie moderne et antiseptique, tandis que, à côté, dans d'autres salles, l'on voyait encore les déplorables résultats de la méthode pré-antiseptique, conservée par tel vieux chirurgien.

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Très dévoué,  
Dr. GIORDANO.

in curriculum vitae.

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Très dévoué,  
Dr. GIORDANO.

in curriculum vitae.



# Viktor von Hacker

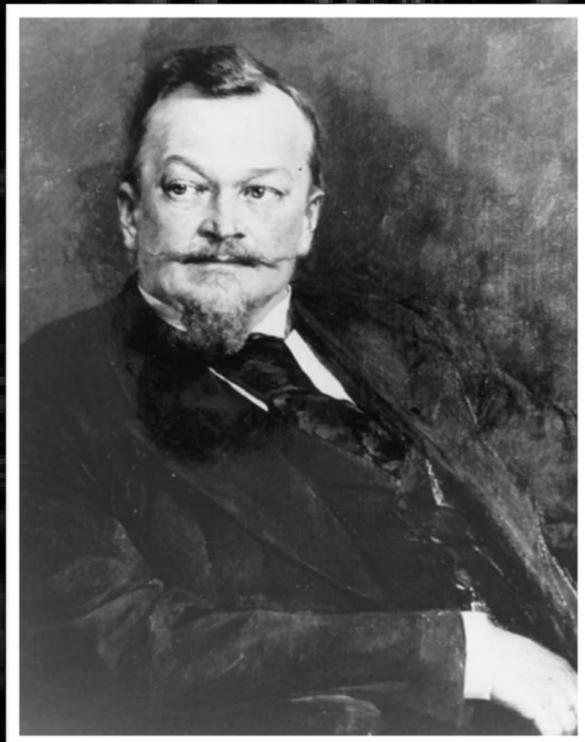
(October 21, 1852- May 20, 1933)

Born In: Austria

Practicing Country: Austria

Medical School: University of Vienna

Areas of Practice: General Surgery



<http://bit.ly/2KkxhE0>

Viktor von Hacker was born on October 21, 1852, in Vienna, Austria. Hacker went to medical school at the University of Vienna, and graduated on May 31, 1878. After graduating, Hacker began working at the Department of Internal Medicine under Adalbert Duchek, as well as the Department of Pathological Anatomy under Richard Heschl. At the time of Hacker's graduation, Vienna was world renowned for its surgical advancements and physicians. One such physician of Hacker's time was Theodor Billroth. On October 1, 1880, Hacker became a pupil of Billroth's at Vienna General Hospital

Under Billroth, Hacker was able to experience what some refer to as the "golden age" of surgical research. Chloroform anesthesia and antiseptic wound treatment were advancements that came about during Hacker's training, allowing the possibility to operate on neoplasms. In addition when Billroth performed the first successful gastric resection, Hacker was an eyewitness in the operating room. After completing a year of training, Hacker became an assistant at the Billroth Clinic.

While working as an assistant, Hacker had a number of publications. In 1883 and 1884, he published case reports on healed gastric and pylorous resections. In addition, Hacker presented a translated paper on antiseptic wound treatment. In 1888, Hacker became head of the surgical department at Archduchess Sophia Hospital in Vienna. Three years later, he became head of the department at Polyclinic. While here, physicians would come from all over the world to learn from Hacker how to perform esophagoscopy.

In 1902 Hacker moved to Graz, and began working to build a new surgical unit. In July 1912, the Surgical Clinic of Graz was moved to a new state hospital unit. Hacker was also responsible for setting up hospital rooms to house the injured during World War I. He served as a consultant surgeon of the Graz Military Command, and had the rank of chief medical officer first class. Hacker retired in 1924, and passed away on May 20, 1933.

Although a general surgeon, Hacker was most interested in gastrointestinal surgery, esophageal surgery and plastic surgery. He is responsible for creating the antecolic gastric jujostomy with narrowed cross-section. In addition, he was the first to use the rectus abdominis muscle to create an artificial gastric fistula. A particular highlight of Hacker's career was the utilization of oesophagoscopy. He also invented the Hacker Triangela for the outpatient stabilization of fractures.

Hacker was a decorated man, and was awarded the following: officer's cross of the Red Cross, Military Cross, Franz Josefs Order, Hofrat and honorary doctorate of Graz Karl-Franzens-University. He was a member of the Society of Doctors in Vienna, the Doctors' Association in Styria and the German Society for Surgery.

PROF. v. HACKER  
GEISDORFPLATZ 4.  
ORD. 2-3. TELEFON 70.

Graz, 16. April 1910

Geehrter Herr Kollege!

Ihre Anfrage, warum ich Chirurg geworden bin, kann ich wohl damit beantworten, daß der tiefste Beweggrund, die Begeisterung für die Chirurgie war, die ich schon als Student empfand, als ich den Vorlesungen und Operationen Billroth's beiwohnte, welche durch den persönlichen Verkehr mit Billroth's Assistenten noch gesteigert wurde. So kam ich als Operationszögling an Billroth's Klinik. Entschieden dafür, daß

ich Fachchirurg wurde, was schließlich der Grund war, daß Billroth, obwohl ich erst ein Jahr bei ihm Operationszögling war, mich nach dem Abgange Mikulicz's aus seiner Klinik zum Assistenten - als dessen Nachfolger - erwählte.

In vorzüglicher Hochachtung  
Ihr ergebener  
V. von Hacker  
Direktor d. chir. Univ.-Klinik  
Graz 16/4 1910.

Graz, 16. April 1910.

Geehrter Herr College!

Ihre Anfrage, warum ich Chirurg geworden bin, kann ich wohl damit beantworten, daß der tiefste Beweggrund, die Begeisterung für die Chirurgie war, die ich schon als Student empfand, als ich den Vorlesungen und Operationen Billroth's beiwohnte, welche durch den persönlichen Verkehr mit Billroth's Assistenten noch gesteigert wurde. So kam ich als Operationszögling an Billroth's Klinik. Entschieden dafür, daß ich Fach-Chirurg wurde, war schließlich der Umstand, daß Billroth, obwohl ich erst ein Jahr bei ihm Operationszögling war, mich nach dem Abgange Mikulicz's aus seiner Klinik zum Assistenten - als dessen Nachfolger - erwählte.

In vorzüglicher Hochachtung Ihr ergebener  
B. von Hacker,  
Direktor der chir. Univ.-Klinik.

Graz, April 16, 1910.

HONORED COLLEAGUE: Your question, "Why I became a surgeon?" I can well answer, that the greatest reason was the inspiration which I felt, even as a student, when I was present at the lectures and operations of Dr. Billroth. This inspiration was still more increased by personal connection with Billroth's assistant, so I came as a student to operations at Billroth's clinic; deciding in its (surgery's) favor I became a specialist, a surgeon. It was this decision that caused Billroth (provided I was first a student in the operating room for a year) to choose me as his assistant to succeed Mikulicz, after the latter's departure from the clinic.

In highest esteem, your devoted,

B. VON HACKER,  
Director of the Surg. Univ.-Clinic.

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# Victor Horsely

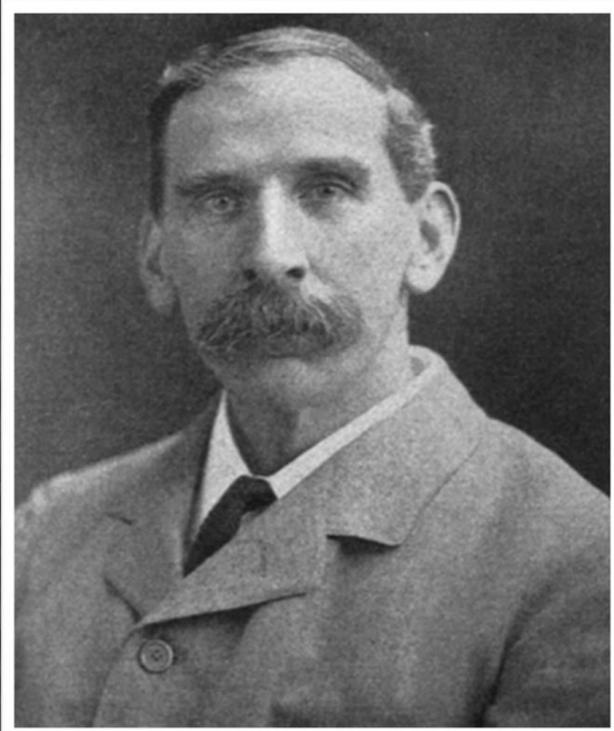
(April 14, 1857- July 16, 1916)

Born In: England

Practicing Country: England

Medical School: University College London

Areas of Practice: Neurosurgery



<http://bit.ly/2QetkEG>

Victor Horsley was born April 14, 1857, in Kensington, London, England. In 1874, Horsely began school at London University, and afterward attended medical school at University College London from 1875-1881. He was an excellent student, winning medals for anatomy, surgery and physiology during his medical examinations. As an undergraduate medical student, he even had an article published in *Brain* in 1880. In 1882, Horsely became a surgical registrar at University College Hospital. The following year, he became a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. In 1886, he accepted a position at the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic in Queen Square.

Horsely was a pioneer in the field of neurosurgery. He performed the first laminectomy for excision of a spinal tumor in 1887. One of Horsely's greatest contributions to the field of surgery was that of "antiseptic wax". While performing research, Horsely noted that modeling wax was effective for stopping bleeding. Therefore, he developed a mixture of beeswax, salicylic acid and almond oil in 1886 to create his famous wax. Horsely is responsible for a number of other "firsts" including: carotid ligation for a cerebral aneurysm, the transcranial approach to the pituitary gland, surface marking of the cerebral cortex and many more.

In addition to surgery Horsely had a passion for research. He was appointed Superintendent of the Brown Institute in 1884, and performed research on a number of different topics. While at the institute Horsely produced over 51 publications, earning him an election as a fellow of the Royal Society in 1886. The Horsely-Clarke stereotactic frame is one of Horsely's greatest contributions. The device allows selective stimulation and electrolytic ablation of specific brain regions without interfering with other areas. Horsely was also an author or co-author in many books including *Functions of the Marginal Convolution* (1884) and, as a co-author, *Experiments upon the Functions of the Cerebral Cortex* (1888) and *Alcohol and the Human Body* (1902).

Horsely was a progressive man, and was responsible for many social reforms in the field of medicine. He advocated for women's rights, and fought for women physicians' right to practice medicine. He was avidly against alcohol and tobacco, serving as president of the British Temperance Association (1896). He was also president of the Medical Defense Union, which aimed to protect physicians against unjust accusations of malpractice.

In June 1915, Horsely was sent to Egypt on active duty for World War I. While serving at developed a high fever, eventually lapsing into a coma. Horsely died a day later at the age of 59, whether he died from parathyroid insufficiency or heat stroke is still debated today.

*Horsely*  
Telephone No. 5343.  
Garrard.  
25, Cavendish Square,  
W. LONDON.  
LIBRARY  
APR 10 1910  
Dear Sir  
I was always as  
a boy fond of the  
mechanical aspect of  
anatomy & physiology.  
At the hospital I  
was impressed by  
the amount of direct

benefit obtained by surgery  
& the relative powerlessness  
of internal medicine.  
Hence I endeavored to become  
a surgeon. Yours very truly  
Victor Horsely  
J. Deba.

Cavendish Square,  
W. LONDON, April 4, 1910.  
● DEAR SIR:—I was always as a boy fond of the me-  
chanical aspect of anatomy and physiology. At the  
hospital I was impressed by the amount of direct  
benefit obtained by surgery and the relative powerless-  
ness of internal medicine. Hence I endeavored to be-  
come a surgeon. Yours very truly,  
VICTOR HORSELY.

### Bibliography

Powell M. (2006). Sir Victor Horsley--an inspiration. *BMJ (Clinical research ed.)*, 333(7582), 1317-1319. doi:10.1136/bmj.39056.527407.55

Tan T., Black P.M. (2002). Sir Victor Horsley (1857-1916): Pioneer of Neurological Surgery, *Neurosurgery*, 50(3), 607-612. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/2QetkEG>



<https://bit.ly/2C3mKZn>

# W.H.A. Jacobson, M.Ch., F.R.C.S.

(1847 - Sept 14<sup>th</sup>, 1924)

Born In: England

Practicing Country: England

Medical School: Guy's Hospital

Areas of Practice: General Surgery

Jacobson graduated first class honors in Natural Science in 1869 from Winchester and Corpus Christi College in Oxford. He attended Guy's Medical School and obtained his F.R.C.S. in 1875.

Jacobson was a highly regarded professor of surgery throughout his career. He received several esteemed appointments at Guy's Hospital, including demonstrator of anatomy, assistant surgeon, and teacher of operative surgery. As a renowned anatomy professor, he was known to deliver enthusiastic lectures that "made dry bones live". He dedicated more than twenty years of his life as a consulting surgeon at Guy's Hospital and the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Children and Women. He demonstrated compassion and was fondly regarded by students and patients alike.

As a distinguished scholar, Jacobson authored several profound texts, his most popular being *The Operations of Surgery* (1888), a book published in more than six editions. He also wrote *Diseases of Male Generative Organs* (1893) and top notch articles for Holmes's *System of Surgery* and Heath's *Dictionary of Surgery*. He made numerous contributions to *Guy's Hospital Reports* revised John Hilton's great work on *Rest and Pain*.

Ladine Court,  
EWHURST HAWTHURST, April 19, 1910.

MY DEAR SIR:—I retired some five years ago and your letter has been sent on to me. I wish I could give you more interesting information.

If I remember rightly, I inclined to surgery owing to the early and excellent grounding in anatomy which I received from Professor Robertson at Oxford, 1866-1869, and the detailed dissections required in the natural science school of that day, both in the vertebrate and invertebrate kingdom.

I am very faithfully,

W. H. A. JACOBSON.

Ladine Court  
Ewhurst Hawthurst.  
April 19. 1910.



My dear Sir,

I retired some 5 years ago & your letter has been sent on to me.

I wish I could give you more interesting information.

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I am yr. very faithfully,  
W. H. A. Jacobson.

### Bibliography

Obituary: W.H.A. Jacobson, M.Ch. Oxon., F.R.C.S. (1924). *The British Medical Journal*, 2(3328):691-692. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/2s30pcM>



# Walther Kausch

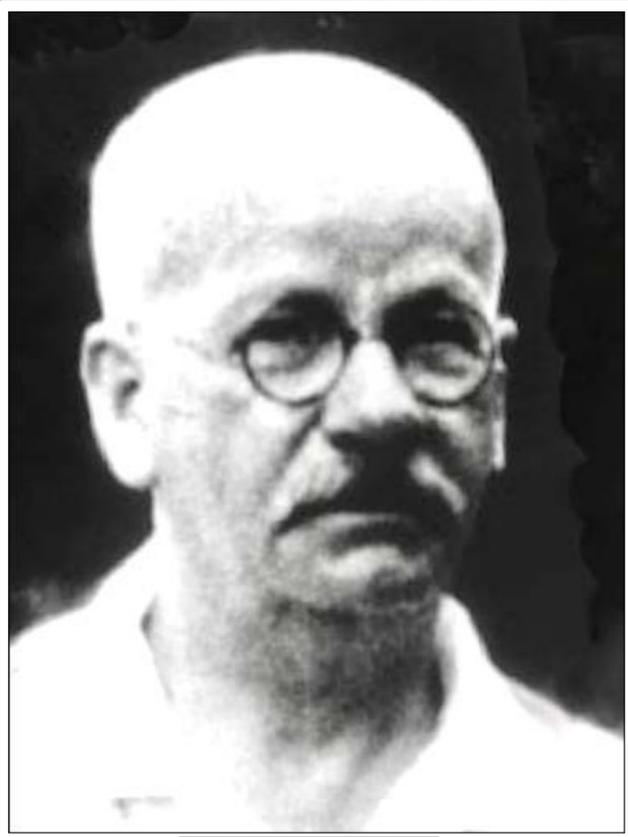
(July 17th, 1867 – March 24th, 1928)

Born In: Russia

Practicing Country: Germany

Medical School: Friedrich-Wilhelm-Universität

Areas of Practice: Neurology, Internal Medicine & General Surgery

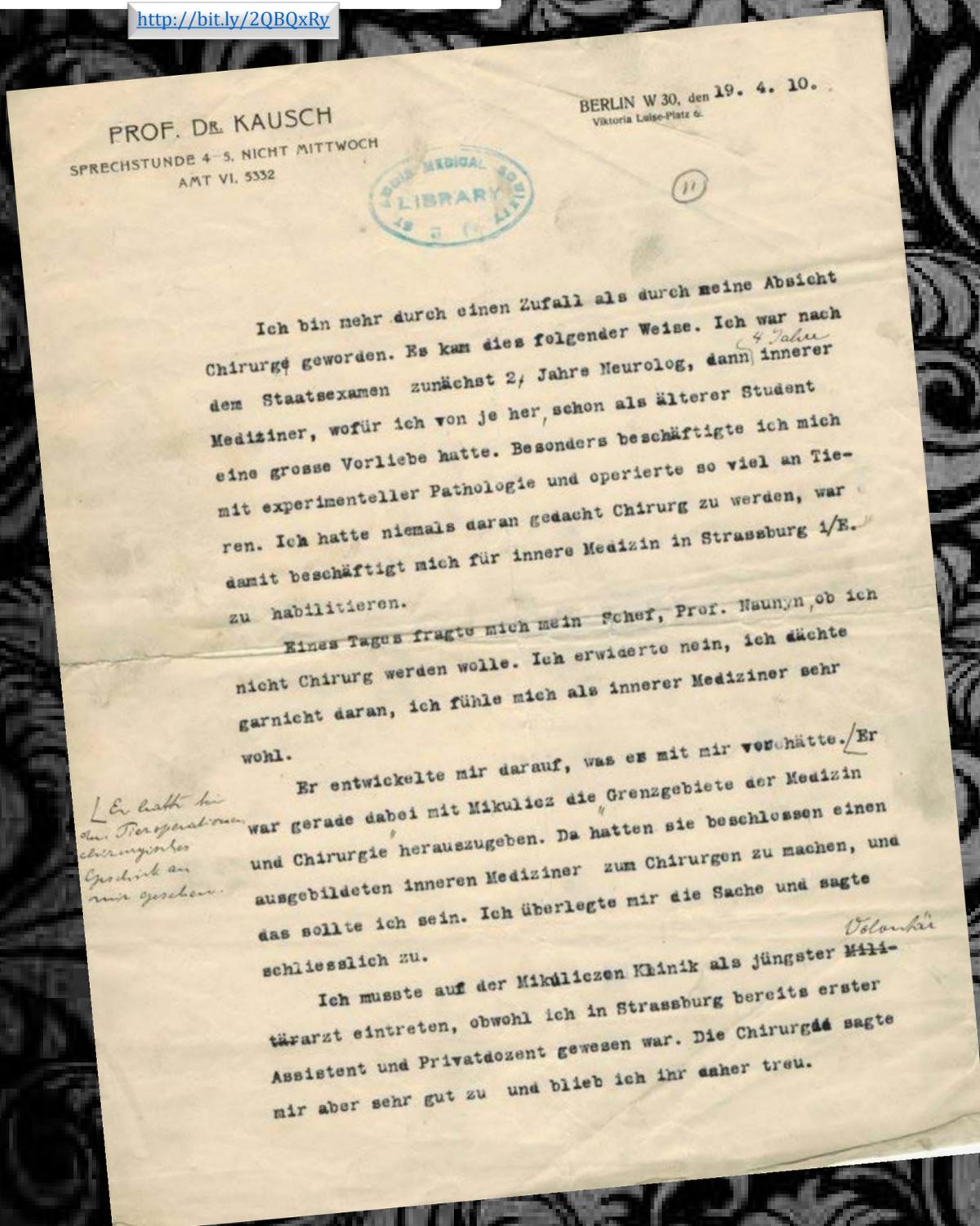


<http://bit.ly/2QBQxRy>

Kausch is best known for his improvements to the pancreatoduodenectomy. He was the first surgeon to successfully complete this operation for ampullary carcinoma in two stages in 1909. His approach did not include a complete duodenectomy, but rather partial resection of the duodenum and anastomosis to the distal pancreatic remnant.

Kausch spent six years of his training in alternate medical specialties prior to pursuing a career in surgery. From 1890-1892 he worked at a Psychiatric-Neurology Clinic under Friedrich Jolly and Karl Furstner. He spent the next four years in internal medicine under Bernhard Naunyn before changing into surgery. He completed his surgical training under Jan Mikulicz-Radecki at Breslau University from 1896-1906.

Afterwards, he was elected head and director of the Augusta-Viktoria-Krankenhaus surgical department in Berlin-Schöneberg, and remained in this position until his death in 1928. He died from a pulmonary embolism that occurred in the setting of perforated appendicitis.



Berlin, den 19. April 1910.

Ich bin mehr durch einen Zufall als durch meine Absicht Chirurg geworden. Es kam dies folgender Weise. Ich war nach dem Staatsexamen zunächst zwei Jahre Neurolog, dann vier Jahre innerer Mediziner, wofür ich von je her, schon als älterer Student eine große Vorliebe hatte. Besonders beschäftigte ich mich mit experimenteller Pathologie und operierte so viel an Tieren. Ich hatte niemals daran gedacht Chirurg zu werden, war damit beschäftigt mich für innere Medizin in Strassburg i. E. zu habilitieren.

Eines Tages fragte mich mein Chef, Prof. Naunyn, ob ich nicht Chirurg werden wolle. Ich erwiderte nein, ich dachte garnicht daran, ich fühle mich als innerer Mediziner sehr wohl.

Er entwickelte mir darauf, was er mit mir vor hätte. Er hatte bei den Tieroperationen chirurgisches Geschick an mit gesehen. Er war gerade dabei mit Mikulicz die „Grenzgebiete der Medizin und Chirurgie“ herauszugeben. Da hatten sie beschlossen einen ausgebildeten inneren Mediziner zum Chirurgen zu machen, und das sollte ich sein. Ich überlegte mir die Sache und sagte schließlich zu.

Ich mußte auf der Mikuliczen Klinik als jüngster Volontär eintreten, obwohl ich in Strassburg bereits erster Assistent und Privatdozent gewesen war. Die Chirurgie sagte mir aber sehr gut zu und blieb ich ihr daher treu.

Kausch.

BERLIN, April 19, 1910.

DEAR DR. REDER: It was more by accident than by intention that I became a surgeon, this being brought about in the following manner, after the

state examinations: In the first place I was neurologist for about two years, then for four years internist; even as an elder student I preferred this branch of study. I busied myself especially with experimental pathology and operated on animals. I never thought of ever becoming a surgeon and was preparing myself for internal medicine in Strassberg. My chief, Professor Naunyn, asked me one day if I did not care to become a surgeon; I said, "No, I was not thinking of that." I felt perfectly satisfied as an internist. He explained to me what his intentions were concerning me; he had noticed my surgical skill in the animal operations; he was just getting ready to publish a paper with Mikulicz on the "Borderline between Medicine and Surgery." They had decided to make a surgeon out of a physician well versed in internal medicine, and I should be the man. I considered the matter and finally consented. I had to enter Mikulicz's clinic as the youngest volunteer, although I had already been first assistant and private instructor in Strassberg. I found that surgery suited me very well, and I remained true to it.

KAUSCH.

## Bibliography

Walther Carl Eduard Kausch. (n.d.) Who Named It? Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/343ZEhC> Accessed November 20, 2019.



# William Williams Keen

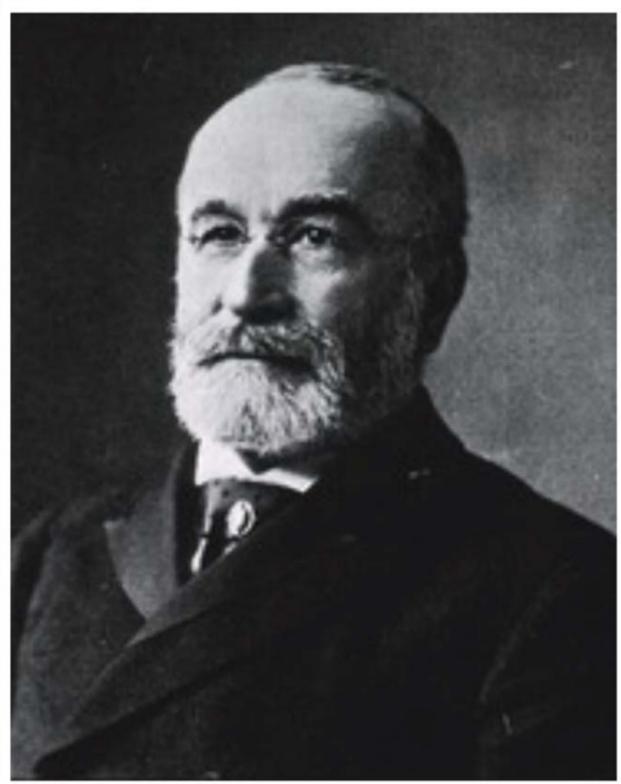
(January 19<sup>th</sup>, 1837 – June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1932)

Born In: U.S.A

Practicing Country: U.S.A.

Medical School: Jefferson Medical College

Areas of Practice: Neurosurgery



<http://bit.ly/349WskE>

## Fun Fact

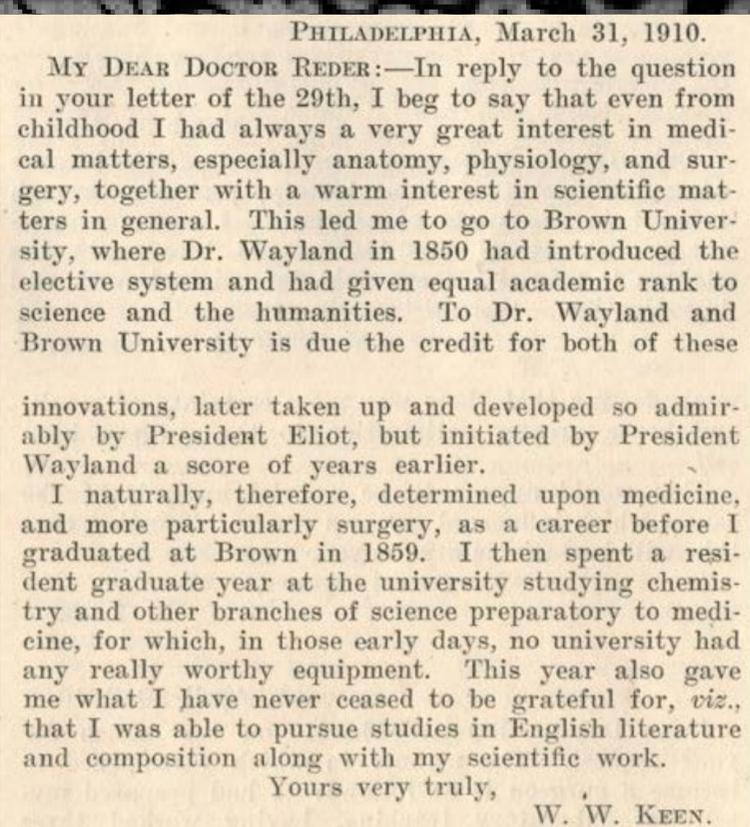
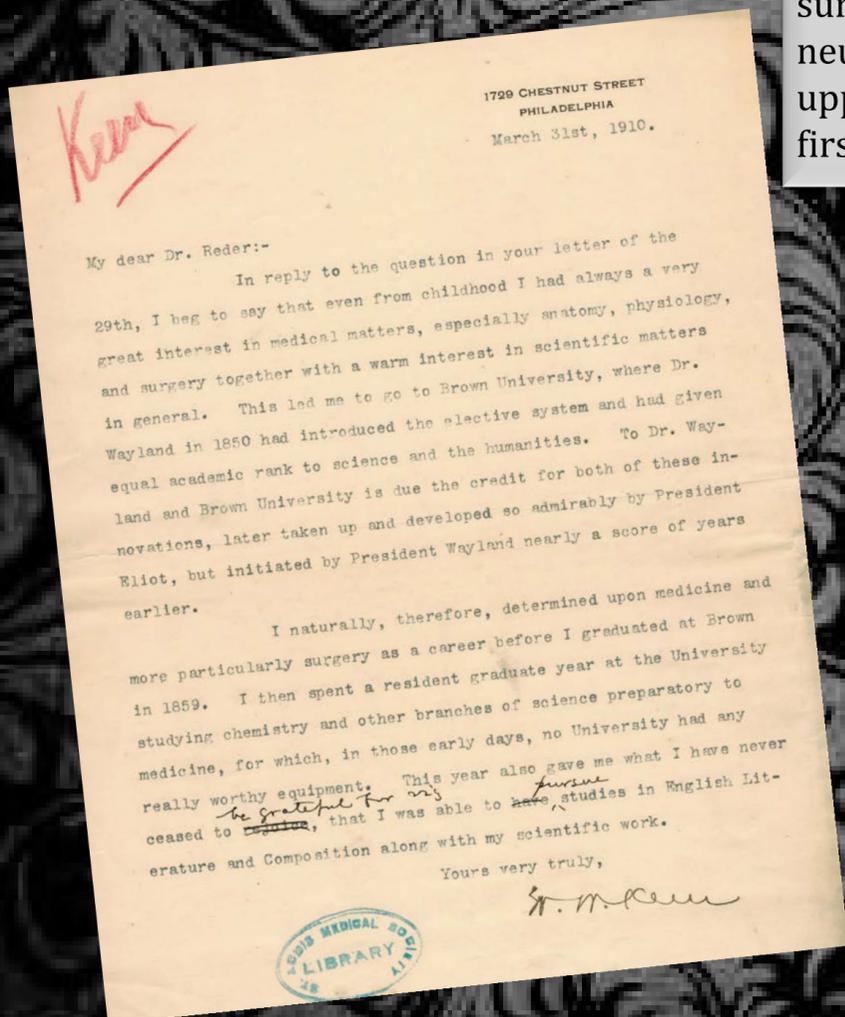
Keen served as a consulting surgeon to Presidents Grover Cleveland and Franklin D. Roosevelt .

W.W. Keen, “the nestor of surgery”, is best known for his achievements that furthered the discipline of neurosurgery in the United States. He graduated from Brown University in 1859, and was named valedictorian of his class. He obtained his masters at Brown in chemistry and physics prior to entering medical school at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in the Fall of 1860. The Civil War was declared at the end of his first year, and Keen was positioned as a temporary surgeon to The Fifth Massachusetts Regiment. He re-enrolled once his army enlistment term expired and completed medical school in 1862, and then served the U.S. Army until 1864.

During this time he collaborated with Silas Weir Mitchell in studying and documenting nervous system injuries, which were compiled into, *Gunshot Wounds and Other Injuries of the Nerves and Reflex Paralysis*, the first publication to describe complex regional pain syndrome type I (formerly reflex sympathetic dystrophy) and type II (causalgia). He traveled to Europe in 1864 where he completed two years of postgraduate work in Paris and Berlin.

When he returned to the United States in 1866, Keen accepted a faculty position at Jefferson Medical College, where he gave lectures in surgical pathology until 1875, and concurrently taught at the Philadelphia School of Anatomy as well as the Women’s Medical College of Philadelphia (1884-89). He became a professor of surgery at Jefferson Medical in 1889. He served as the editor of *Surgery, Its Principles and Practice* and invited Harvey Cushing to compose a section on head surgeries, which allowed Cushing to receive international recognition and laid the ground work for neurosurgery as a specialty.

Keen’s most notable accomplishment was being the first surgeon in the United States to successfully remove a brain tumor in 1887 from a patient who survived 30+ years after the operation. He also treated patients with trigeminal neuralgia, performed cortical excisions for epileptics, and developed a posterior upper root section procedure for spasmodic torticollis. Furthermore, he was the first surgeon to carry out and endorse ventricular punctures.



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# Johannes ("Hans") Otto Kehr

(April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1862 – May 20<sup>th</sup>, 1916)

Born In: Germany

Practicing Country: Austria & Germany

Medical School: Jena

Areas of Practice: General Surgery



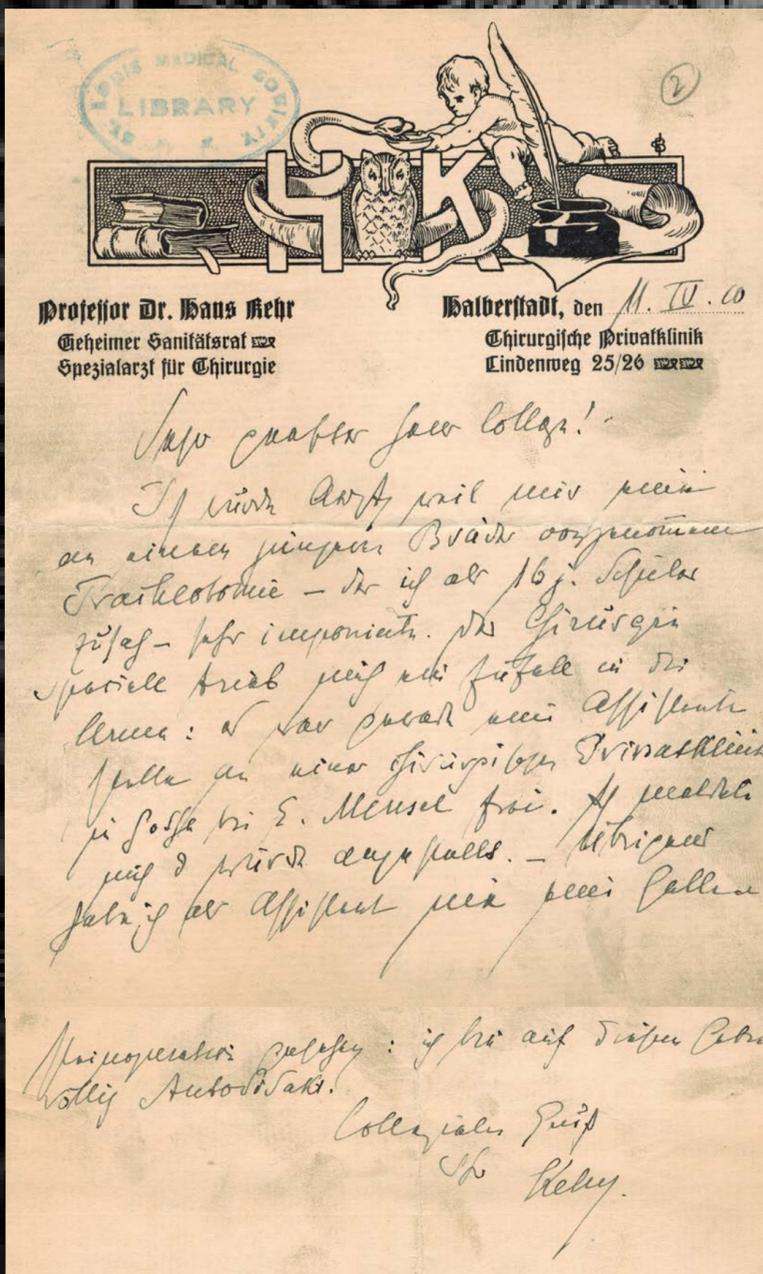
<http://bit.ly/37noPhk>

Kehr completed medical school at Jena in 1885 and went on to surgical training in Vienna with Theodor Billroth. He was a surgical assistant to Dr. Ernst Meusel for a short time in Gotha before establishing an independent surgical practice. In October of 1890, he opened a private clinic in Halberstadt with his cousin and this remained his primary practice location until he moved to Berlin in 1910.

Kehr accomplished a great deal in surgical practice and literary output and is known for his advancements in biliary surgery. He became interested in diseases of the gallbladder in 1890 after he performed his first cholecystectomy, an operation slow to gain momentum in Europe and the United States at the time. Kehr not only demonstrated the feasibility of the cholecystectomy but also improved the technique and developed other procedures, including placement of the "Kehr's T-tube", a device used for biliary drainage.

He gained international recognition and was invited in 1903 to give lectures and demonstrations in biliary surgery in the United States. In 1904, he was invited to Paris to consult on a case for the former French prime minister (Pierre M Waldech-Rousseau). Kehr was appointed the title of professor in 1905, despite having no affiliation with an academic institution. He was named for "Kehr's sign", a physical exam finding that produces in the tip of the shoulder when the supine patient's legs are elevated and is indicative of splenic rupture.

Kehr maintained meticulous records of his cases and published several books documenting ideas/findings related to biliary tract disease, including *Introduction to the Differential Diagnosis of the Separate Forms of Gallstone Disease* (1901) and *The Practice of Biliary Surgery, in Word and Pictures* (1913). By the end of his career, he completed 2600 biliary tract operations. In the spring of 1916, he cut his finger during a surgery and ultimately led to his death. He refused to undergo extremity amputation and succumbed to septicemia on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 1916.



Halberstadt, den 11. April 1910.  
Sehr geehrter Herr College!

Ich wurde Arzt, weil mir eine an einem jüngeren Bruder vorgenommene Tracheotomie — der ich als 16jähriger Schüler zusah — sehr imponierte. Der Chirurgie speciell trieb mich ein Zufall in die Arme: es war gerade eine Assistentenstelle an einer chirurgischen Privatklinik in Gotha bei E. Mensel frei. Ich meldete mich und wurde angestellt. — Uebrigens habe ich als Assistent nie eine Gallensteinoperation gesehen; ich bin auf diesem Gebiete völlig Autodidakt.

Collegialen Gruß

Kehr.

HALBERSTADT, April 11, 1910.

VERY HONORED COLLEAGUE: I became a physician because of a tracheotomy on a younger brother (which I, as a 16-year-old scholar, watched), which greatly impressed me. It was through an accident that I embraced surgery. There was an opening as assistant to E. Mensel at his private clinic in Gotha. I applied and was appointed to the position. As an assistant I had never witnessed a gall-stone operation. I am wholly self-taught in this branch. Collegiate greetings,

KEHR.

### Bibliography

Johannes Otto Kehr. (n.d.) Who named it? Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/2KGWnNB>



## Howard Atwood Kelly

(February 20<sup>th</sup>, 1858 – January 12<sup>th</sup>, 1943)

Born In: U.S.A

Practicing Country: U.S.A.

Medical School: University of Pennsylvania

Areas of Practice: General Surgery



<http://bit.ly/2XryUVM>

Kelly established the field of gynecology and pioneered multiple advances. He completed medical school at the university of Pennsylvania and trained at Episcopal Hospital in Kensington. Kelly's initial efforts to develop gynecological surgery began in the early 1880s. At that time gynecology was not practiced at the hospital and he took it upon himself to open a gynecological clinic in his own home. He was later provided the funding to open a formal clinic complete with an operating room, which would later become Kensington Hospital for Women. It was at this institution where Kelly developed innovative approaches to gynecological diseases, including the "Kelley" stitch used to treat stress incontinence. He later performed the first successful C-section in Philadelphia.

Kelly traveled to Europe in 1886 to observe abdominal/pelvic surgeons and learn additional techniques. After he returned in 1888, William Osler recommended he become an associate professor at the University of Pennsylvania and subsequently recruited him to become the gynecological surgery chair at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Today he is considered one of the "Big Four" founding professors (along with Halsted and Welch) of this institution.

He improved methods of examining the bladder with the techniques he learned abroad from Pawlik. He invented "Kelly's forceps", a widely known surgical instrument used to clamp vessels for hemostatic control, and the "Kelly speculum" for rectal examinations. He was one of the first surgeons to operate in sterilized linens and invented a wound sealing procedure to minimize postoperative infections.

Kelly made advancements in the management of gynecological cancer. He discovered that ligation of the internal iliac artery reduced bleeding during surgery for cervical and endometrial cancer, a technique now used to control postpartum hemorrhage. He treated uterine hemorrhage and fibroid tumors with radium and in 1914 published this methodology in the Journal of American Medical Association. By 1917, Kelly's clinic had become a leading radiation oncology treatment center.

Kelly wrote *Operative Gynecology* (1899) and collaborated with Max Broedel for the text's illustrations. By the end of his career, Kelly authored more than 550 articles and books covering various medical topics. The Howard A. Kelly Alumni Society was established by the physicians and alumni of the Johns Hopkins Gynecology and Obstetrics Department in his honor.

1418 EUTAW PLACE

March 31, 1910.

Dear Dr. Reeder:-

I went into medicine because of my interest in natural history, probably through interest in the study of anatomy. I took up gynecology by natural predilection and because in the eightys it offered a large field for original work and investigation.

Sincerely yours,



March 31, 1910.

DEAR DOCTOR REDER:—I went into medicine because of my interest in natural history, probably through interest in the study of anatomy. I took up gynecology by natural predilection and because in the eightys it offered a large field for original work and investigation.

Sincerely yours,

H. A. KELLEY.

### Bibliography

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Dastur Adi E., Tank P.D. (2010). Howard Atwood Kelly: Much Beyond the Stitch. *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology of India*, 60 (5):392 – 394. <http://bit.ly/2OprxKs>



<http://bit.ly/2X5Tr1S>

PROF. DR. W. KÖRTE  
GEH. SAN.-RATH

BERLIN W. 62  
KURFÜRSTENSTR. 114.  
TEL. VI. 6519.

10/4.1910

Herrn Franz Reder in St. Louis

Sehr geehrter Herr!

Auf Ihre Anfrage erwidere ich Ihnen, die Neigung, Chirurg zu werden, bestand bei mir seit früher Jugend. Ich habe schon als Schüler chirurgische Bücher gelesen, welche ich in der Bibliothek meines Vaters (Arzt) fand, so Bardeleben's (Widal's) Chirurgie und Spencer Well's Schriften über Ovari-otomie. So habe ich mich als Student schon beson- ders für Chirurgie interessiert und wurde 1874 Assi- stent an der chir. Univ. Klinik in Strassburg. Wen- die Chirurgie einmal gepackt hat, den läßt sie auch nicht wieder los.

Mit Hochachtung

Dr. W. Körte.

April 10, 1910.

VERY HONORED COLLEAGUE: To your question, "Why I became a surgeon?" I answer that the inclination dwelt in me from early youth. I had as a scholar, read books on surgery, which I found in the library of my father, who was a physician, so I read Widal's Surgery and Spencer Well's writings on ovariotomy. Having thus already interested myself in surgery as a student, I became, in 1874, assistant at the surgical clinic of the University in Strass- burg.

Whenever surgery once gets hold of that one it never lets go.

With highest esteem,

DR. W. KÖRTE.

in Strassburg. Von der  
Lernung normal gemacht  
sind, von Lehr. Sie sind in  
wieder los.

Mit Hochachtung

Dr. W. Körte

10. April 1910.

Dr. Francis Reder, St. Louis, Mo.

Sehr geehrter Herr!

Auf Ihre Anfrage erwidere ich Ihnen, die Neigung, Arzt und speciell Chirurg zu werden, bestand bei mir seit früher Jugend. Ich habe schon als Schüler chirurgische Bücher gelesen, welche ich in der Bibliothek meines Vaters (Arzt) fand, so Bardeleben's (Widal's) Chirurgie und Spencer Well's Schriften über Ovari-otomie. So habe ich mich als Student schon beson- ders für Chirurgie interessiert und wurde 1874 Assi- stent an der chir. Univ. Klinik in Strassburg. Wen- die Chirurgie einmal gepackt hat, den läßt sie auch nicht wieder los.

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April 10, 1910.

VERY HONORED COLLEAGUE: To your question, "Why I became a surgeon?" I answer that the inclination dwelt in me from early youth. I had as a scholar, read books on surgery, which I found in the library of my father, who was a physician, so I read Widal's Surgery and Spencer Well's writings on ovariotomy. Having thus already interested myself in surgery as a student, I became, in 1874, assistant at the surgical clinic of the University in Strass- burg.

Whenever surgery once gets hold of that one it never lets go.

With highest esteem,

DR. W. KÖRTE.

## Werner Körte

(October 21, 1853– December 3, 1937)

Born In: Germany

Practicing Country: Germany

Medical School: University of Strasbourg

Areas of Practice: General Surgery

Werner Körte was born October 21, 1853 in Berlin, Germany. In 1870 Körte graduated from Friedrich Werder School with his military diploma, and in the same year became a volunteer nurse at a typhoid hospital in Metz. The hospital was under the leadership of his godfather, Richard Virchow. In January of 1871, Körte became a medical student at the University of Berlin, and continued his studies in Bonn and Strasbourg. In 1874 he passed his final medical exams, and received his doctorate in 1875. From 1877 to 1879, Körte received his medical training from Robert Wilms at Bethanien Hospital. After finishing training, Körte went on a trip around Europe to study under a number of well-known physicians in cities such as Vienna, Halle, and Prague.

When Körte's mentor, Wilms, passed away he provisionally filled in for him as head of surgery from 1880 to 1881. However, due to Körte's young age, he was not chosen to fill the position permanently. After serving as head of surgery Körte worked for 8 years in private practice in Berlin, and built up his reputation as an excellent physician. Due to his reputation, Körte was appointed as director of surgery of Urban Hospital in 1889. He held this position until 1924. Körte was involved in various different societies; he served as the first secretary of the German Society of Surgery (1899-1929) and later became the society's president and honorary chairman for nearly four decades. He was also a member of the Berlin Society of Surgery.

Throughout Körte's lifetime, he published numerous different works including a monograph, *The Surgery of the Liver and the Biliary Tract*, and *Contributions to the Surgery of the Biliary Tract*. He wrote chapters about abdominal surgery and rectal surgery in *Break of Practical Surgery* and *The German Clinic at the Beginning of the Twentieth Century*, respectively. He was a co-editor for both the *Archive for Clinical Surgery* and *Lagenbeck's Clinic for Clinical Surgery*.

### Bibliography

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## Fedor Krause

(March 10, 1857-September 20, 1937)

Born In: Germany

Practicing Countries: Germany & Brazil,

Medical School: Humboldt University

Areas of Practice: Neurosurgery



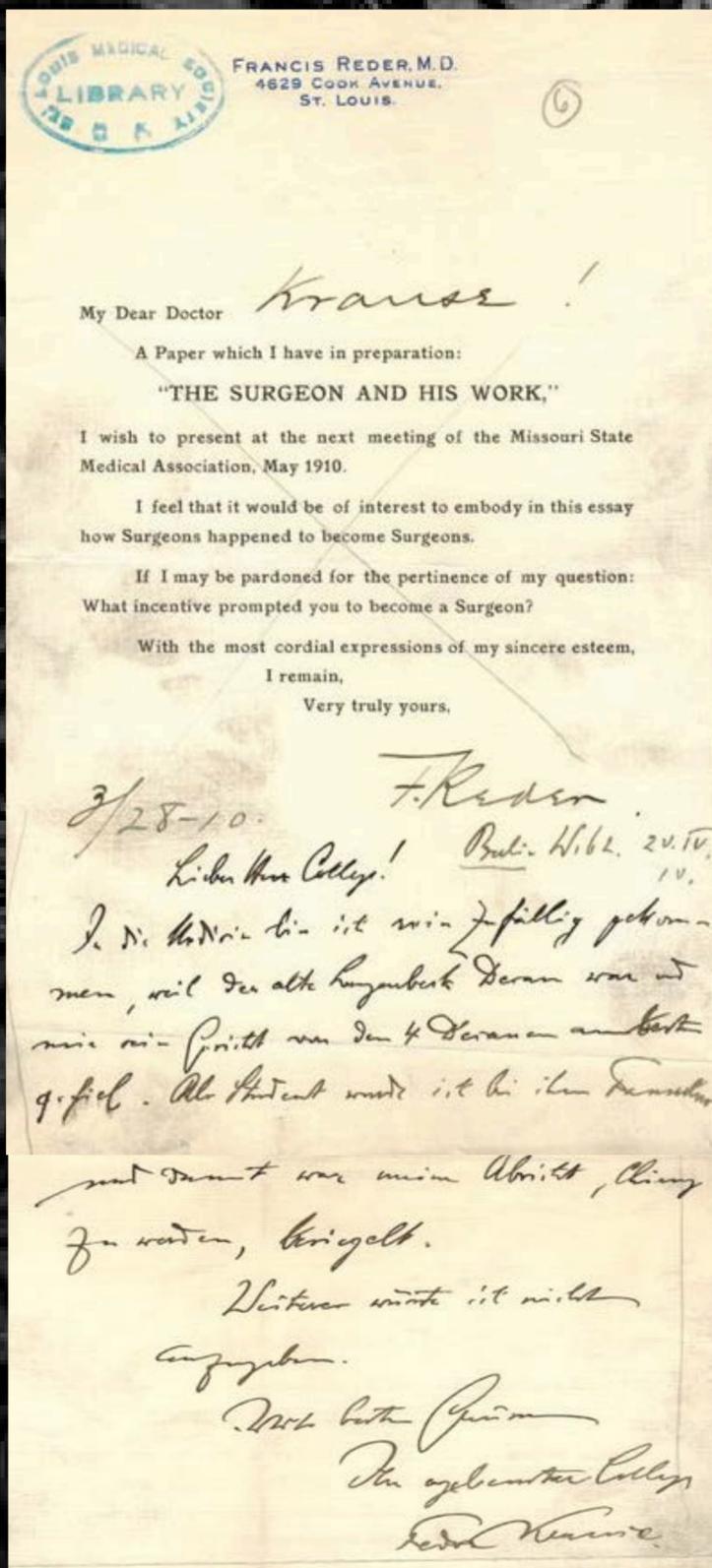
PROFESSOR KRAUSE.

<http://bit.ly/2X0VTXG>

Fedor Krause was born in Friedland, Germany on March 10, 1857. As a child Krause enjoyed music, and began his academic career studying piano and violin at Sophien Gymnasium in Berlin. However, he switched his focus to studying medicine, and went on to earn his doctorate at Humboldt University in Berlin. Krause passed his final medial examinations in 1880, and then began working at an ophthalmology clinic with professor Julius Hirschberg. During this time, Krause worked with many other famed individuals such as Robert Koch, Karl Friedländer, and Bernhard von Lagenbeck.

As Krause continued on in his surgical career, he developed a passion for neurosurgery. Therefore, in 1883 Krause began working as a resident for renowned professor Richard von Volkmann at the University of Halle. Volkmann was one of Germany's first Listerians, and is credited with bringing the practice of antisepsis to Germany. Krause worked with Volkmann up until his mentor's passing in 1889. Krause succeeded Volkmann, and became deputy chief of surgery for one year, after which he moved to Hamburg to work at Altona Municipal Hospital. In 1900 Krause moved back to Berlin, becoming an honorary professor at Humboldt University, and chief of surgery at Augusta Hospital. After a long and successful career, Krause retired in 1930 and moved to Rome with his daughter. Krause devoted the remainder of his life to studying music before passing away in 1937.

Krause's work in neurosurgery earned him the title as the father of German neurosurgery. He was a pioneer in the field, collaborating with esteemed physicians Hermann Oppenheim and Otfried Foerster. He worked as a surgical consultant during World War I, and later sojourned to Latin America to introduce neurosurgery into Latin America. He introduced surgical operations for treatment of epilepsy into Germany, and performed over 400 operations on epileptic patients. Along with surgeon Frank Hartley, they developed the Hartley-Krause operation, which involves the excision of the Gasserian ganglion and its roots in order to alleviate trigeminal neuralgia. Krause also contributed to the publications of several books, including *Surgery of the Brain and Spinal Cord* and *General Surgery of the Brain*. To honor his work, the German Neurological Society presents the "Fedor Krause Medal" for outstanding work in neurosurgery.



BERLIN, April 20, 1910.  
DEAR COLLEAGUE: I came purely accidentally into medicine, because Langenbeck was Dean, I liked him best of the four deans and as a student I boarded at his home; therefore, my aim to become a surgeon was sealed.  
Best greetings, your humble colleague,  
FEDOR KRAUSE.

Berlin, 20. April 1910.  
Lieber Herr College!  
In die Medicin bin ich rein, zufällig gekommen, weil der alte Langenbeck Decan war und mir sein Gesicht von den 4 Decanen am besten gefiel. Als Student wurde ich bei ihm Pensionär und damit war meine Absicht, Chirurg zu werden, besiegelt.  
Weiteres wüßte ich nicht anzugeben.  
Mit besten Grüßen Ihr ergebenster College  
Fedor Krause.

### Bibliography

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<http://bit.ly/2ChV6YC>

# Rudolph Ulrich Krönlein

(February 18, 1847-October 26,1910)

Born In: Switzerland  
Practicing Countries: Switzerland & Germany  
Medical School: Zurich University  
Areas of Practice: General Surgery & Neurosurgery

Rudolf Ulrich Krönlein was born in Stein am Rhein, Switzerland on February 19, 1847. He began his medical education at Zurich University in 1866. In 1867 during the winter term of school, he interned as the anatomy assistant to Dr. Herman von Meyer. Krönlein graduated medical school in 1870, and then went on to earn a doctorate on the open treatment of wounds. While earning his doctorate he worked for German surgeon, Dr. Edmund Rose. From 1870-1871, while working on his doctorate, he served as a military surgeon in Berlin during the French-German War. While in Berlin Krönlein worked at Tempelhofer Feld military hospital, and met Rudolf Virchow. Virchow suggested Krönlein continue his residency under Bernhard von Lagenbeck, founder of *Langenbeck's Archives of Surgery*. Krönlein took Virchow's advice, and served as an assistant to Lagenbeck in 1874. Beginning in 1878, he served a year as the director of the surgical clinic at Giessen University. After a year, Krönlein returned to Berlin and helped reconstruct the royal clinical center. In 1881, he became professor and head of the surgical University Clinic in Zurich, a position he held for 29 years.

Dr. Krönlein had a large number of publications relating to both general surgery and neurosurgery. In 1886 he published the account of an appendectomy he performed on a 17 year-old boy, the first documented appendectomy. He also published on the following topics: brain surgery, open wound treatment, skull fractures and nerve damage. Moreover, the "Krönlein Operation" takes his name, which involves the resection of the lateral wall of the orbit for the removal of orbital dermoids. For many years, this operation was the standard of care for the treatment of retrobulbar tumors. Krönlein passed away on October 26, 1910, due to angina pectoris

PROF. DR. KRÖNLEIN  
Fluntern - Zürich.  
Cadenabbia, 11. 4. 10  
Sehr geehrter Herr Collegege!  
Ihre werthe Anfrage kann ich, wie ich glaube, sehr kurz beantworten; denn schon als Gymnasialschüler mit 14 Jahren war mein sehnlicher Wunsch, einmal Arzt, und wo immer möglich ein Chirurg zu werden, so ausgesprochen, daß ich eigentlich nie begreifen konnte, daß nicht auch meine Mitschüler alle diesen Wunsch haben sollten. Dann kamen die Studenten- und Assistenten-Jahre; mein Entschluß ward je länger je fester. Ich wurde, um meinen Lebenszweck zu erreichen, erst anatomischer Assistent bei Prof. Dr. Hermann von Meyer in Zürich, dann chirurgischer Assistent bei Prof. Dr. Edmund Rose in Zürich, endlich Assistent bei Bernhard von Langenbeck in Berlin, wo ich 7 Jahre blieb. v. Langenbeck's Assistent zu werden, betrachtete ich und betrachte ich noch als das größte Glück, das mir zu Theil werden konnte. Dieser edle, vornehme und humane Chirurg wurde das Vorbild, dem ich nachzustreben mich bemühte, er war mir Lehrer, Freund und Vater.  
Mit hochachtungsvollem Gruße Ihr ergener  
R. W. Krönlein aus Zürich.

CADENABBIA, ITALY, April 11, 1910.  
MOST HONORED COLLEAGUE: Your courteous inquiry, I think, I can answer in a few words. As a scholar at college, at the age of 14, it was my most ardent desire to become a physician, and if possible a surgeon. This desire was so pronounced that I could never comprehend why all my classmates did not have the same wish. Then there were the student and assistant years, and the longer it took the more determined I became to be a physician.  
First, I was anatomy assistant with Prof. Dr. Herman von Meyer in Zurich, then surgical assistant with Prof. Dr. Edmund Rose in Zurich, finally assistant with Bernhard von Langenbeck in Berlin, where I remained for seven years. To become von Langenbeck's assistant I considered and still consider the greatest fortune that could ever be my lot. This noble distinguished and humane surgeon became the highest type of teacher, friend and father to me.  
With collegiate greetings, devotedly yours,  
R. W. KRÖNLEIN, Zurich.

Cadenabbia (Italien), 11. April 1910.  
Sehr geehrter Herr Collegege!  
Ihre werthe Anfrage kann ich, wie ich glaube, sehr kurz beantworten; denn schon als Gymnasialschüler mit 14 Jahren war mein sehnlicher Wunsch, einmal Arzt, und wo immer möglich ein Chirurg zu werden, so ausgesprochen, daß ich eigentlich nie begreifen konnte, daß nicht auch meine Mitschüler alle diesen Wunsch haben sollten. Dann kamen die Studenten- und Assistenten-Jahre; mein Entschluß ward je länger je fester. Ich wurde, um meinen Lebenszweck zu erreichen, erst anatomischer Assistent bei Prof. Dr. Hermann von Meyer in Zürich, dann chirurgischer Assistent bei Prof. Dr. Edmund Rose in Zürich, endlich Assistent bei Bernhard von Langenbeck in Berlin, wo ich 7 Jahre blieb. v. Langenbeck's Assistent zu werden, betrachtete ich und betrachte ich noch als das größte Glück, das mir zu Theil werden konnte. Dieser edle, vornehme und humane Chirurg wurde das Vorbild, dem ich nachzustreben mich bemühte, er war mir Lehrer, Freund und Vater.  
Mit hochachtungsvollem Gruße Ihr ergener  
R. W. Krönlein aus Zürich.

so arbeitsam, erst anatomischer Assistent bei Prof. Dr. Hermann von Meyer in Zürich, dann chirurgischer Assistent bei Prof. Dr. Edmund Rose in Zürich, endlich Assistent bei Bernhard von Langenbeck in Berlin, wo ich 7 Jahre blieb. v. Langenbeck's Assistent zu werden, betrachtete ich und betrachte ich noch als das größte Glück, das mir zu Theil werden konnte. Dieser edle, vornehme und humane Chirurg wurde das Vorbild, dem ich nachzustreben mich bemühte, er war mir Lehrer, Freund und Vater.  
Mit hochachtungsvollem Gruße Ihr ergener  
Rudolph Krönlein  
aus Zürich.

**Bibliography**  
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# Hermann Küttner

(October 10, 1870 - October 10, 1932)

Born In: Germany

Practicing Countries: Germany

Medical School: Eberhard Karls University Tübingen

Areas of Practice: General Surgery



<http://bit.ly/2C5qqKm>

Herman Küttner, born October 10, 1870 in Berlin, Germany, was the son of Otto Küttner. As a student at the Eberhard Karls University Tübingen, he studied medicine. In 1894, he was appointed in Tübingen to M.D. Ph.D. He first received medical training in anatomy with Heinrich Wilhelm Waldeyer, followed by training in surgery with Paul von Bruns. He was appointed professor of surgery in Tübingen in 1900, and later became chair of surgery at the Schleswig Friedrich Wilhelm University. From a clinical standpoint, Küttner was regarded as a brilliant surgeon and a curious researcher, developing several new surgical procedures and publishing many papers dealing with surgical diseases of the cranial and facial skull. The "Küttner tumor", which is a rare, chronic inflammatory condition involving the submandibular glands of the salivary glands, is named after him. Moreover, as a representative of the German Red Cross, he advocated for the use of X-ray diagnostics into war surgery during the Second Boer War, the Turkish-Greek war, and the Boxer Rebellion. He died on his birthday in the year 1932.



Breslau XII.

1. IV. 10.

(9)

Hochgeehrter Herr  
Kollege.

Von einer Urlaubsreise  
zurückgekehrt finde ich  
Ihre gestützte Schreiben vor.  
Ich bin auf eigen-  
artige Weise Chirurg gewor-  
den. Schon von meinem  
6. Lebensjahre ab interessier-  
te ich mich aufs Lebhafteste  
für Naturwissenschaften  
besonders für Zoologie.  
und nahm als Gym-  
nasiast schon vielfach  
anatomische Präparierübun-  
gen an gestorbenen  
Tieren vor, bei dieser Ge-  
legenheit zog ich mir als  
15-jähriger Schüler bereits  
eine schwere Infektion zu.

Nach bestandenen Ma-  
turitysexamen wurde  
ich meinen Neigungen  
entsprechend Zoologe.  
Im 5. zoologischen Studien-  
semester erhielt ich bei  
einem Pistolenduell  
eine Schussverletzung des  
Abdomens und wurde  
durch Operation gerettet,  
was damals - im Jahre  
1890 - noch recht selten  
war. Diese Heilung im-  
ponierte mir derart,  
dass ich sofort umschaltete  
und, mit der ausge-  
sprochenen Absicht, Chi-  
rurg zu werden, Medi-  
zin studierte. Dieser  
Absicht bin ich treu ge-  
blieben.

Mit bester Empfehlung  
Ihr ergebener  
Prof. Dr. Hermann Küttner  
Ordentlicher Professor der Chirurgie, Direk-  
tor der chirurgischen Universitätsklinik zu Breslau.

BRESLAU, May 1, 1910.

HIGHLY HONORED COLLEAGUE: Having returned from a vacation, I find your letter.

It was in a peculiar manner that I became a surgeon. As early as six years of age I was greatly interested in the natural sciences, especially in zoology, and while at school I often made experiments on the anatomy of diseased animals. As a scholar of 15, on one of these occasions, I contracted a severe infection. Having succeeded in my final examinations, I yielded to my inclinations to become a zoologist.

During my fifth semester in zoology, in a pistol duel I was wounded in the abdomen and was saved by an operation, which was at the time (1890) a rare occurrence. This made such an impression on me that I changed my mind and studied medicine, with the determination to become a surgeon. I remained true to this aim.

With my compliments your most honored,

HERMANN KÜTTNER.

Professor in Ordinary of Surgery and Director of the Surgical University Clinic in Breslau.

Breslau, 1. Mai 1910.

Hochgeehrter Herr Kollege!  
Von einer Urlaubsreise zurückgekehrt, finde ich Ihr  
gestützes Schreiben vor.

Ich bin auf eigenartige Weise Chirurg geworden.  
Schon von meinem 6. Lebensjahre ab interessierte ich  
mich aufs Lebhafteste für Naturwissenschaften, beson-  
ders für Zoologie, und nahm als Gymnasiast schon  
vielfach anatomische Präparierübungen an gestorbe-  
nen Tieren vor; bei dieser Gelegenheit zog ich mir  
als 15-jähriger Schüler bereits eine schwere Infektion  
zu.

Nach bestandenen Maturitätsexamen wurde ich mei-  
nen Neigungen entsprechend Zoologe. Im 5. zoologi-  
schen Studiensemester erhielt ich bei einem Pistol-  
duell eine Schussverletzung der Abdomens und wurde  
durch Operation gerettet, was damals - im Jahre  
1890 - noch recht selten war. Diese Heilung im-  
ponierte mir derart, daß ich sofort umschaltete und,  
mit der ausgesprochenen Absicht, Chirurg zu werden, Me-  
dizin studierte. Dieser Absicht bin ich treu geblieben.  
Mit bester Empfehlung Ihr ergebener

Hermann Küttner,

Ordentlicher Professor der Chirurgie, Direktor der  
chirurgischen Universitätsklinik zu Breslau.

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doi:10.1001/archsurg.1988.01400250125026



# Thomas Percy Legg

(1872-1930)

Born In: England

Practicing Countries: England

Medical School: St. Bartholomew's Hospital

Areas of Practice: General Surgery



<http://bit.ly/339wjSG>

Thomas Percy Legg was born in 1872 in Leeds, West Yorkshire, England, and was the youngest of 12 children. He was educated at Leeds Modern School for Boys and was an exceptional student, earning a scholarship to the University of Leeds. In 1889, he began his medical education at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London. While at St. Bartholomew's, he served as house surgeon to John Langton. He then transitioned to the position of senior medical officer at the Royal Free Hospital, eventually becoming a surgeon there. He later established an esteemed career at King's College Hospital. He held a number of esteemed positions while at King's College including: senior registrar, surgical tutor, assistant surgeon, surgeon, and lecturer of surgery.

Outside of his admirable academic career, he served during World War I with rank of temporary colonel. He also was a consulting surgeon to the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force from 1915-1917. He held positions as an associate examiner in surgery at the University of London, and a surgical examiner in surgery at the University of Cambridge during 1921-1923. Lastly, in 1923, his distinguished career led to his election as a member of the Court of Examiners at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, where he carried out his duties up until 12 hours of his unexpected and tragic death on October 8, 1930 from angina pectoris.

In addition to his accomplished surgical career, he was responsible for much of the oversight involved in the reconstruction of King's College Hospital. Additionally, he was a good teacher and was well liked among his colleagues. He co-wrote *Hare Lip and Cleft Palate* with Sir James Berry, as well as *A Manual of Surgical Treatment*. Additionally, he authored 11 papers to *The Lancet*. In his memory, an annual lecture is endowed in his name at King's College Hospital.

TELEPHONE NO 182B MAYFAIR.

April 27<sup>th</sup> 1910  
139, HARLEY STREET,  
W.

Dear Sir.  
In reply to your letter I have to inform you that I became a Surgeon, or rather adopted this branch of our profession. Because it interested me the more during my student days, & because I thought that one was able to do more by its means for the patient than by any other.  
Yours sincerely  
T.P. Legg.

Dr. F. Rodier.  
St. Louis.

139 Harley Street,

W. LONDON, April 27, 1910.

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your letter I have to inform you that I became a surgeon, or rather adopted this branch of our profession, because it interested me the more during my student days, and because I thought that one was able to do more by its means for the patient than by any other.

Yours sincerely,

T. P. LEGG.

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H.C.E. (1964). Great Teachers of Surgery In The Past: Thomas Percy Legg, C.M.G. (1872-1930). *The British Journal of Surgery*, 51(7). DOI:10.1002/bjs.1800510703



# Joseph Lister

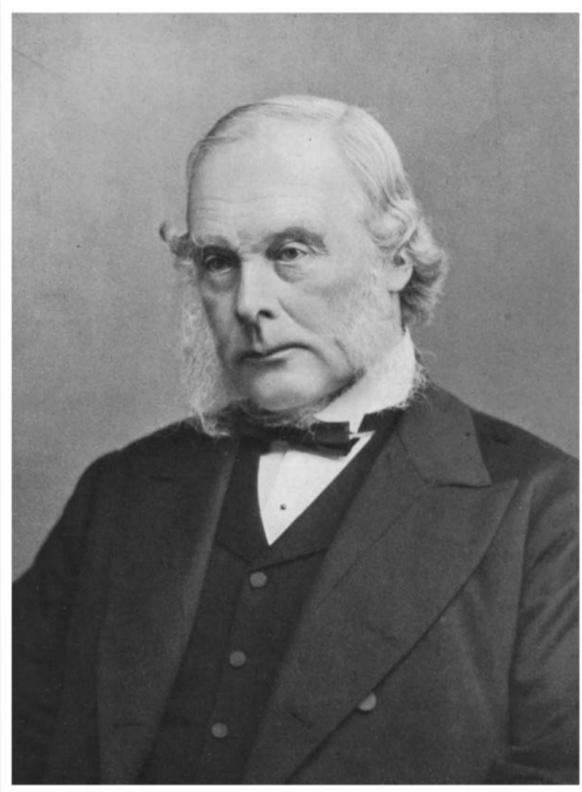
(April 5, 1827-February 10, 1912)

Born In: England

Practicing Countries: England & Scotland

Medical School: University College

Areas of Practice: General Surgery & Gynecology



<http://bit.ly/2qvlYSR>

## Fun Fact

While working with Symes, Lister developed a relationship with Symes' daughter, Agnes. Eventually, Lister married Agnes, and she became his medical research partner for the remainder of their marriage.

Joseph Lister was born in Upton, Essex, England to Joseph Jackson Lister and his wife, Isabella Harris. Both of Lister's parents were Quakers, which had a major impact on his early life and education. Growing up Lister attended two Quaker schools, both placed a large emphasis on the natural sciences much more so than other schools at the time. In combination with his Quaker upbringing, Lister's father was an influence on his decision to pursue medicine. An amateur physicist and microscopist, J.J. Lister was elected into the Royal Society for helping create a non-color distorting microscope.

Lister attended University College, London, and enrolled in their medical program in 1848. He was a brilliant student, and graduated with honors in 1852 along with being inducted into the Royal College of Surgeons. One of Lister's first major successes after medical school was when in 1854, Lister became the apprentice of James Syme at the University of Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. During his time at Edinburgh, Lister joined the Royal Medical Society. Only a few years later, Lister was appointed professor of surgery at the University of Glasgow in 1859, where he began his initial research on antiseptic techniques.

While working at Glasgow, Lister learned of the work of Louis Pasteur, who revealed that food spoils in anaerobic conditions due to microorganisms. Pasteur suggested three potential ways to eradicate the microorganisms, one being exposure to chemicals. Pasteur's work inspired Lister to conduct his own experiments, which further validated the idea of using chemicals to prevent bacterial contamination.

During his research, Lister learned that carbolic acid had been used to clean up sewage. Upon hearing this, Lister began experimenting with the chemical as a potential antiseptic. In 1865, Lister applied a carbolic acid soaked rag to a 7-year-old patient whose leg had been run over by a cartwheel. Four days later, the rag was removed revealing that no infection had developed. Lister was further amazed to see that after six weeks, the patient's leg had healed with no pus formation. The event marked the first successful application of Lister's method of utilizing antiseptic spray, and the results were published in *The Lancet*.

After many success and contributions to the medical field, Lister retired from both surgery and research in 1893. Despite retirement, Lister's fame caused him to be continually sought out for his expert opinion. In 1902, Edward VII developed appendicitis two days before his coronation. Due to the high rate of infection, the operation did not proceed until a consultation with Lister who provided direction on proper aseptic techniques. The King attributed the surgery's success to Lister and his revolutionary work.

Park House  
12, PARK CRESCENT,  
PORTLAND PLACE. Walmer  
April 10. 1910

Dear Dr. Reder,  
In the very feeble state of my health, I must ask you to excuse my not complying with your request -  
Yours very truly  
Lister (per L.M.S.)



Park House,  
WALMER, April 10, 1910.

DEAR DR. REDER:—In the very feeble state of my health, I must ask you to excuse me not complying with your request.

Yours very truly,

LISTER (per L. M. S.)

## Bibliography

Brand RA. Biographical Sketch: Baron Joseph Lister, FRCS, 1827-1912. *Clin Orthop Relat Res*. 2010;468(8):2009-2011. doi:10.1007/s11999-010-1319-3

F.F. Cartwright. Joseph Lister. Encyclopaedia Britannica. <http://bit.ly/2D2cjWy>. Published May 7, 2019. Accessed June 24, 2019.

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## Charles Barrett Lockwood

(September 23, 1856-November 8, 1914)

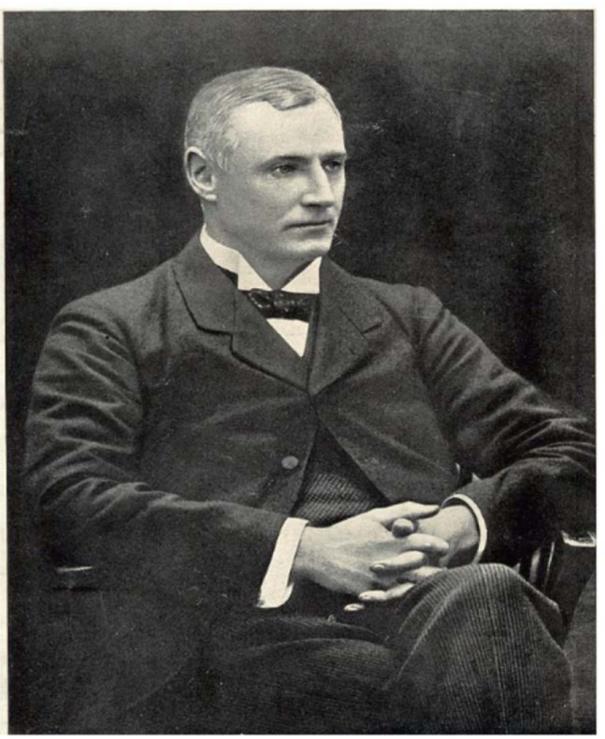
Born In: England

Practicing Country: England

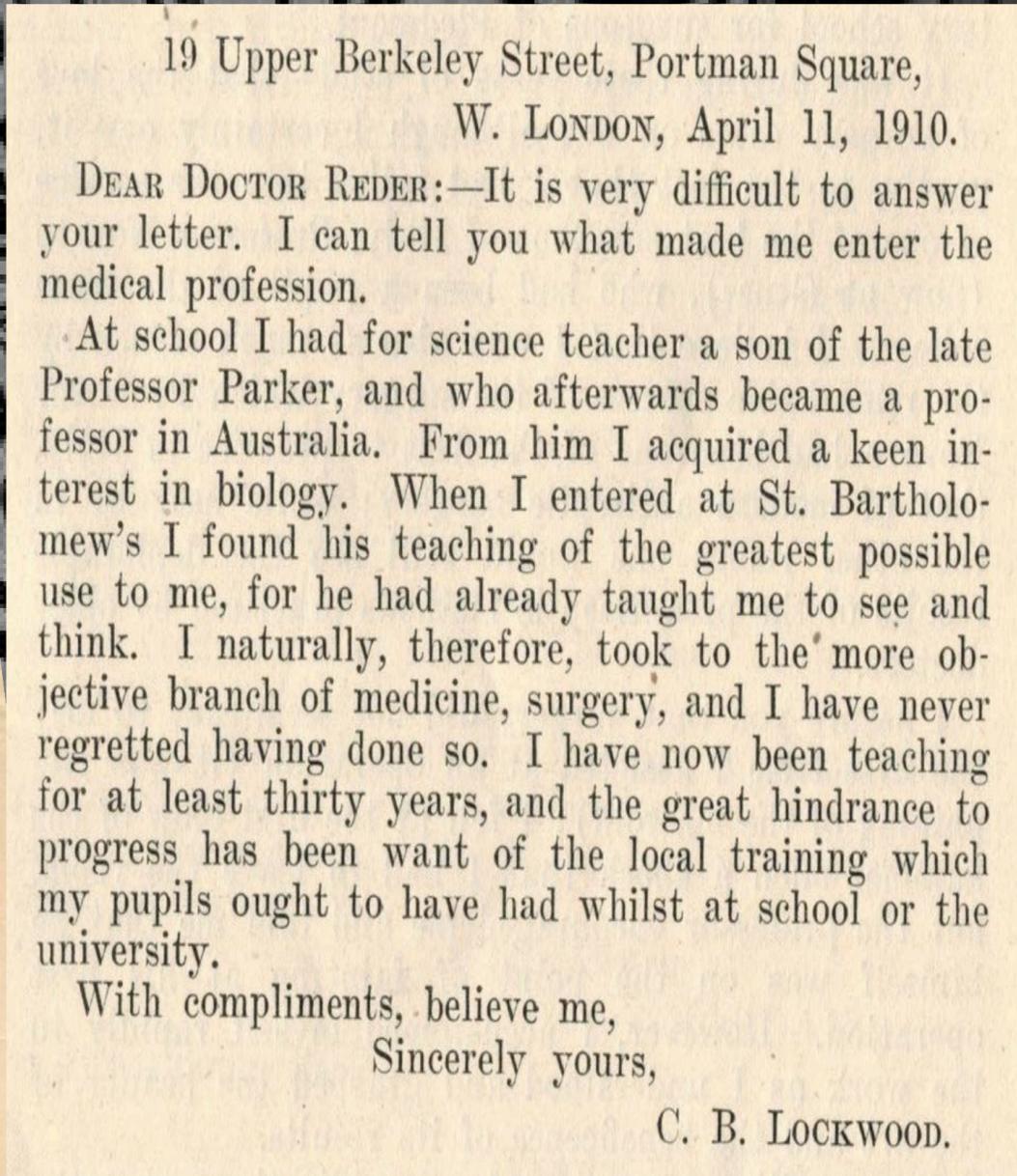
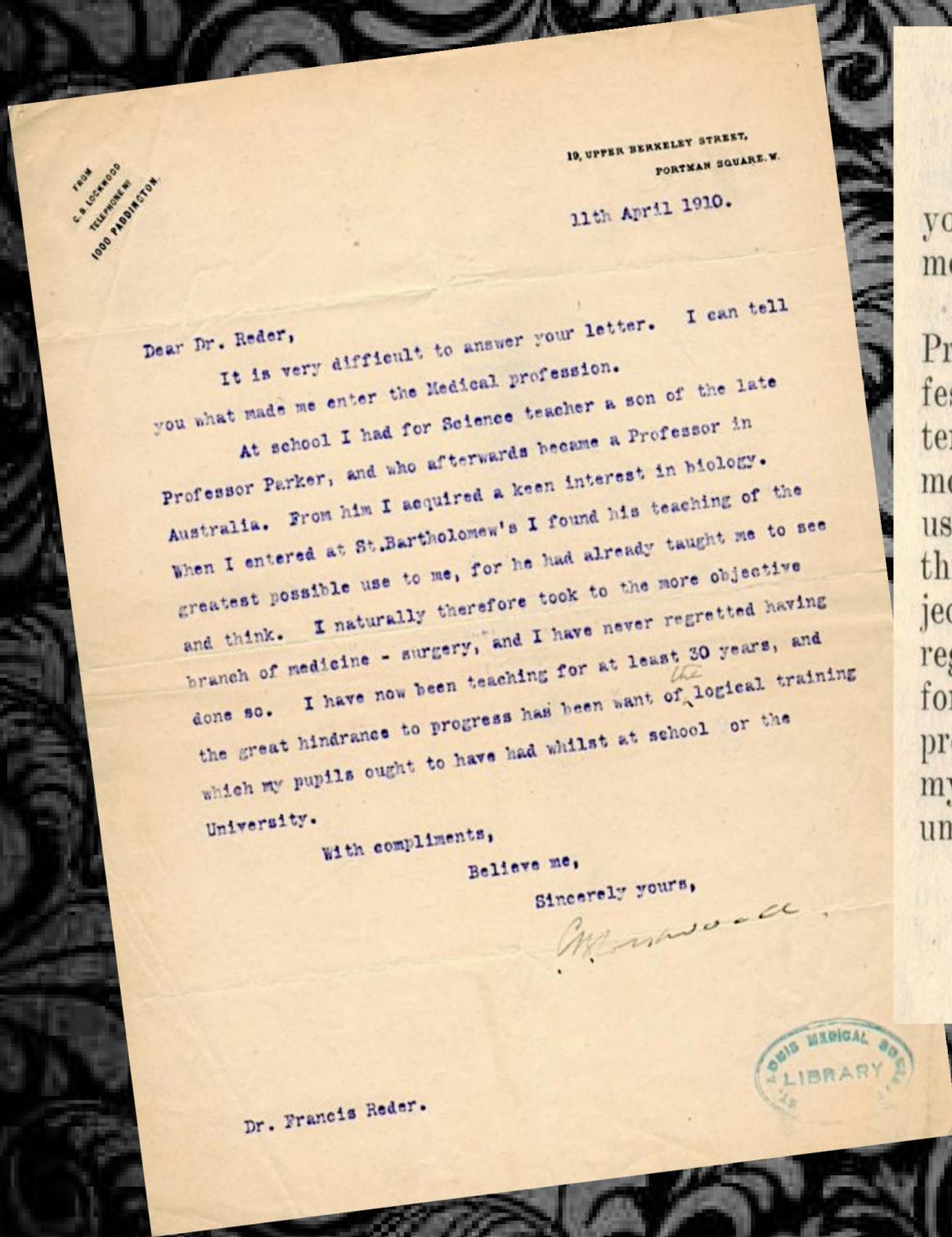
Medical School: St. Bartholomew's Hospital

Areas of Practice: General Surgery, Anatomy and Bacteriology

Lockwood was an avid anatomist, and was the Hunterian Professor of Comparative Anatomy and Physiology at the Royal College of Surgeons. In 1887 he created the Anatomical Society, and later served as their president from 1901-1903. Lockwood is most well known for his work on femoral and inguinal hernias. In 1893, he published his work titled *Radical Cure of Femoral and Inguinal Hernia*. Three years later, Lockwood published his book *Aseptic Surgery*. Lockwood developed a method for repairing a femoral hernia, known as Lockwood's Operation or the low approach. In addition, he also discovered the suspensory ligament of the eye, which is now named Lockwood's suspensory ligament. In October of 1914, Lockwood pricked his finger while operating on a patient who had appendicular peritonitis. Ironically, after five weeks of illness he died from sepsis.



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# Henry O Marcy

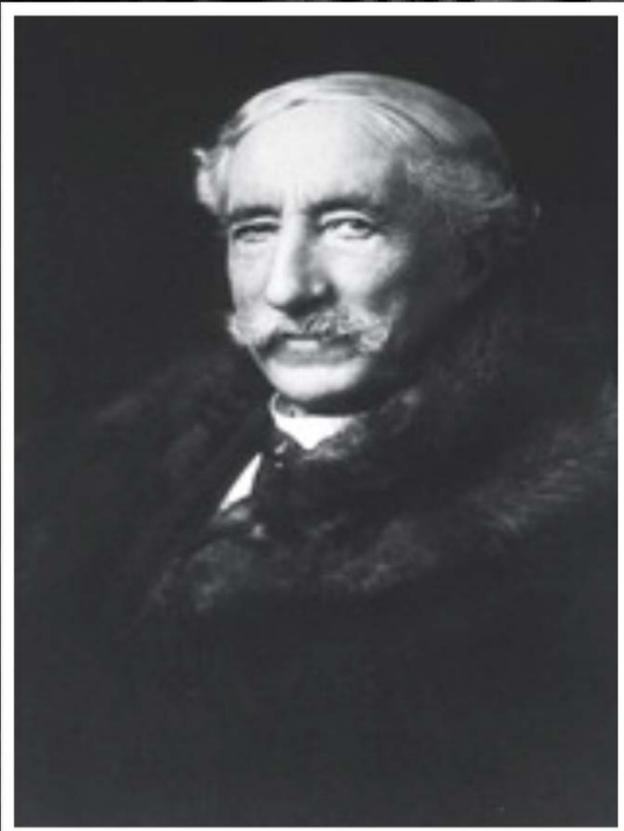
(June 23, 1837-January 1, 1924)

Born In: U.S.A

Practicing Countries: U.S.A, Germany & Scotland

Medical School: Harvard Medical School

Areas of Practice: General Surgery & Gynecology



<http://bit.ly/2O5Zlxb>

After graduating medical school in 1864, Marcy joined the Union Army and served as the assistant surgeon of the 43rd Massachusetts Volunteers. The same year he also served as a surgeon for the First Regiment of Colored Troops in North Carolina. After the war, in 1869, Marcy traveled to Europe to further his medical studies. After a year of studying at the University of Berlin, Marcy became the first American pupil of Joseph Lister in Edinburgh, Scotland. While studying with Lister, Marcy learned the value and necessity of utilizing aseptic techniques during surgery. When returning to America, Marcy became dedicated to introducing these techniques to American surgeons. Lister also taught Marcy the technique of using catgut-ligatures to connect arteries in continuity. Marcy continued to expand upon this concept, and experimented with using aseptic animal tendons as a means for wound closure. These experiments eventually found kangaroo tendons to be the superior source for sutures. In 1871, Marcy performed his first operation using this new method. Marcy established a private hospital in 1880, located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, for the treatment of women with operable diseases. The hospital's purpose was to show the value of utilizing the aseptic techniques created by Lister. Due to Marcy's contributions to the medical community, in 1892 he was elected president of the American Medical Association.

DR. HENRY O. MARCY.  
DR. HENRY O. MARCY, JR.,  
180 COMMONWEALTH AVE., BOSTON.  
OFFICE HOURS:  
UNTIL 10 A. M. 2 TO 4 P. M.  
TELEPHONES | 3274 BACK BAY,  
505 CAMBRIDGE.

My Dear Dr. Reder.  
Thanks for your query.  
1<sup>st</sup>. a natural fondness for  
mechanics.  
2<sup>d</sup> A surgeon and medical  
Director in the U.S.  
Service during the Civil War.  
3. Finally settled after I  
became the especial—first  
American—pupil of Mr.  
Lister—later Sir Joseph  
and now Lord Lister—  
Sincerely  
H. O. Marcy  
April 2, 1910.



BOSTON, April 2, 1910.

MY DEAR DOCTOR REDER:—Thanks for your query.  
1. A natural fondness for mechanics.  
2. A surgeon and medical director in the United  
States Service during the Civil War.  
3. Finally settled after I became the especial—first  
American—pupil of Mr. Lister—later Sir Joseph and  
now Lord Lister.  
Sincerely,  
H. O. MARCY.

### Fun Fact

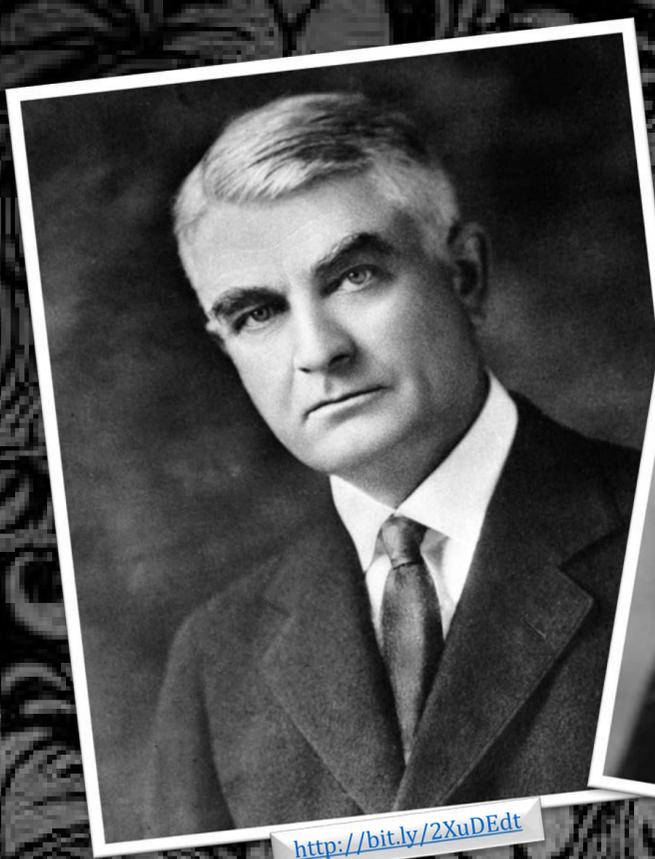
After returning from Europe, Marcy hired research assistants and started his own laboratory. For 10 years, the lab studied microorganisms that grow in wounds, specifically observing the organisms' grow in different media as well as their reproduction in animals.

### Bibliography

Zimmerman, L.M. Henry O. Marcy, pioneer of hernial surgery. *Q Bull Northwest Univ Med Sch.* 1949;23(4):501-508. <http://bit.ly/336pS1R>

"Henry Orlando Marcy (1837-1924)". *JAMA.* 1969;207(11):2096. doi:10.1001/jama.1969.03150240116020

"Biographical sketch of Dr. Henry O. Marcy". In: *Physicians and Surgeons of America.* Concord, N.H. <http://bit.ly/2QBkEbN>



<http://bit.ly/2XuDEdt>

## William James Mayo

(June 29, 1861-July 28, 1939)

**Born In:** U.S.A

**Practicing Country:** U.S.A

**Practicing State(s):** Minnesota & Washington D.C

**Medical School:** University of Michigan Medical School

**Area of Practice:** General Surgery (specific focus on the abdomen, pelvis and kidneys)



<http://bit.ly/2XxNEm1>

## Charles Horace Mayo

(July 19, 1865-May 26, 1939)

**Born In:** U.S.A

**Practicing Country:** U.S.A

**Practicing State(s):** Minnesota & Washington D.C

**Medical School:** Northwestern University

**Area of Practice:** General Surgery (specific focus on the thyroid and nervous system)

As children, both William and Charles frequently accompanied their father, Dr. W.W. Mayo, on house calls. The boys often assisted their father, eventually reaching the point where they were allowed to administer anesthesia and tie off blood vessels. William and Charles' early exposure to medicine prompted them to attend medical school. After graduating in 1883, William returned back to his hometown of Rochester, Minnesota, to practice medicine with his father. Five years later, Charles followed in William's footsteps after completing his own medical training.

In the fall of 1883, a tornado struck Rochester, killing almost 30 people and injuring over 50. The Mayo family was unharmed, and immediately established a makeshift hospital to assist the injured. William's father asked the Sisters of St. Francis, a local Catholic order, to serve as nurses. While serving, Mother Alfred Moes noticed the great need for a hospital in Rochester. She suggested building a hospital, where the sisters would serve as nurses. However, she was adamant that the women would only serve if Dr. W.W. Mayo, along with his two sons, would head the practice. On September 30, 1889, Saint Mary's Hospital was opened. Dr. W.W. Mayo served as head of the hospital, with William and Charles seeing patients and performing surgeries. Word of the surgical skill of the Mayo brothers quickly spread, with many coming to seek the brothers' expertise at, "the hospital in the cornfield". The hospital's popularity was so great that in, 1906, the Saint Mary's School of Nursing was established to address the need for more nurses.

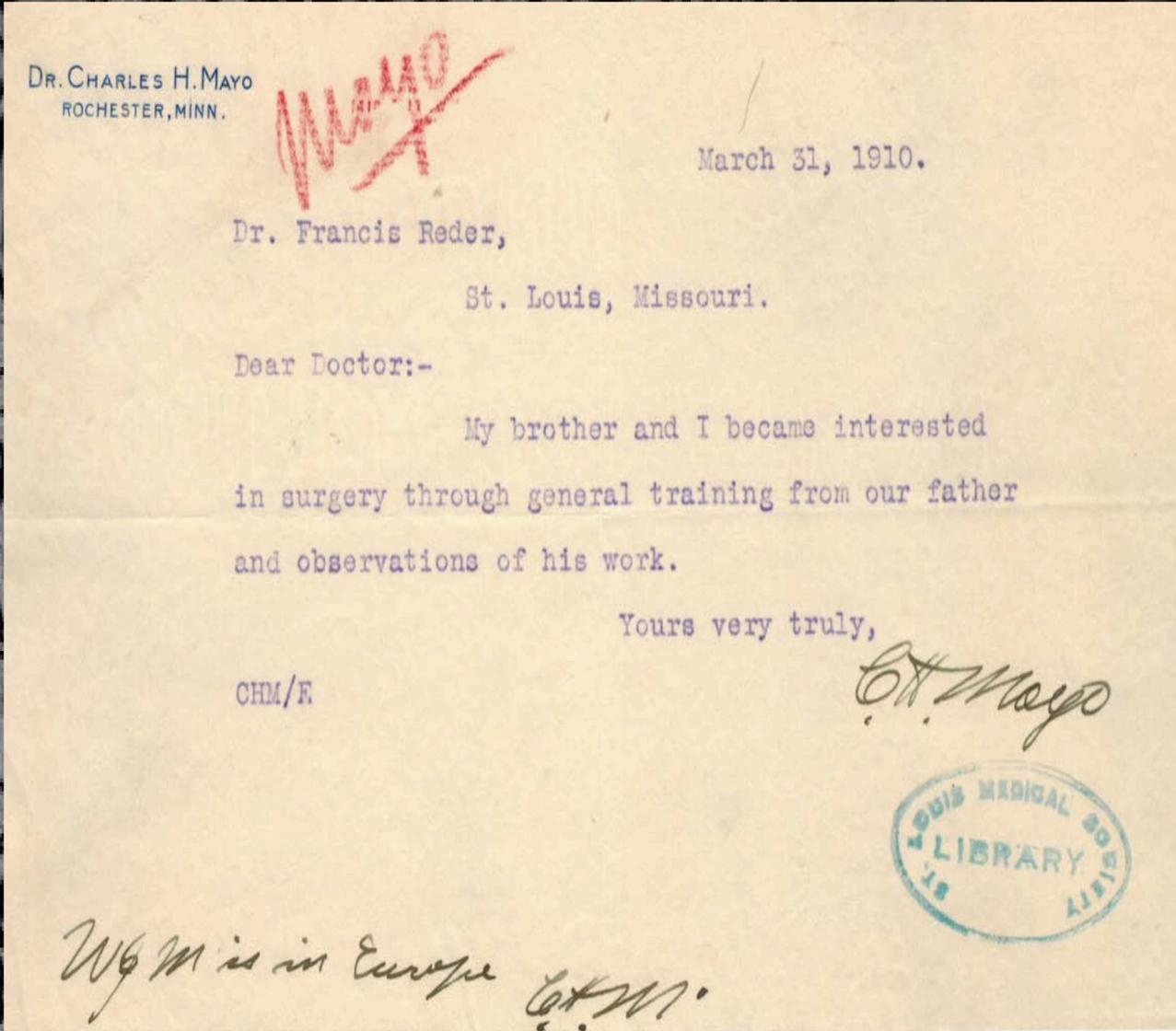
The Mayo brothers were true innovators; not only in their surgical skill, but also in the way they ran their practice. William and Charles invited physicians and researchers from all over to work at their practice. At this point and time, the concept of a multidisciplinary group was unheard of. However, the benefits of such practice were indisputable. Some benefits include the creation of individual patient medical records, and the creation of medical libraries filled with publications and books to keep physicians up to date on medical practice. In 1914 the first hospital designed for interdisciplinary medical practice was opened, and justly named the "Mayo Clinic".

After the clinic's establishment, physicians from all over the world came to study at it. This led to the first graduate training program for physicians, and today is known as the Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education. As the clinic grew, William and Charles wanted to make sure that the Mayo Clinic would continue even after their deaths. Therefore in 1919, the brothers and their wives signed a Deed of Gift. The deed donated a majority of the brothers' private savings, as well as the assets of their private practice to the clinic. The gift was around \$10 million in total, and created one of the first non-profit medical organizations. Eventually the clinic began to produce a publication called *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*, which was first published in 1926. Currently, the publication reaches around 125,000 individuals.

On July 28 1939, the world mourned the loss of Charles who passed away from pneumonia. Just a few months later, William passed away from a gastric carcinoma. Despite the brothers' death, their careful planning and establishment of capable colleagues in leadership positions ensured that the Mayo Clinic would continue to thrive in their absence. Today the clinic continues to thrive, and is still a leader in medical practice and research.



<https://mayocl.in/207rlex>



ROCHESTER, MINN., March 31, 1910.

DEAR DOCTOR:—Brother and I became interested in surgery through general training from our father and observations of his work.

Yours very truly,  
C. H. MAYO.

Bibliography

Keys, T.E. (2010). Mayo Family. In *Encyclopaedia Britannica online*. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/3716jWO>

Markel, H. (June 29, 2018). The brilliant brothers behind the Mayo Clinic. *PBC News Hour: Health and Medicine*. Retrieved from <https://to.pbs.org/203H2c0>

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# Robert Tuttle Morris

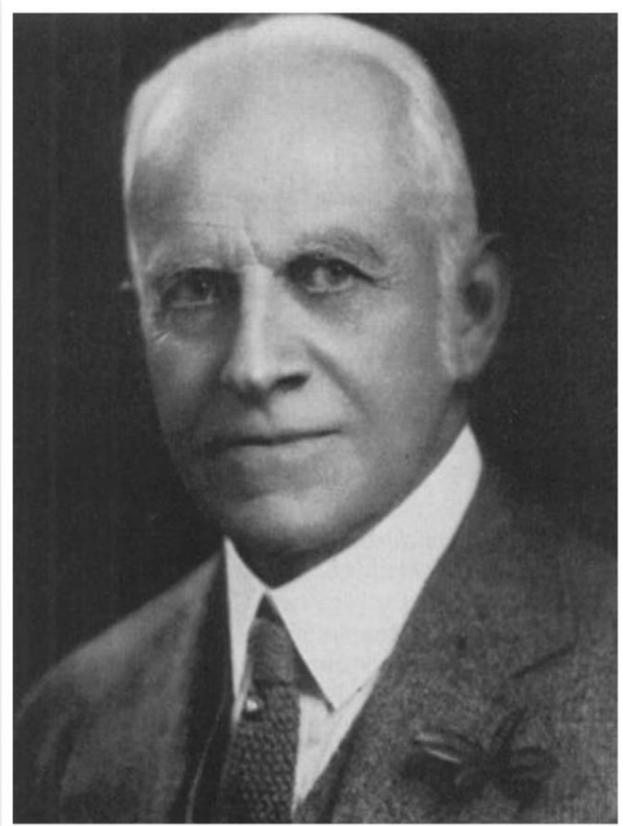
(May 14, 1857-January 10, 1945)

Born In: U.S.A

Practicing Countries: U.S.A, England & Denmark

Medical School: College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York

Areas of Practice: Surgical Research, General Surgery & Gynecology



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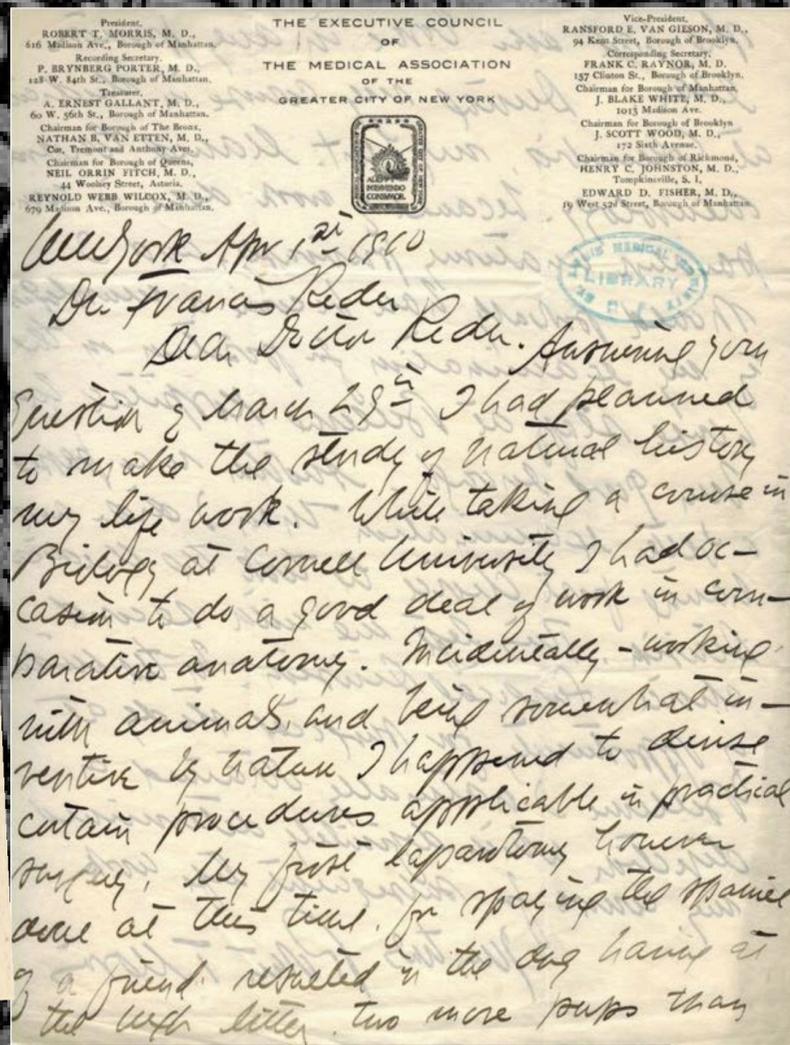
After graduating from medical school in 1882, Morris completed an internship at Bellevue Hospital from 1882-1884. During this time, Bellevue Hospital was the largest general hospital in the United States. Upon completing his internship, Morris traveled to Europe where he studied in various clinics. During this time, Morris also met Joseph Lister, who had a profound influence on the future of his medical career. Such influence can be seen in Morris's first book, published in 1886, titled, "How We Treat Wounds Today". Upon returning to the United States, Morris was a strong advocate of Lister's aseptic techniques. Eventually in 1889, Morris became Instructor of Surgery at the New York Post-Graduate Medical School. In 1898, he was appointed chair of Surgery as well as attending surgeon of the hospital. Throughout his career, Morris was a member of a number of different societies. In 1890 he became a member of the American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and later was elected as president in 1907. Morris was also a member of the Southern Surgical Association, and became a senior fellow in 1923. Other organizations that Morris was a part of include the American Therapeutic Association (1916) and the Physicians Home Incorporation. Although an excellent surgeon, Morris may be better remembered for his excellent writing skills. Throughout his years, Morris wrote a multitude of publications including the following: "Dawn of the Fourth Era in Surgery", "Microbes and Men" and "A Surgeon's Philosophy". After writing his most popular publication, "Fifty Years a Surgeon", Morris retired to Stamford, Connecticut. During retirement Morris expanded upon his love of nature, and spent his time cross-grafting nut-producing trees.

NEW YORK, April 1, 1910.

DEAR DOCTOR REDER:—I received your question of March 29. I had planned to make the study of natural history my life work. While taking a course in biology at Cornell University I had occasion to do a great deal of work in comparative anatomy. Incidentally worked with animals, and being somewhat inventive by nature, I happened to devise certain procedures applicable in practical surgery. My first laparotomy, however, done at this time, for spaying the spaniel of a friend, resulted in the dog having at the next litter two more pups than she had ever borne in any previous litter. During my course in medicine at Columbia my bent leaned toward neurology, because of work done in comparative anatomy previously, and I would probably have become a neurologist if my examination for position on the house staff at Bellevue Hospital had been good enough. Another man passed a better examination than I did, and having first choice, he took the medical division. This left me with second choice—surgical division. In the midst of opportunity for surgical study at Bellevue, I naturally obtained a direction which definitely determined my course for subsequent life work.

Yours truly,

ROBERT T. MORRIS.



*in your in any position  
my bent leaned toward  
because of work done in com-  
parative anatomy, and I  
happened to become a neurologist  
if my examination for position on the  
house staff at Bellevue Hospital had  
been good enough. Another man passed  
a better examination than I did, and  
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division. This left me with second  
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of opportunity for surgical study at  
Bellevue, I naturally obtained a direction  
which definitely determined my course  
for subsequent life work.*

### Bibliography



# John Benjamin Murphy

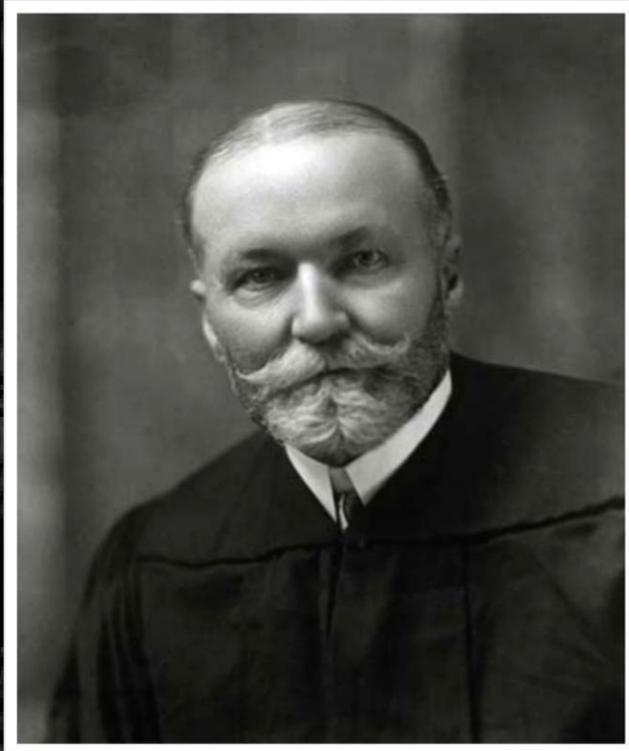
(December 21, 1857- August 11, 1916)

Born In: U.S.A

Practicing Countries: U.S.A, Germany & Austria

Medical School: Rush Medical College

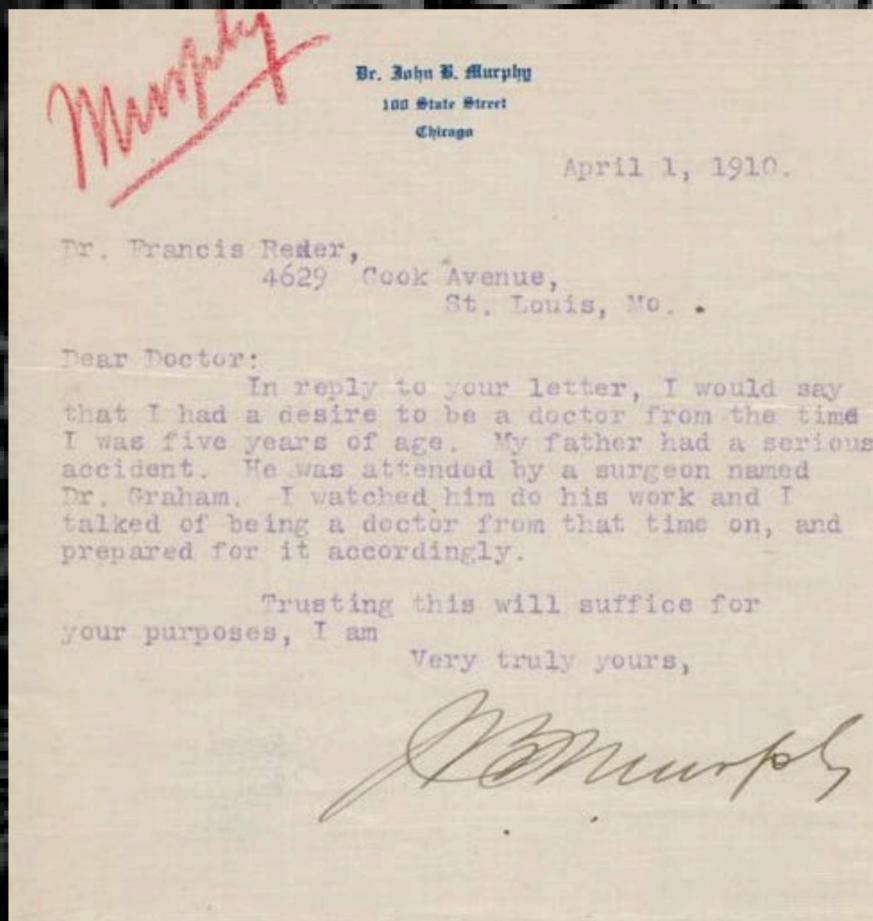
Areas of Practice: General Surgery, Orthopedics, Neurosurgery, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Gynecology, Urology & Plastic Surgery



<http://bit.ly/2qS5VhG>

Murphy graduated from Rush Medical College in 1879, and then completed an 18-month internship at Cook County Hospital. After Murphy's internship, he traveled to Europe to train under prominent surgeon, Dr. Theodore Billroth. Upon returning to the United States, Murphy became known as a leader in abdominal surgery. In 1884 he was appointed a lecturer of surgery at Rush Medical College. Six years later, Murphy was named a Professor of Surgery at three premier medical schools in Chicago: Rush, The College of Physicians and Surgeons and Northwestern. He also became Chief of Surgery at Mercy Hospital in 1895, and remained in the position until his death in 1916. It was at Mercy Hospital where Murphy established his "wet clinics". These were clinics in which he operated and lectured to students and physicians from around the world. His clinics were so popular that Murphy started the publication, *The Surgical Clinics of John B. Murphy, M.D., at Mercy Hospital, Chicago*. The publication was a direct transcription of his presentation, and allowed a wider audience to be reached.

Dr. Murphy made much advancement in the field of surgery. He is best known for, *Murphy's Sign*, used for the clinical diagnosis of acute cholecystitis. His other contributions include: Murphy's drip, Murphy's button, Murphy's punch, Murphy's test & Murphy-Lane bone skid. In an era where the conservative management of appendicitis was the norm, Murphy advocated for early intervention of appendicitis via removal of the appendix. In 1896, he was the first person to perform an arterial injury repair by direct anastomosis following a gunshot wound to the femoral artery. Later, in 1912, Murphy was arguably the first to perform a biliary tract endoscopy when he inserted a cystoscope into a cholecystectomy drainage tract. He was also a founding member of the American College of Surgeons. He passed away on August 11, 1916 in Mackinac Island, Michigan following recurrent attacks of angina pectoris. Eerily, two days prior to his death he wrote, "I think the necropsy will show plaques in my aorta", which was later confirmed by his autopsy.



CHICAGO, April 1, 1910.

DEAR DOCTOR:—In reply to your letter, I would say that I had a desire to be a doctor from the time I was five years of age. My father had a serious accident. He was attended by a surgeon named Dr. Graham. I watched him do his work and I talked of being a doctor from that time on, and prepared for it accordingly. Trusting this will suffice for your purposes, I am,

Very truly yours,

J. B. MURPHY.

## Fun Fact

On October 14, 1912, former President Theodore Roosevelt was shot in the chest at close range and transferred to Mercy Hospital. Roosevelt specifically asked for Murphy as his surgeon. Murphy treated Roosevelt successfully, and when he asked if Roosevelt had any fears regarding his wound Roosevelt replied, "I've hunted long enough, doctor, to know that you can't kill a bull moose with a short gun."

## Bibliography

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George, I., Hardy, M.A., & Widmann, W.D. (2004). John Benjamin Murphy. *Current Surgery*, 61(5), 439-441. <http://bit.ly/322HkDD>

Morgenstern, L. (2006). John Benjamin Murphy (1857-1916): An American Surgical Phenomenon. *Surgical Innovation*, 13, 1-3. <http://bit.ly/36ec6Nf>

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## Charles P. Noble

(1863-November 21, 1935)

Born In: U.S.A

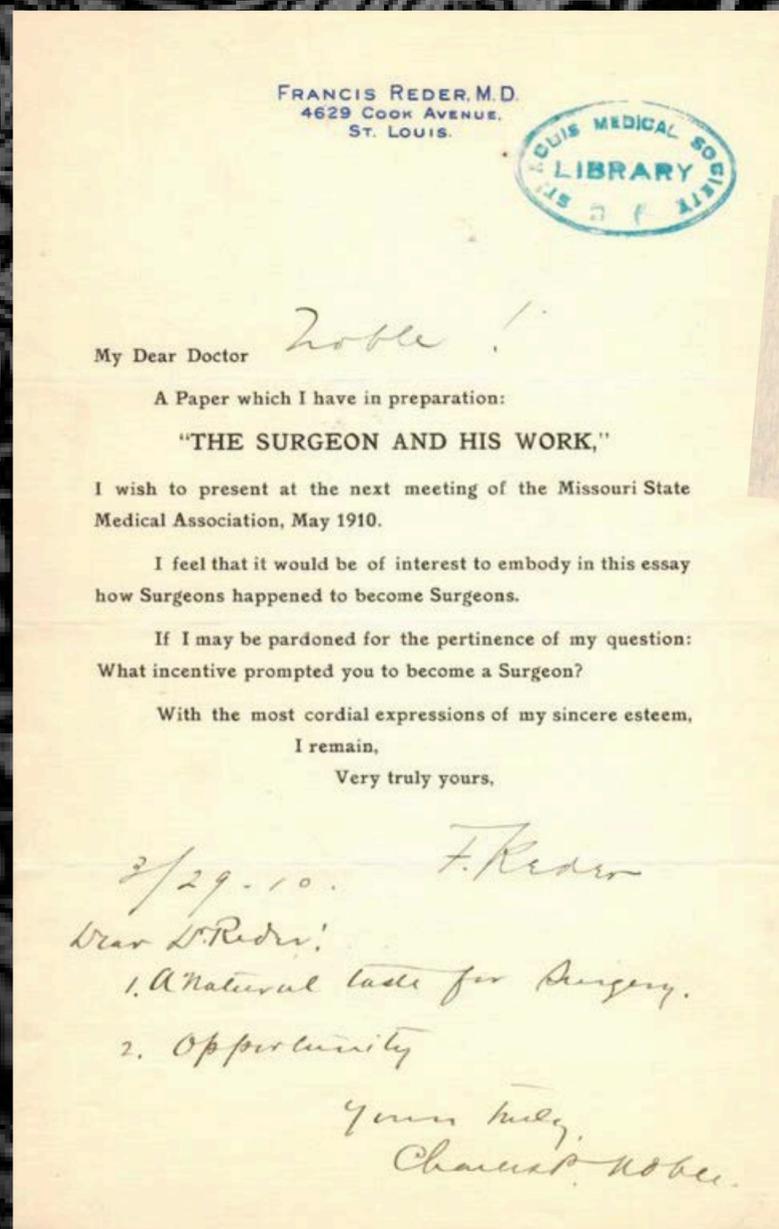
Practicing Country: U.S.A

Medical School: University of Maryland

Areas of Practice: Gynecology

Dr. Charles P. Noble was born in Federalsburg, Maryland in 1863. Noble studied at the Iowa Agricultural College before his interest in medicine. In 1884, he graduated and received his medical degree from the University of Maryland. That same year, he went to Philadelphia where he worked at the Philadelphia Lying-In Charity Hospital. He was the surgeon-in-chief at Kensington Hospital, succeeding Howard A. Kelly, and was a gynecologist at Stetson Hospital, both in Philadelphia. Noble wrote on many surgical subjects with Dr. Howard A. Kelly, including the Kelly-Noble *Gynecology and Abdominal Surgery*, which was published in 1914. Noble, himself, wrote on the *Operation for the Restoration of the Urethra and for Closure of the Vesico-Vaginal Fistula Involving the Neck of the Bladder*, which was published in 1898. This was one of the earliest and most important articles on the repair of an injured urethra published in the United States.

During his life, Noble was a fellow of the Philadelphia College of Physicians, former president and honorary member of the Philadelphia Obstetrical Society, a fellow of the American Gynecological Society, and a corresponding member of the Die Gynaekologische Gesellschaft of Munich, as well as other international medical organizations

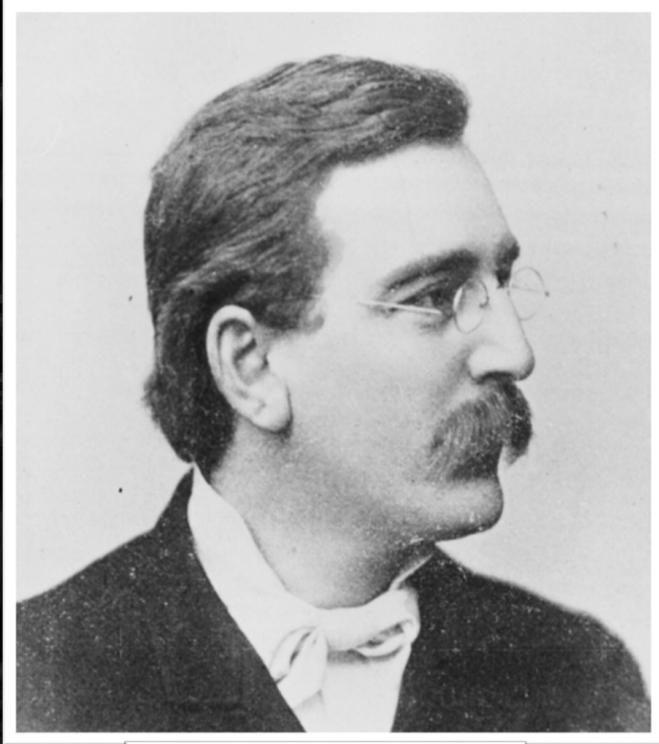


DEAR DOCTOR REDER:—  
March 29, 1910.  
1. A natural taste for surgery.  
2. Opportunity.

Yours truly,  
CHARLES P. NOBLE.

### Bibliography

Obituary: Charles P. Noble. (1935, November 22). *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. Retrieved from <https://bit.ly/2BVkFP2>



<https://bit.ly/32VuEji>

### Fun Fact

He was one of the founding members of the American College of Surgeons, established November 25, 1912.

## Albert J. Ochsner

(April 3, 1858-July 25, 1925)

Born In: U.S.A

Practicing Countries: U.S.A & Germany

Medical School: Rush Medical College

Areas of Practice: Surgery, Pathology, Bacteriology & Embryology

Albert John Ochsner was born on April 3, 1838 in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Upon graduating high school Ochsner passed the county teachers examination, and taught school for five winter terms. In 1881, he attended the University of Wisconsin earning a B.S. degree with honors. During college he developed an interest in the emerging field of histology. This interest prompted him to attend medical school at Rush Medical College in 1886. During Ochsner's internship at Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago, he spent 9 months in Europe studying pathology under Kolisko and Paltauf in Berlin, and surgery under Billroth in Vienna. While abroad, Ochsner received the degree of Fellow of the Royal Microscopical Society from the committee of the Royal Microscopical Society in London, England. Upon returning to Chicago, he taught histology and microscopy at Rush Medical College. In 1888, he began a private practice in Chicago, and became an assistant to his mentor, Dr. Charles Parkes. Ochsner was also named instructor in surgery at Rush Medical College. He served as chief surgeon at Augustana Hospital, as well as St. Mary's Hospital in Chicago. Almost 10 years later, he was appointed the chair of clinical surgery at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. He maintained this position until his death in 1925.

Ochsner had many publications covering a broad range of topics. The most famous of his medical literature publications was *The Conservative Treatment of Acute Appendicitis*, which was published in 1901. It noted the importance of treating appendicitis using the controversial "starvation method", which helped reduce the number of surgical procedures for appendicitis. In 1906 he also published the well-known *Handbook of Appendicitis*.

Dr. Ochsner served as president of various medical organizations including the American College of Surgeons (1923-1924), Clinical Congress of Surgeons of North America (1910-1912) and the American Surgical Association (1924). He was also editor of *Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetric*. He is also a World War I veteran, attaining the rank of major. Lastly, Ochsner was an honorary fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

### Bibliography

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doi:10.1001/jama.1970.03170240154022

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<https://bit.ly/2MXxq1T>

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Albert J. Ochsner  
(April 3, 1858-July 25, 1925)

Dr. Albert J. Ochsner,  
110 Sedgwick St.  
Chicago.

*Ochsner*

Chicago, April 20th, 1910

Dr. Francis Reder  
St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Dr. Reder:

Thank you very much for your request. The manner in which I happened to become a surgeon is as follows; I had prepared myself for laboratory teaching, having worked three years in the laboratories of the University of Wisconsin before entering my studies in a Medical School but upon entering my medical studies it became clear to me that laboratory teaching in medical schools in this country was still in so primitive a condition that it would be necessary to waste many years before facilities <sup>would be</sup> ~~are~~ forthcoming, while the surgical field was open for activity and the conditions were ripe for much advancement. Consequently I abandoned the former field and took up the latter, especially as I had an opportunity to become the assistant of Dr. Moses Gunn for one year and later <sup>chief</sup> assistant to Dr. Charles T. Parkes for three years and then for Dr. Nicholas Senn for four years.

Very sincerely,

*A. J. Ochsner*



CHICAGO, April 20, 1910.

DEAR DOCTOR REDER:—Thank you very much for your request. The manner in which I happened to become a surgeon is as follows: I had prepared myself for laboratory teaching, having worked three years in the laboratories of the University of Wisconsin before entering my studies in a medical school, but upon entering my medical studies it became clear to me that laboratory teaching in medical schools in this country was still in so primitive a condition that it would be necessary to waste many years before facilities would be forthcoming, while the surgical field was open for activity and the conditions were ripe for much advancement. Consequently I abandoned the former field and took up the latter, especially as I had an opportunity to become the assistant of Dr. Moses Gunn for one year, and later chief assistant to Dr. Charles T. Parkes for three years, and then for Dr. Nicholas Senn for four years.

Very sincerely,

A. J. OCHSNER.



# Roswell Park

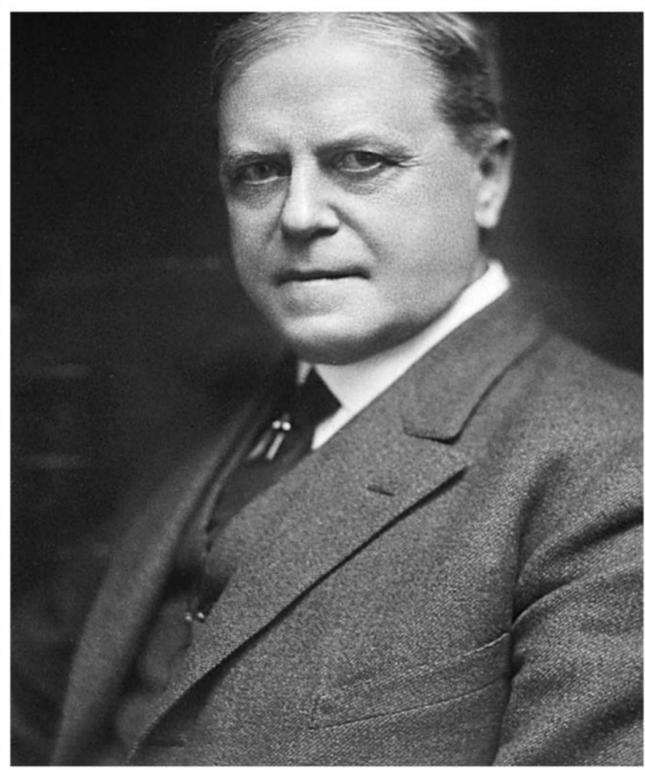
(May 4, 1852-February 15, 1914)

Born In: U.S.A

Practicing Countries: U.S.A, Germany, Austria & Czech Republic

Medical School: Northwestern University

Areas of Practice: Neurosurgery & General Surgery

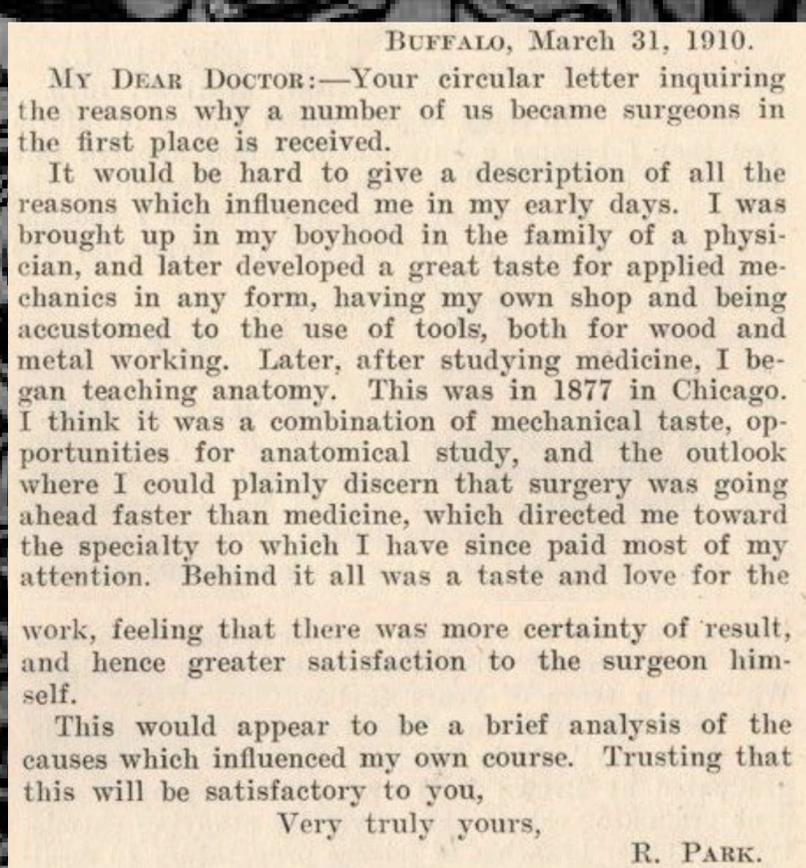
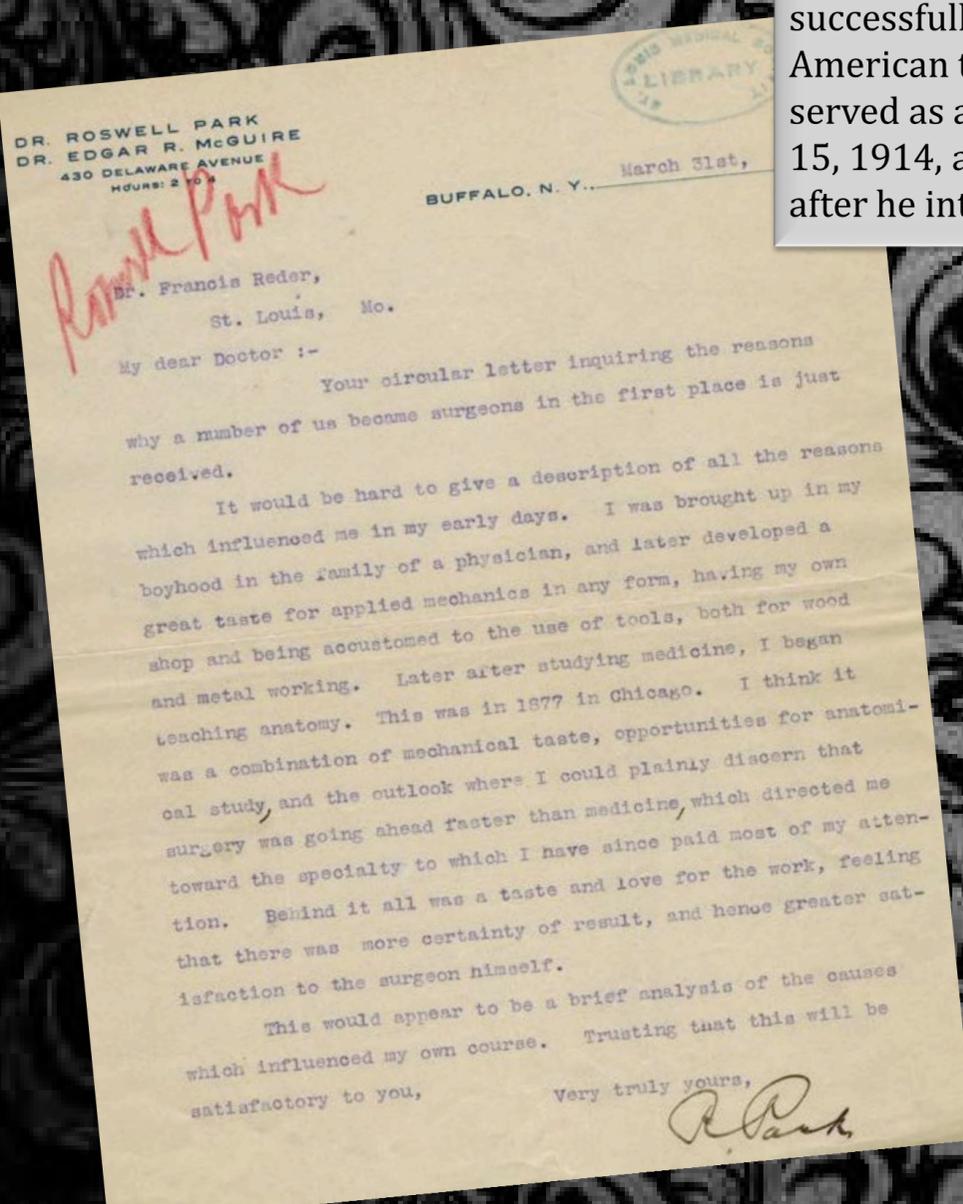


<https://bit.ly/2MVpEWg>

Roswell Park was born on May 4, 1852, in Pomfret, Connecticut. Park received his medical degree from Northwestern University in 1876, after which he interned at Chicago's Cook County Hospital. While here, the number of patient death due to "blood poisoning" disturbed Park. At the time of Park's observation, British surgeon Joseph Lister published *On the Antiseptic Principle of the Practice of Surgery*, which encourage surgeons to utilize aseptic technique to decrease bacterial infection in patients. Park was one of few surgeons of the time to acknowledge the validity of Lister's work. Throughout Park's career he worked to promote Lister's techniques, recommending that physicians making house calls should rub their hands with dry mustard flour if there is no running water, as the flour has antibacterial properties. Such advice makes Park one of the leaders in sterile surgical techniques of that day.

Upon completing his internship in 1879, Park became a teacher at both Women's Medical College and Northwestern University medical school. After 3 years of teaching Park resigned, deciding to travel to Europe to study at prominent medical facilities in Berlin, Prague and Vienna. He returned to the United States in 1893, accepting a job in the Medical Department at the University of Buffalo where he eventually became chief surgeon as well as professor of surgery.

Dr. Park's most notable medical contribution is his establishment of the New York State Pathological Laboratory of the University of Buffalo in 1898, the world's first cancer institute. Today it is known as the Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Parks also made advancements in field of neurosurgery, working closely with Dr. William Keen Jr., a pioneer in neurosurgery. Park and Keen confirmed famed neurosurgeon, Dr. Victor Horsley's, observations regarding localizations of functions within the motor cortex and gyri. In addition Park was the first American surgeon to successfully operate on a simple partial motor epilepsy (1886), as well the first American to operate on a meningocele and successfully treat spina bifida. He also served as associate editor of the *Annals of Surgery*. Park passed away on February 15, 1914, after a severe attack of angina, which stemmed from acquiring diphtheria after he intubated a child who suffered from the same ailment in 1908.





## William Mecklenburg Polk

(August 15, 1844-June 23, 1918)

Born In: U.S.A

Practicing Country: U.S.A

Medical School: College of Physicians & Surgeons of New York

Areas of Practice: Surgery & Gynecology



<https://bit.ly/2WmW1QM>

Prior to Polk's medical career, he studied mathematics and science at the Military Institute of Lexington, Virginia, in preparation for West Point Military Academy. In 1861, the War Between the States began, which interfered with Polk's enrollment into West Point. From April 1861 to May 1865 Polk was continually active in the Confederate Army, serving in the Army of Tennessee under his father, Leonidas Polk. Much of Polk's service is detailed in his biographical work, *Leonidas Polk, Bishop and General*, describing his father who died while in battle.

After the war Polk became interested in medicine, and studied under Dr. E.W.C Bailey. In 1869, he graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York. Following graduation, Polk served as professor of therapeutics & clinical medicine at Bellevue Hospital Medical College from 1875 to 1879. While at Bellevue, a large gynecological service was established due to the efforts of Polk and other esteemed colleagues. He was also appointed Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women at the University of the City of New York. Over the years, Polk held the position of consulting gynecologist to St. Luke's, St. Vincent's, General Memorial and the Lying-In Hospitals of New York. When the medical department of Cornell University was established in 1898, Polk was appointed as the first dean of faculty as well as the chair of the diseases of women. He is one of the founders of Cornell Medical College, which is now considered one of the leading medical institutions in America.

Throughout his career, Dr. Polk was a member of the following organizations: County Medical Society, Medical Society of the State of New York, American College of Surgeons, New York Academy of Medicine, Medical and Surgical Society, Practitioners' Society, and Pathological Society. He served as president of the following: American Gynecological Society, New York Obstetrical Society, and the New York Academy of Medicine. He was a fellow of Société Obstétricale et Gynécologique of Paris, France.

7 East 36<sup>th</sup> Street.

New York, April 18th, 1910

Dear Doctor Reder:

The only answer I can give to your inquiry of March twenty-ninth is, that I became a surgeon because of the necessities of my work in connection with obstetrics and diseases of women.

With kind regards,

Very truly yours,

Dr. F. Reder  
4629 Cook Avenue  
St. Louis, Mo.

NEW YORK, April 18, 1910.

DEAR DOCTOR REDER:—The only answer I can give to your inquiry of March 29 is that I became a surgeon because of the necessities of my work in connection with obstetrics and diseases of women. With kind regards,

Very truly yours,

W. M. POLK.

### Bibliography

Cornell University. (1918, July). Obituary: Dean W.M. Polk. *Cornell Alumni News*. Retrieved from <https://bit.ly/34gcERc>



# Ferdinand Riedinger

(September 19, 1844-March 29, 1918)

Born In: Germany

Practicing country/countries: France & Germany

Medical School: Ludwig-Maximilians-University (Munich) & Julius-Maximilians-University (Wurzburg)

Areas of Practice: General Surgery & Surgical Research

Dr. Ferdinand Riedinger was born on September 19, 1844 in Schwanheim, Germany. He studied medicine at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich and at the Julius-Maximilians-University in Wurzburg. Dr. Riedinger came to his career in surgery through the part that he took in the Franco-German War. His interest in the healing of soldiers led to his passion for medicine and his eventual appointment as an associate professor of surgery at the University of Wurzburg. There, he studied under a brilliant operator named Linhart, who encouraged him in his pursuit, leading Riedinger to excellence of his own. He is most well known for being a first-rate war surgeon, serving during the First World War as a consultant surgeon and also as the surgical chair of the Schiller School in Wurzburg. His work includes studies on injuries and diseases of the thorax and injuries and fractures of the chest. He even coined the phrase "thoracic contusion." Finally, in 1874, he wrote one of the first scientific textbooks on fractures of the femoral neck. He died on March 29, 1918 in Wurzburg, Germany.

HOFRAT PROFESSOR DR. RIEDINGER  
GENERALARZT A. L. S. DES K. B. SANITÄTS-CORPS



Herrn Professor Dr. Riedinger  
Ihre gütige Beantwortung auf Ihre Frage.  
zu verstehen. Ich bin mir sehr wohl bewusst,  
dass Sie in der Chirurgie zu-  
kunft, nämlich meine Tätigkeit in  
ausführlicher Hinsicht mit dem  
an der chirurgischen Klinik der Universität  
Wurzburg. Aber Sie sind kürzer Zeit  
als mir klar, dass Sie in der Chirurgie  
bleiben würde. Ich würde mich  
allenfalls sehr freuen, Ihre Tätigkeit,  
sowie Ihre erfolgreiche Tätigkeit, die  
feld, das Sie zu gewinnen so schnell  
möglich ist. Nicht unverständlich beeinflusst  
würde ich aber auch durch die Persönlichkeit  
meiner Lehrer Linhart, der ein glänzender  
Operator, und auf jeder Richtung  
möglichst fördern.  
Mit kollegialen Grüßen und besonderer  
Betreifend  
Ihre ganz ergebene  
Ferdinand Riedinger

MOST HONORED COLLEAGUE: I take pleasure in answering your question. In the first place it was rather a peculiar incident that led me into surgery. This experience was followed by my appointment as an assistant at the surgical clinic at the University of Würzburg. In a short time it was made very clear to me that I was to remain in surgery. The great charm of this line of work captivated me; above all I was fascinated by the great good from its visible success, as well as the large field of labor that has since then been so enormously extended. I was not kept back unnecessarily, but was influenced in every way, willingly, through the personality of my teacher, Linhart, who was a brilliant operator. With collegiate greetings and high esteem, I am  
Devotedly,

DR. RIEDINGER.



## D. Steintal

Dr. Steintal began his work in pathology. However, through his study of the subject, he developed an interest in surgery. Therefore, he apprenticed himself to Dr. Czerny in Heidelberg to learn the craft of surgery. Unfortunately, there is little literature about the life of Dr. Steintal. However, there is record of some of his publications. In 1887, he published work on using chloride of zinc paste in the cauterization of malignant neoplasms in body cavities. The paste showed satisfactory results upon clinical trial by Dr. Steintal. Additionally, in 1889 Dr. Steintal published work regarding surgical treatment of perforating ulceration of the stomach and intestine in *Annals of Surgery*. His treatment is noted as successful and useful for other surgeons to use.

FRANCIS REDER, M.D.  
4629 COOK AVENUE,  
ST. LOUIS.



My Dear Doctor

A Paper which I have in preparation.

"THE SURGEON AND HIS WORK,"

I wish to present at the next meeting of the Missouri State Medical Association, May 1910.

I feel that it would be of interest to embody in this essay how Surgeons happened to become Surgeons.

If I may be pardoned for the pertinence of my question: What incentive prompted you to become a Surgeon?

With the most cordial expressions of my sincere esteem,  
I remain,  
Very truly yours,

F. Reder

3/28-10.

Sehr geehrter Herr College!

Da mir die Chirurgie auf einer breiten  
experimentellen Basis zu stehen schien, da  
ich fern der Meinung war, dass durch  
den Einblick in die pathologischen Prozesse

ihre Aufgabe sehr vorgezeichnet sein  
da ich Freude an praktischer Chirurgie hatte  
und mir die Persönlichkeit meines  
Lehrers Czerny in Heidelberg sehr symp-  
pathisch war wurde ich Chirurg.

Ihr ergebener  
D. Steintal

Stuttgart.  
Sehr geehrter Herr College!  
Da mir die Chirurgie auf einer breiten experimen-  
tellen Basis zu stehen schien, da ich ferner der Mei-  
nung war, daß durch den Einblick in die pathologi-  
schen Lehren ihre Aufgabe klar vorgezeichnet schien,  
da ich Freude an praktischer Chirurgie hatte und mir  
die Persönlichkeit meines Lehrers Czerny in Heidelberg  
sehr sympathisch war wurde ich Chirurg.  
Ihr ergebener

Dr. Steintal.

STUTTGART.

VERY HONORED COLLEAGUE: Since surgery seemed to me to stand on a broad experimental basis, and since I was furthermore of the opinion that through an insight into pathological training, its task seemed clearly indicated, and again I enjoyed the practice of surgery and the added friendship of my teacher, Czerny, in Heidelberg, who was very sympathetic, I became a surgeon.

Your humble,

DR. STEINTAL.

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Steintal, D. (1889). The Surgical Treatment of Perforating Ulceration of the Stomach and Intestine. *Annals of Surgery*, 9, 56-63. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/32ZMS3h>



## Harold Stiles

(March 21, 1863-April 19, 1946)

**Born In:** England

**Practicing country/countries:** England, Scotland, Switzerland & France

**Medical School:** University Edinburgh

**Areas of Practice:** General Surgery & Surgical Research



<http://bit.ly/2KEIzmC>

### **Fun Fact**

In 1923, Stiles briefly taught at Harvard University. He was temporarily serving in the place of Harvey Williams Cushing, another well-known surgeon of that time.

Sir Harold Jalland Stiles was born on March 21<sup>st</sup> 1863 in Spalding, Lincolnshire, England. He studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh and graduated at the top of his class. He taught anatomy there for two years before being admitted to the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1889. While there, he studied and taught pathology as well as surgery. After, he traveled to Switzerland to study under Professor Theodore Kocher in Bern where he learned aseptic surgical technique, an idea not widely used in Britain at the time. From there, Stiles was appointed assistant surgeon at the Royal Hospital of Sick Children and at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. After a short time, he earned the title of surgeon at the Sick Children's Hospital where he taught, operated, and performed research for many years. It was during this time that Stiles and his associates published important papers on surgical tuberculosis, showing that tuberculosis of the bones, lymph nodes, and joints was often of the bovine form. Additionally, he won international recognition for his research on the anatomy of the breast and on the pathology of breast cancer. Stiles is also known for becoming the first surgeon to transplant the ureter into the sigmoid colon as a treatment for extraversion of the bladder. He also performed the first pyloromyotomy, a procedure to correct congenital hypertrophic pyloric stenosis..

When war broke out in 1914, Harold Stiles worked as a colonel in the Royal Army Medical Corps in France, performing orthopedic surgery for wounded soldiers. During this time, he pioneered surgical techniques to mend previously irreparable nerve damage and earned a knighthood for his work. After the war, he became Regius Professor of Clinic Surgery at Edinburgh University where he established a surgical unit and pathological laboratory as well as taught classes in surgery. He held this position for six years, and then retired. In his retirement he served as president of the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh from 1923 to 1925. Finally, he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1924. He passed away on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1946.

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## John Bland Sutton

(April 21, 1855-December 20, 1936)

Born In: England

Practicing country/countries: England

Medical School: Middlesex Hospital

Areas of Practice: Thoracic Surgical Research



Sir John Bland-Sutton was born in Northampton in England on April 21, 1855. He studied medicine at Middlesex Hospital as well as taught anatomy to pay for his tuition. In 1886, he was elected as an assistant surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital where he devoted himself to pelvic operations of women. He also worked as a lecturer of anatomy there. As a surgeon there, he operated a surgical theater and published his results widely, earning recognition and renown. In 1905, he was promoted to surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital and served in that position for 15 years until he retired to become a consulting surgeon. During this time, he performed the hospital's first abdominal operations and contributed much to the surgical literature. Chief among his contributions were books on the subject of evolutions, tumors, diseases of the bile duct, and diseases of women. In his work on tumors, he attempted to classify them based on embryology and to prove his point by comparative pathology. In addition to his work in anatomy, pathology, and surgery, Bland-Sutton was an avid zoologist, serving as Vice President of the Zoological Society of London. A philanthropist, he gifted the hospital an institute of pathology. He died on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 1936

LONDON, April 29, 1910.

DEAR DR. REDER:—My great desire as a boy was to become an astronomer. I soon found that I had no mathematical ability, and with regret abandoned this idea.

I was, as a boy, devoted to the study of natural history and felt that knowledge of this kind would help me if I became a surgeon. I entered Middlesex Hospital, and within a year I began to teach anatomy; I enjoyed the peculiar pleasure of going up for my examinations with my own class. Surgery fascinated me. I refused offers to become an anatomist and a very pressing ~~offer~~ <sup>offer</sup> to devote my life to pathology. Although I love animals, the most interesting of all animals are living men and women as the surgeon sees them.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN BLAND SUTTON.

*JS*

47, Brook Street, W.  
London  
Apr 29 1910

Dear Dr. Reder,

My great desire as a boy was to become an astronomer. I soon found that I had no mathematical ability, and with regret abandoned this idea.

I was, as a boy devoted to the study of Natural History, and felt that knowledge of this kind would help me if I became a surgeon. I entered Middlesex Hospital and within a year I began to teach anatomy, I enjoyed the peculiar pleasure of going up for my examinations with my own class. Surgery fascinated me. I refused offers to become an anatomist and a very pressing ~~offer~~ <sup>offer</sup> to devote my life to pathology. Although I love animals, the most interesting of all animals are living men and women as the surgeon sees them.

Yours sincerely,

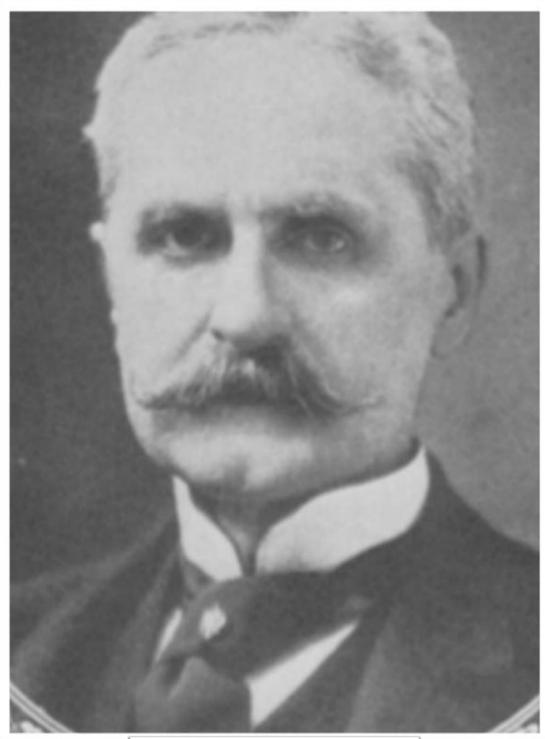
*John Bland-Sutton*



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<http://bit.ly/2Q1tdSh>

**R.F. Weir**  
 (February 16, 1838-April 6, 1927)

**Born In:** U.S.A  
**Practicing country/countries:** U.S.A  
**Medical School:** New York College of Physicians and Surgeons  
**Areas of Practice:** General Surgery

Robert Fulton Weir was born on February 16, 1838, in New York City, New York. Dr. Weir was drawn to surgery because of instances in his youth where surgeons easily fixed ailments or fractures in him or his family members. After discovering this interest, he graduated as the youngest in his class from the College of the City of New York. He then earned a master's degree from the same college and finally, received his degree in medicine from the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1859. He then found work in the office of Dr. Gurdon Buck at the New York Hospital to begin his career. During the Civil War, he helped manage a hospital in Maryland, taking care of the wounded from battles nearby. After the war, he practiced in New York City, ultimately becoming the chief of surgery at Roosevelt Hospital. For his accomplishments, Dr. Weir was said to be one of the most brilliant surgeons of his generation. He was one of the first to adopt Lister's antiseptic technique. He was one of the first brain surgeons and also the first to recognize duodenal ulcers as a pathological entity. He advanced the operation for carcinoma of the rectum, making it more practical and satisfactory. Finally, he served as president of the American Surgical Association among other organizations. He died April 6, 1927, at the age of 89.

HOTEL COLONIAL Nassau N.Y. BAHAMAS H. E. BEMIS J. W. GREENE Managers.

LOUIS MEDICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY

April 6 1910

Dear Doctor - My first surgical inclination was given me by Dr. Joe R. Wood one of our earlier distinguished New York surgeons by his dexterous forceps avulsion of my ingrowing nail. It was so quickly done that my admiration for his deftness overcame the recollection of his my pain. I was then about 16. A year later the same surgeon replaced

with what seemed to me almost magically the displacement of a Pott's fracture which had happened to my father's leg. - These two exhibits caused me to yearn to be a surgeon & my parents agreeing I was placed in the office of Dr. Gurdon Buck of the New York Hospital & there started on my career

Yours most truly  
 R. S. Weir  
 4269 Colburn St. New York

BAHAMAS, April 6, 1910.

DEAR DOCTOR:—My first surgical inclination was given me by Dr. Joe R. Wood, one of our earlier distinguished New York surgeons, by his dexterous forceps avulsion of my ingrowing nail. It was so quickly done that my admiration for his deftness overcame the recollection of my pain. I was then about sixteen years old. A year later the same surgeon replaced with what seemed to me almost magically the displacement of a Pott's fracture which had happened to my father's leg. These two exhibits caused me to yearn to be a surgeon, and my parents agreeing, I was placed in the office of Dr. Gurdon Buck of the New York Hospital and there started on my career.

Yours most truly,  
 R. S. WEIR.

**Bibliography**  
 Corman, M.L. (1982, July). Robert Fulton Weir. *Diseases of the Colon & Rectum*, 25(5), 503-507. <http://bit.ly/333mowX>  
 Robert Fulton Weir. (1927). *Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine*, 3(5), 381.



# Ernst Wertheim

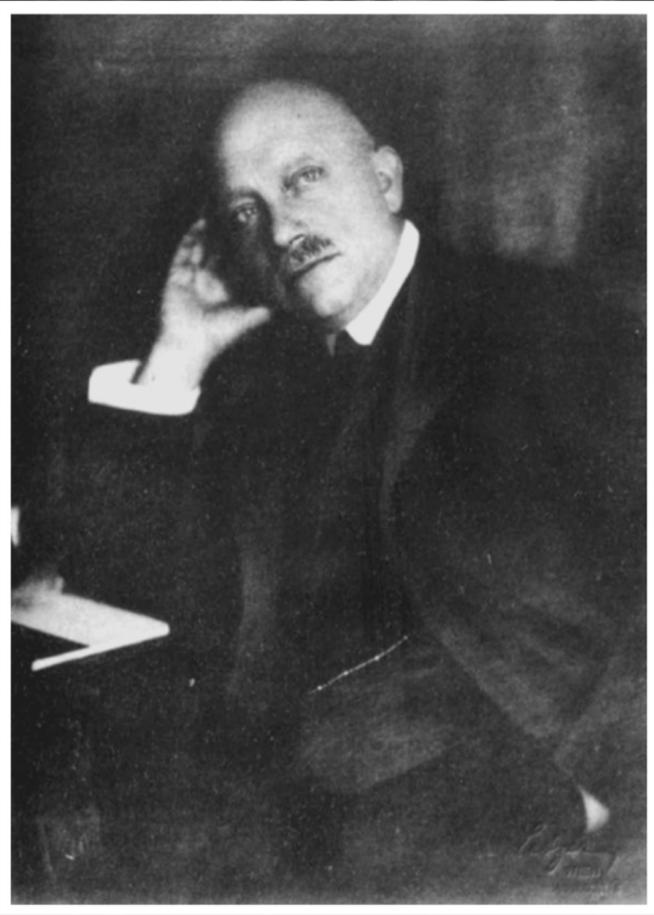
(February 21, 1864– February 15, 1920)

Born In: Austria

Practicing Country: Austria

Medical School: University of Graz

Areas of Practice: Gynecology and Obstetrics



<http://bit.ly/2D3fkG8>

Ernst Wertheim was born in Austria on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 1864. He received his doctorate from The University of Graz in 1888; he went on to become an assistant in general and experimental pathology. After this, Dr. Wertheim worked with his mentor, Otto Kahler, at the Second University Clinic of Vienna. Eventually he traveled to the Hospital of Vienna and received his training in gynecology and obstetrics. After completing his training, Wertheim became chief surgeon of the gynecological department at Bettina Pavilions der Elisabeth-Klinik in 1897, professor at the University of Vienna in 1899, and director of the first Vienna woman's clinic in 1910. In 1910, he transferred to the Second University Hospital of Vienna, it was here that he developed techniques to treat uterine prolapse.

Dr. Wertheim is most notable for treating cervical cancer by performing the first radical abdominal hysterectomy. This procedure involves removing the uterus, parametrium, tissue in the upper vagina, and pelvic lymph nodes. The ovaries are kept intact. This operation went on to become known as the Wertheim surgery. He is also known for the Wertheim vaginal clamps used during a hysterectomy operation. Lastly, he was the first physician to discover gonococcus in the peritoneum.

Wien, 9. April 1910.

Lieber Doktor Reder!  
Zufall war es, reiner Zufall! Da ich vollkommen unbemittelt war, war es meine Absicht, nach gehöriger Ausbildung in die Praxis zu gehen. Da traf es sich, daß sich mir die Gelegenheit bot, Assistent bei Schauta in Prag zu werden. Von da an blieb ich mit der Gynäkologie verknüpft.

Bevor ich zur Surgery übergegangen war, war ich Internist und noch früher Experimental-Pathologe. Ich glaube, wenn sich mir da Gelegenheit geboten hätte Assistent bei einem großen Meister zu werden, wäre ich dort hängen geblieben.

Weiteres müßte ich nicht anzugeben.  
Mit colleg. Grüßen Ihr sehr ergebener  
Wertheim.

VIENNA, April 9, 1910.

DEAR DR. REDER: It was chance, mere chance. Since I was entirely without means it was my intention, after having received a thorough training, to establish a practice. Then it so happened that the opportunity arose for me to become assistant to Schauta in Prague; from this time on I have remained closely connected with gynecology.

Before I took up surgery I was an internist, but still earlier had devoted my time to experimental pathology. I believe if the opportunity had presented itself to become assistant to a great master, I probably should have clung to experimental pathology.

That is as much as I have to say. With collegiate greetings,  
Your most humble,  
WERTHEIM.

FRANCIS REDER, M.D.  
4629 COOK AVENUE,  
ST. LOUIS.

Wohlw. lieber Herr Prof. Wertheim:

Ich hoffe ich  
mir freundliche  
eine Antwort  
erwarten?

Respingtweiff

3-28-10. F. Reder.

Lieber Doktor Reder! (5) Wien 9/IV W.

Zufall war es, reiner Zufall!  
Ich Da ich vollkommen unbemittelt war, war es meine Absicht, nach gehöriger Ausbildung in die Praxis zu gehen. Da traf es sich, daß sich mir die Gelegenheit bot, Assistent bei Schauta in Prag zu werden. Von da an blieb ich mit der Gynäkologie verknüpft.

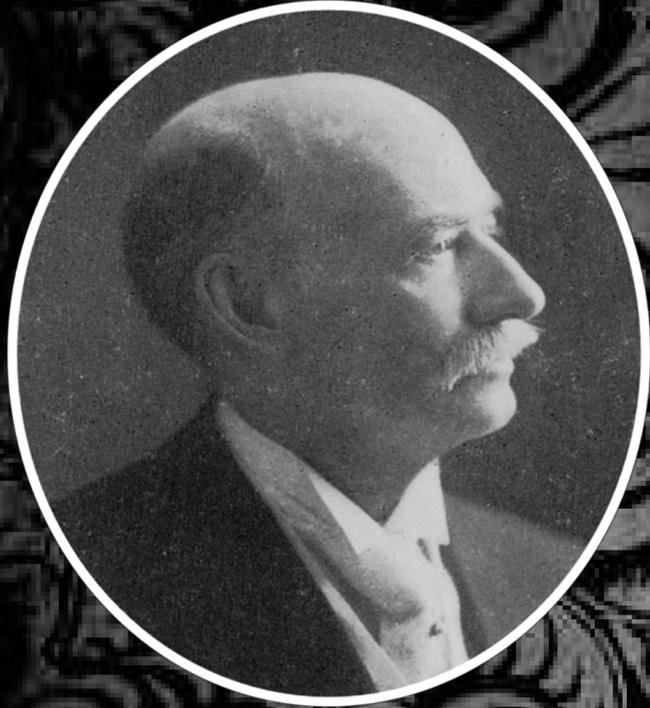
Bevor ich zur Surgery übergegangen war, war ich Internist und noch früher Experimental-Pathologe. Ich glaube, wenn sich mir da Gelegenheit geboten hätte Assistent bei einem großen Meister zu werden, wäre ich dort hängen geblieben.

Weiteres müßte ich nicht anzugeben.  
Mit colleg. Grüßen Ihr sehr ergebener  
Wertheim.



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<http://bit.ly/2PE1CRI>

## John Allan Wyeth

(May 26, 1845– May 22, 1922 )

Born In: U.S.A

Practicing Countries: U.S.A

Medical School: University of Louisville School of Medicine

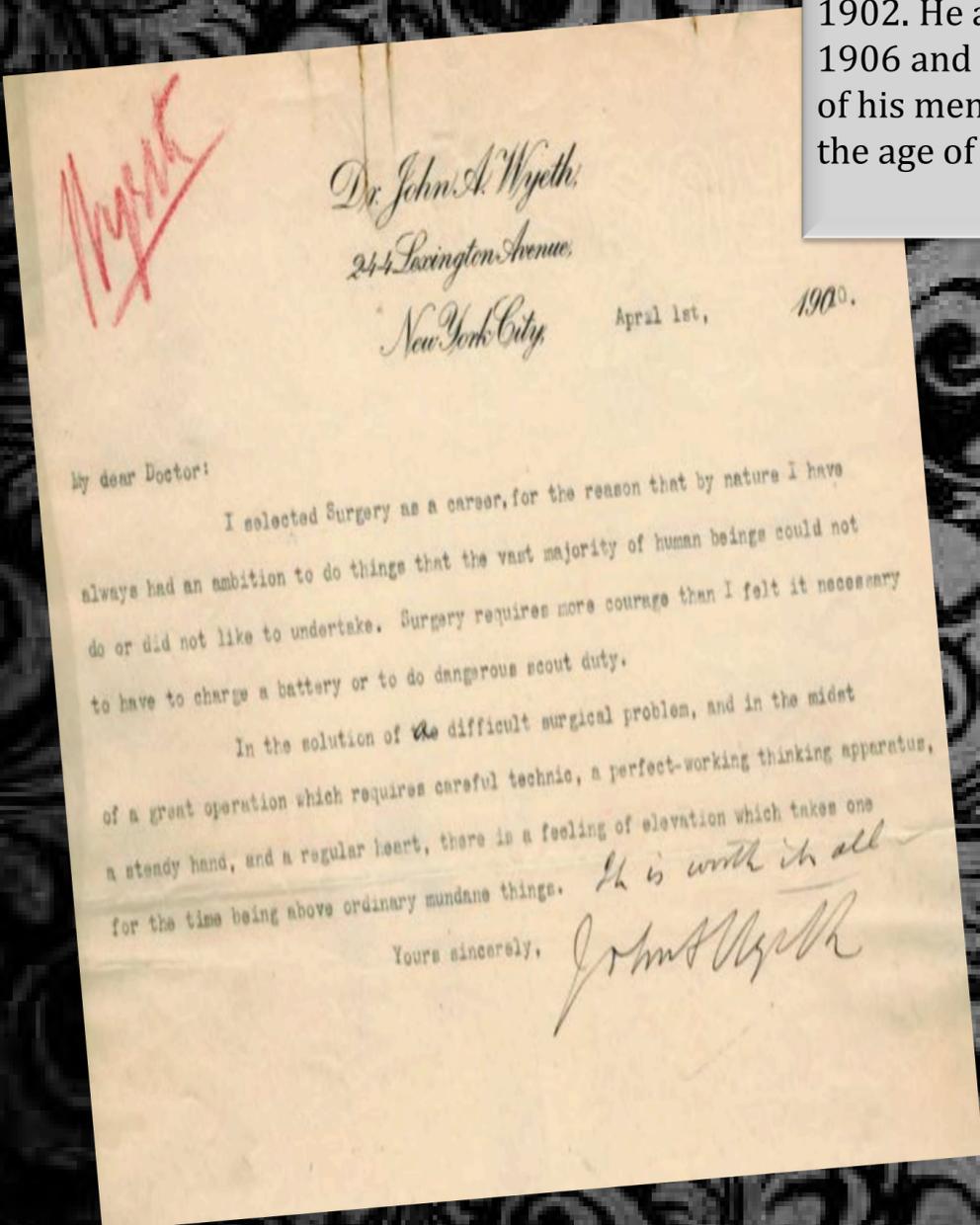
Areas of Practice: Surgery

John Allan Wyeth was born on May 26, 1845 in Guntersville, Alabama. Prior to his medical training, Wyeth fought for the Confederate Army in the American Civil War. After the war, Wyeth attended the University of Louisville School of Medicine from which he graduated in 1869. After graduation, Wyeth returned to Guntersville to begin practicing. However, he shut down his practice after only 6 weeks, upon realizing how deficient his training was. To fix the inadequacies in his training, he saved money for 3 years in order to travel to New York to study at Bellevue Hospital Medical College. At this time, he learned French and German so he could read foreign medical journals. He also began to submit articles detailing ways to improve surgical procedures, and they became highly acclaimed by experts in the medical field. In 1878, he decided to even further improve this training, and traveled to Europe. It was here that he met and trained under the surgeon J. Marion Sims. Sims introduced Wyeth to several renowned surgeons in Europe, and he continued developing his surgical expertise for some years. He eventually returned to New York in 1880, where he began working at St. Elizabeth's and Mount Sinai Hospital. A year later, he founded the New York Polyclinic Graduate Medical School and Hospital, a facility dedicated to providing further practical training to physicians. Wyeth felt this institution would improve American medical training, as he found it inadequate at the time. Interestingly, this is where both William J. Mayo and Charles Horace Mayo and other prominent physicians would train.

Wyeth served as the president of the American Medical Association in 1902. He also served as the president of the New York Academy of Medicine in 1906 and 1908. In his personal life, Wyeth married Florence Sims, the daughter of his mentor J. Marion Sims. Wyeth died of a heart attack on May 22, 1922 at the age of 76.

### Fun Fact

The New York Polyclinic Graduate Medical School & Hospital is where the Mayo brothers, and other prominent physicians trained at.



NEW YORK CITY, April 1, 1910.

MY DEAR DOCTOR:—I selected surgery as a career for the reason that by nature I have always had an ambition to do things that the vast majority of human beings could not do or did not like to undertake. Surgery requires more courage than I felt it necessary to have to charge a battery or to do dangerous scout duty.

In the solution of a difficult surgical problem, and in the midst of a great operation which requires careful technic, a perfect working, thinking apparatus, a steady hand, and a regular heart, there is a feeling of elevation which takes one for the time being above ordinary mundane things. It is worth it all.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN A. WYETH.

#### Bibliography

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John Allan Wyeth. (1922, June 9). *The Charlotte Observer*. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/3257vK0>