THE MEDICAL PROFESSION IN MASSACHUSETTS DURING
THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

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THE connection of the medical profession with the most important social and civil events of modern times forms one of the most interesting chapters in the history of man's intellectual endeavors and achievements. The part performed by cultivated men in all times for state and society constitutes indeed the spirit and genius of all that has been accomplished and recorded — is the inspiration which gives true power and greatness to material success. Great wars, great dynasties, great popular movements, are only great as they develop and establish the foremost mental and moral effort which attends them. And so we watch and ponder upon the learned men, the great craft of scholars, the representatives of those powerful professions for whose cultivation the universities and schools are founded by all people who hope and desire to perfect their condition on earth. The culture of the church ; how we trace the radiant path it has followed through the great civil commotions ! The mental faculties and accomplishments of the law ; how we admire the grandeur of the work they have performed for man's safety and happiness ! The intricate and exhausting and discouraging toil of the physician ; what a combination of mental and moral forces it requires, and what a strong and intimate bond it creates between him and the great family of man ! To him, indeed, men are the moving springs of society, asking for strength to perform their work, and offering their confidence to him who, while helping and cheering them in the dark hours, deserves it. The medical mind of a state has, therefore, a great opportunity. By natural instinct, by education, by experience, it is prepared to comprehend the springs and motions of human action, and it may, if it will, approach great popular questions with enlarged faculties and quickened sympathies. Not perhaps for the details of public life, but for a just understanding of public duties the capable and educated physician may be eminently wise and comprehensive and just. The powers which he exercised in the olden days when ecclesiasticism and empiricism were enthroned in his mysterious temple ; the influence which he exerted when his science and literature filled the great libraries and formed the curriculum of the great schools ; the faculties which he was compelled to use as the constant attendant on great warriors and orators and scholars, — all fit him especially for that larger and broader service which falls upon him when he becomes a member of a more enlightened and liberal form of society, and is surrounded by powerful popular efforts and stirring popular events. When Cicero made Asclepiades his friend, and Caesar decreed that all physicians in Rome

should enjoy the privileges of citizenship, they recognized those qualities in the profession, its value and relation to society, which have in our own country brought the medical mind prominently into public affairs, watchful of public health and safety, and receptive of the best popular thought.

The annals of the medical profession in America are full of the public services of its leading and distinguished members. Leonard Hoar, a graduate of Cambridge in 1650, studied medicine and took his degree in England, and returned to Massachusetts to be made president of Harvard University. John Rogers, after preparing himself to practice medicine, was also made president of Harvard. So also was Charles Chauncy, who not only studied medicine himself, but sent six sons into the profession. Thomas Thatcher, the great divine and first minister of the Old South Church in Boston, was also famed for his thorough knowledge of medicine. John Winthrop, of Massachusetts, was an excellent physician as well as an illustrious governor; and John Winthrop of Connecticut "practiced so extensively that but for his more distinguished title in the State, he would have been remembered as the Doctor."

The influence and power of the medical profession during the colonial, provincial, and early constitutional periods of our country were very great. Not only did those engaged in practice in the various towns exercise great weight in public affairs, but many of the leading and educated men in other walks in life, especially among the clergy, felt that their work could not be complete without sufficient knowledge of the healing art to enable them to meet any emergency which might arise, and to secure the entire respect and esteem of the community in which they lived. The clergymen, it is true, had great control over the minds of the people, and the tribute of respect so often paid to "the ministerial aristocracy of New England" is well bestowed upon a body of men who, with great minds and fervent hearts, bore the ark of the covenant at the head of the advancing column through the dark and dreary years of our early history; but their dogmas were not always accepted, and their occasional surrender to superstition was silently remembered and deplored. The power of the law was felt always; but commanding as were the faculties engaged in this great profession in which the human mind achieves its most brilliant victories, the law did not receive the sympathy of the people, for its weak men were suspected while its strong men were admired and obeyed; and too often in our history was the statement made by William Symmes, Jr., of Andover, to Isaac Osgood, clerk of the courts in Salem, in an unpublished letter, dated October, 1786, that "The profession by which I am to get my bread, nay the very court in which alone I can at present exercise it, is decried, — the supreme judicature itself is in-

sulted with impunity," painfully true. Through all this time, however, the position of the physician remained unshaken. In the business of the town he stood foremost — his estate often standing first on the list of tax-payers and property holders. In domestic affairs, in the homes and at the firesides, he was always welcome as a friend, companion, and comforter. His counsel was sought in prosperity, and his sympathy and knowledge were always appealed to in adversity and trial and sickness. It was the physician, therefore, who was often the best exponent of popular feeling, the best instructor of popular thought; and there are those now living who have witnessed the influential position held by the wise and good and strong of this profession in many a New England town, whose influence and renown were founded by a line of sagacious and cultivated physicians. True, they were not always foremost in public life; but they encouraged those who were, and were always ready for any crisis which might arise in the eventful period of our colonial and revolutionary history.

The courage and devotion manifested by the profession generally throughout all the American colonies during the opening scenes of the Revolution, and the long-continued trials of the war, are entitled to our profound respect and admiration. Against the pressure of social influence in the large colonial towns, where offers of titles and privileges were freely made by emissaries of the crown, and where predictions of anarchy and ruin were constantly poured forth by the timid and mercenary; against the temptations held out by the wealthy and ruling classes, and the threats hurled at them by their most powerful and profitable patrons, the physicians of the land were generally ardent and self-sacrificing in the cause of freedom. In the patriotic assemblies of the country they held high place. On the list of the signers of the Declaration of Independence are to be found the names of three of the most distinguished of their number; they are —

BENJAMIN RUSH, who to his great attainments as a physician and scientist added the work of the accomplished scholar and wise statesman. Having almost exhausted the entire range of therapeutics, he turned his attention to letters, and in a volume of carefully written essays, discussed the public schools of his native State, — the mode of education proper for a republic, — the value of the classics in a liberal education, — the best mode of female education, — the amusements and punishments proper for schools, — a plan for a peace-office in the United States, — the progress of population, agriculture, etc., in Pennsylvania, — the diseases of the mind; and prepared papers upon an infinite variety of practical subjects, and eulogies upon all his distinguished friends. As a physician he was bold, sagacious, wise, and successful; as a scholar he was brilliant and accomplished, and as a statesman he was patriotic, far-seeing, and independent. Believing in

popular intelligence as the sound foundation of all true republican institutions, he devoted himself so faithfully to the education of the people, and to a careful observation of their intellectual progress, under the influence of the government which he had done so much to found, that at the close of the last century he was encouraged to declare: "From a strict attention to the state of mind in this country before the year 1774, and at the present time, I am satisfied the ratio of intellect is as twenty are to one, and of knowledge as a hundred are to one, in these States, compared with what they were before the American Revolution." He indeed brought to the duties of the very dawn and the morning hours of the republic an American mind and an American heart.

JOSIAH BARTLETT, a native of Massachusetts, and an adopted son of New Hampshire, had the high honor of casting the first vote given in the continental congress in favor of independence, and of affixing his name to the Declaration next to that of the illustrious president. Dr. Bartlett entered in early life upon the practice of medicine and won great distinction. He became, on account of his decision of character and his integrity, a favorite of Governor Wentworth; and as the popular protests arose he became for the same qualities a favorite of the people of his province. Having been deprived of all official position by the royal governor who had bestowed it upon him, he became at once the servant of his fellow-citizens; and, as commander of a regiment appointed by the provincial congress, a delegate to the continental congress, chief justice of the supreme court of New Hampshire, and governor of that commonwealth, he manifested a versatility of talent, an immovable strength of purpose, a quick and penetrating mind, and a sound and prospective judgment, which gave him a foremost position among the patriots and statesmen of our revolutionary, confederate, and early republican period.

MATTHEW THORNTON, also one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, commenced his public career as a practicing physician in the town of Londonderry, New Hampshire. He espoused the patriot cause with great zeal, and was its most eloquent advocate in that province. He was chosen member of the continental congress, was appointed chief justice of the court of common pleas, and judge of the superior court, serving his country and his new-born State wisely and faithfully. It was a grandson of this distinguished patriot, James Thornton, who had high command on board the Kearsarge in her brilliant and victorious conflict with the Alabama.

Of the illustrious professional brethren throughout the country, who in less conspicuous position shared the glory of these three most eminent, it is simply necessary to remind ourselves, before turning to Massachusetts, that among them are the names of DAVID RAMSAY of

South Carolina, the ardent patriot during the war, and the strong adviser of peace and reconciliation at its close ; of CHARLES RIDGELY, eminent as physician, jurist, and statesman in Delaware at the time of the Revolution ; of JOHN THOMAS, a son of the old colony, who when a youth joined the continental army at Cambridge, served through the war, and led an honorable and useful life at its close in New York ; of JAMES TILTON of Delaware, the great hospital organizer during the war, the devoted patriot and soldier from White Plains to Yorktown ; of PHILIP TURNER of Connecticut, the able surgeon-general of the eastern department from the opening to the close of the conflict ; of WILLIAM SHIPPEN of Pennsylvania, the accomplished and brilliant surgeon-general of the entire army ; of HUGH WILLIAMSON of Pennsylvania, a devoted friend of liberty in the New World, and its vigilant supporter in the old ; of SAMUEL WILSON of South Carolina, one of "Marion's men ;" of JOHN BEATTY of Pennsylvania, colonel in the continental army, taken prisoner at Fort Washington, an active and faithful commissary of prisoners until the war ended ; of WILLIAM BRADFORD of Rhode Island, a "pillar in the cause of the Revolution," and an early senator in congress ; of SAMUEL TENNEY, born in Topsfield, Massachusetts, a young physician in Exeter, New Hampshire, at the breaking out of the war, a surgeon at Bunker Hill, mate to Dr. Eustis, and a witness of the surrender of Burgoyne and Cornwallis, a patriot, and a scholar.

To the work performed by the medical profession of Massachusetts during the Revolutionary War the commonwealth can turn with peculiar pride and satisfaction. Of fifty surgeons in the continental army, who so distinguished themselves as to be deemed worthy of biographical notice, and whose names are found in the history of the conflict, nearly twenty were from Massachusetts. From the principal towns of the commonwealth, — from Boston and Salem and Haverhill and Newburyport and Lynn and Sandwich and Pittsfield and Danvers and Andover and Ipswich, and many other of the prosperous municipalities, — the members of this profession stepped promptly and bravely forth to their duty. Boston alone, not then a very populous town, sent six, most of whom were distinguished, some of whom were illustrious. The leading members of the profession there were divided in sentiment, it is true, and from among them each side drew many accomplished and able surgeons. The wealth and social elevation of the town was generally against the cause of the patriots ; and it is interesting to trace now the uprising of professional and civil powers and distinction from the inferior position then held by the sympathizers with the Revolution, and the steady decline of those who at that time wielded the professional and social power of the town. It is not necessary to discuss those who were displaced ; but we can turn back now and contemplate with reverence and admiration the spot whence sprang, in large measure, the

renown and influence of Boston, in war and in peace, in science and the State. When the two brothers, Joseph and John Warren, left their comparatively humble home in Roxbury to enter upon their career as physicians in Boston, they were by no means surrounded by circumstances which appeared to promise either distinction or success. Joseph Warren, the older of the two brothers, secured a good professional reputation and made his office attractive to young students, even while he himself was a young practitioner; but he had talents which led him naturally into public life and overshadowed the less conspicuous qualities which belonged to his profession. John Warren, an ardent young student, graduated at this little school and did not even find encouragement to settle in the town. And these are the two young men whose names stand in history to-day as types of the most manly virtues, the highest purpose, the most brilliant career, each in his own path through life.

JOSEPH WARREN, in his short and eventful life, is one of the most attractive characters in American history. By birth removed from the trials of poverty on the one hand, and from the jealousies and temptation of high station on the other, he possessed an admirable combination of strong and substantial mental faculties, and personal courage, perseverance, generosity, and an independent deportment. He was so good a student as to win the respect of his eminent teacher, Dr. Lloyd, so good a practitioner as to know almost by instinct how to contend against the fatal plague of the times, and so well organized a man that his character was especially admired by the mass of people to whom he naturally belonged. It was said of him that "his personal appearance, his address, his courtesy and his humanity, won the way to the hearts of all, and his knowledge and superiority of talents secured the conquest." His versatility must have been almost unbounded. A graduate of Harvard, and a student of Dr. Lloyd's, he was the friend and companion of the cultivated gentlemen of Boston, and a rising guide and authority in his own profession. A popular leader, he applied his knowledge to every form of persuasion: as an orator of rare physical and intellectual faculties; as a speaker in town-meeting and assembly and caucus of unusual power; as a writer in many forms in the public press; as an associate in a courtly and dignified manner of the patriotic mechanics of the town; he was bound to Paul Revere as a brother and companion by the most sacred and secret ties; and he filled the popular mind with his political faith and the popular heart with his enthusiasm. During the twelve years in which he practiced his profession in Boston, he succeeded in maintaining his relations to his associates in this walk in life by his good temper, his good sense and good judgment, and constant and careful study. Separated as he was from many of them by his political views, he always retained their respect and confidence by the evident depth of his convictions and by his sublime and earnest declaration of

his faith. And during all these twelve years, also, he found time to prepare himself for the most elaborate discussion and the most intelligent defense of his opinions. He attracted to himself all men, the great and the small, who believed in popular freedom, and in a government founded on the consent of the governed. The people hung upon his lips, while those in power, who gathered to insult him, quailed and were hushed into silence by the strength of his eloquence. The great men leaned upon him. A professional accident brought him and John Adams together, and nothing but death separated them. As a member of the committee of correspondence he was brought into intimate relations with James Otis, Samuel Adams, Josiah Quincy, John Bradford, and many other ardent patriots; a committee of which Bancroft says: "The two most important members were Samuel Adams and Joseph Warren, the first now recognized as a masterly statesman and the ablest political writer in New England; the second, a rare combination of gentleness with daring courage, of respect for law with the all-controlling love of liberty. The two men never failed each other, — the one growing old, the other in youthful manhood, thinking one set of thoughts, having one heart for their country; joining in one career of policy and action, differing only in this, that, while Warren still clung to the hope of conciliation, Adams ardently desired, as well as clearly foresaw, the conflict for independence."

Not only was Warren equal to this duty and this association, but as time went on he grew into the stature required for larger and higher service. When the provincial congress assembled in Concord, October 11, 1774, Joseph Warren was the leading spirit among the great men who gathered there. Young as he was, his counsels were accepted with respect and confidence, and his associates were the wise men of Massachusetts in that day. Frothingham says: "There were returned from the towns in Suffolk County, besides Cushing, Samuel Adams, Hancock, and Warren, William Heath and Benjamin Lincoln, generals throughout the Revolutionary War; from Essex were John Pickering, Azor Orne, Jonathan Greenleaf, and Elbridge Gerry, who were distinguished in political life; from Middlesex were Nathaniel Gorham, a prominent member of the convention that formed the Federal Constitution, William Prescott, and Thomas Gardner, colonels in the Bunker Hill battle; Richard Devens, an active member of the committee of safety, James Barrett, the commander of the militia at Concord on the 19th of April, James Prescott, subsequently a judge, and Henry Gardner, soon to be treasurer; Hampshire returned Seth Pomeroy, a veteran of Louisburg fame, and Joseph Hawley, a patriot of decidedly the largest influence in the western part of the province; Plymouth sent James Warren, a pioneer patriot, who became president of the provincial congress; Bristol, Robert Treat Paine, the poet and jurist; and York sent James

Sullivan, the scholar, statesman, and future governor; from Worcester came Artemas Ward, the first commander of the colonial army, and Moses Gill, and Timothy Bigelow, distinguished in political life." In this body his work was incessant and important. He wrote letters full of firmness, conciliation, and wisdom; he was placed on the committee of public safety; he wrote a long and spirited letter to the committee of Middletown, Connecticut, rousing their zeal and attention; he penned his famous letter to Josiah Quincy, in London, in which is found this historic passage: "It is the united voice of America to preserve their freedom or lose their lives in defense of it;" he wrote national songs to inspire the people; he kept Samuel Adams apprised of every step in the great drama; he poured forth his second oration on the Boston Massacre to an astonished audience of British officers, tories, and patriots; he toiled still in the provincial congress; he corresponded with Arthur Lee and Franklin in London; he prepared himself for military service; he resolved to quit his profession and devote himself to his country; he warned the patriots of Concord and Lexington of the enemy's designs, and he joined in the conflict to prevent the invasion, "animating his countrymen to battle, and fighting by their side;" he met with the third provincial congress; he was elected president of that body; he proposed a form of government "for the union and interest of all America;" he wrote and spoke continually to the people, to Arthur Lee, to Samuel Adams, to the committee of safety; he was chosen major-general of the Massachusetts army; he sat until the last hour with the provincial congress at Watertown, stood with Putnam in the work of disciplining the troops and urging them forward from Cambridge to Bunker Hill, defied all physical weakness and pain, joined the American forces as a private, inspired Putnam and encouraged Prescott, engaged in the last desperate struggle to hold the redoubt, and was shot dead, probably the last man to fall, just as his countrymen were leaving that field made immortal by his death, and elevated to an inspiration for the war by the greatness of his example. From that hour to this, a grateful and admiring people have striven to do honor to his memory by speech and song and monument, and his name has been a watchword of liberty and patriotism throughout the world. By his living voice he inspired, and by his death he sanctified, a great cause of self-government and of popular freedom and elevation. By his martyrdom he planted the seed of this great harvest whose bounties are now spread out on this continent for men of every race and condition asking to be free.

JOHN WARREN, who by the death of this fascinating and patriotic young physician, statesman, and orator was left alone of the noble pair of brothers, deserves much more than a passing notice in any sketch of the distinguished members of the medical profession of Massachusetts

in any era of her history — much more than the limits of this paper will allow. He was a most remarkable man. That simple and high-toned honor which sent Joseph Warren forth, and which was scorned and derided by the invaders and their friends, sent forth also John Warren, stricken while yet a child with the same sudden sorrow, nourished and taught by the same mother, heir of the same characteristics, to a prolonged career of honor and usefulness. There is no more touching picture in history than that of this young man, leaving his new home, closing suddenly and forever his career there, to search for the dead body of his illustrious brother on that unexpected battle-field. There is no more charming chapter than that which records his future service, his tender care of his grief-stricken mother, his great work as surgeon in the American army under Washington, his constant devotion to the cause of medical education, — that privilege which cost him so much youthful sacrifice and trial, — his rapid rise to the head of his profession, his high value and influence as a teacher, his honorable and useful position in society. Less ardent and less eloquent than his brother, he was equally resolute, high-toned, determined, and sagacious. Under the influence of his touch the medical profession was filled with new life and greater intelligence. And when he closed his long and disinterested life he left behind him an enlarged and expanded system of medical investigation, an illustrious example of a wise and patient and self-sacrificing physician, and a community filled with sorrow that the last of the two great brothers was gone.

But not here does the long line of distinguished sons of Massachusetts, who as surgeons and physicians gave her an honorable record in the revolutionary war, cease. When Warren entered the service of his country he was followed by two young men, his students and admirers, William Eustis and Samuel Adams.

WILLIAM EUSTIS, “of polished manners and gentlemanly address,” a Boston boy and graduate of Harvard, commenced on the 19th of April, 1775, a striking and useful public career. As army surgeon in the war, a friend and confidant of Washington and Knox, a member of the legislature of Massachusetts and of the executive council, member of congress, secretary of war, ambassador to Holland, governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, he acquitted himself well, and set an example of wise and honest statesmanship to those who followed him.

SAMUEL ADAMS, son of the great revolutionary organizer, also left Dr. Warren’s office to commence his service at Lexington and Bunker Hill, and wore out his life in the discharge of his duties as army surgeon during the war.

JOHN BROOKS, a farmer’s boy from Medford, “bound apprentice” to Dr. Tufts for seven years, a youthful friend of Count Rumford,

drilled the boys of Reading, where he commenced the practice of medicine, and took part in the work of driving the British troops from Lexington and Concord. He was found on the night of the 16th of June, 1775, throwing up intrenchments on Bunker Hill. He manifested great skill as a soldier, and was associated with Steuben in drilling the army. He was the trusted friend of Washington, and was foremost in breaking up the conspiracy formed against him at Newburgh. As governor of this commonwealth, he bore himself with the same dignity and judgment which had characterized his career as a soldier; and he was a most faithful, devoted, and intelligent physician.

Of the rest, we can turn with pride to the work performed by MARSHALL SPRING, who was found on the plains of Lexington, caring for the wounded, even while doubting the cause in which they fell; by JOHN BARNARD SWETT, a son of Marblehead, who brought into the hospital service of the army the knowledge he had obtained in the schools of France and England; by NATHANIEL FREEMAN, a native of Cape Cod, a leader there in the early events of the Revolution, a member of the Massachusetts house of representatives in 1775, a companion of Samuel Osgood on his excursion to West Point in 1779 to persuade the officers and men of the Massachusetts line to continue in the service, a brigadier-general of the militia in 1781, a useful member of the Massachusetts Medical Society; by WILLIAM ASPINWALL, who entered the army at the breaking out of the war as surgeon under the advice of his friend General Warren, fought at Lexington, and led a long life as a skillful and efficient physician; by TIMOTHY CHILDS, who while a young physician in Pittsfield, in 1774, organized a company of minute men, marched in 1775 to Boston on receiving news of the battle of Lexington, attended the army to New York, and remained in the service until 1777, when he returned to his practice in Pittsfield; by JOHN FLAGG, of Lynn, an active and useful member of the committee of safety, and a lieutenant-colonel under Timothy Pickering; by SAMUEL HOLTEN, of Danvers, who in 1775 relinquished his profession and entered upon a useful and influential public career as member of the provincial congress, medical examiner for the army, delegate to the American confederate congress, member of the Massachusetts convention to ratify the constitution, member of congress, and judge of probate for Essex County; by THOMAS KITTREDGE, of Andover, who was appointed surgeon in the army while at Cambridge, and witnessed the battle of Bunker Hill, and of whom Dr. John Warren said, "He had more natural skill as a surgeon than any other man in the country;" by JOHN MANNING, of Ipswich, who after the battle of Bunker Hill volunteered his services to dress the wounds of the soldiers, was at Cambridge with the American troops, and served as surgeon in many campaigns; and by OLIVER PRESCOTT, of Groton, a highly educated and successful prac-

tioner, a devoted friend of the cause of freedom, a brigadier-general for the county of Middlesex, a member of the board of war, member of the executive council, major-general of the militia throughout the State, and judge of probate for Middlesex, a man of great powers, both of mind and body. And this constitutes the medical roll of honor for this commonwealth.

Of those who entertained the opinions and accepted the lot of the opponents of the patriot cause in the days of the Revolution, or who were neutral in that crisis, history reserves now a considerate chapter. They were men of culture, devoted mainly to their profession, removed by birth and association from the stirring scenes about them, believing in the possibility of peaceful adjustment, and concurring with Warren, that separation from the mother country would be disastrous and perhaps ruinous. The foremost of these physicians were ISAAC RAND, of Boston, a graduate of Harvard, a student with Dr. Lloyd, a classical scholar, and learned and skillful physician; SAMUEL DANFORTH, a student of Dr. Rand's, a polished, scholarly, dignified gentleman, who preserved his reputation through the war of which he disapproved; SYLVESTER GARDINER, whose house before the war was the resort of the literary and scientific on both sides of the Atlantic, whose associates were among the persons of rank and nobility at the time, and whose home after the war was retired and narrow, and

JOHN JEFFRIES, the most distinguished and active of those who did not agree with the popular views of that day. Dr. Jeffries, a native of Boston, a student of Dr. Lloyd's, educated in the medical schools of Europe, was soon after his settlement in Boston appointed assistant-surgeon of the Captain, ship of the line, by Admiral Montague, and was professionally employed by the commander-in-chief of the British forces at the breaking out of the war. On the evacuation of Boston he accompanied the British troops to Halifax, and gained high standing in the British army. He afterwards joined the grand army at Charleston, South Carolina, under Sir Henry Clinton, and was thence sent into service in New York. He became highly respected in England, and received large offers of place and position, which he declined, in hopes of one day being able to return to his native land and town. To this spot he did return in 1790, "and he speedily acquired the esteem and professional patronage of a large proportion of the most respectable population of Boston and the vicinity." He was eminent in his profession, and was especially beloved by all who knew him. He was not fond of public life or public service of any kind. And while he followed his social associations in the great conflict which he witnessed, it will always be remembered of him that he had at all times a warm place in his heart for his countrymen, and that he cherished through all vicissitudes the memory of his early friends. Letters, written after the war

closed, by a maimed and suffering American soldier, who had experienced his kindness while a prisoner at Halifax, bear testimony in most touching terms, to the tender kindness manifested by Dr. Jeffries to all his countrymen who came into his hands as hospital surgeon, during the contest. Like his distinguished teacher, James Lloyd, he drew from England and her great schools the foundation of his professional attainments, and like him, also, his mind turned to that spot as the home of most valuable social and civil institutions. The land of Hunter and Smellie and Warner had a peculiar charm for those young men who had been brought under the influence of these great lights. And so they were respected in their wanderings, and were kindly received on their return.

From the history of the Medical Profession in Massachusetts during the Revolutionary War, we may learn the lesson taught in every crisis — that self-sacrifice and valor win for man his immortality, and that charity and reconciliation should mark the close of every Christian conflict.

THE DISEASES OF AMERICA.

BY DR. JOHANN DAVID SCHOEPPF,

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TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY JAMES R. CHADWICK, M. D., OF BOSTON.¹

OF all the princes reigning over the smaller German states during the seventeenth century, there were none whose sway was so arbitrary, and whose tyranny was so freely exercised, as those of the Margraves of Anspach and Bayreuth. The cruelty and lawlessness of these petty rulers cannot be better illustrated than by citing two incidents that occurred but a few years before the American Revolution. As Charles Frederick William, Margrave of Anspach (1723–1757), was one day walking with his mistress, she expressed the wish to see a chimney-sweep, who had just emerged upon the roof of the Bruckberg Castle, fall to the ground; whereupon his Highness, to gratify her, shot the man dead. To the widow, who came to crave his mercy, he made a gift of five florins. In Bayreuth the same state of affairs existed. The Margrave Frederick Christian (1763–1769) had contracted the disagreeable habit of venting his spleen by belaboring his subjects with his cane in broad

¹ The pamphlet in which were printed the following letters, addressed to Professor Delius of Erlangen, was unearthed while I was ransacking an antiquarian bookstore in Munich, Bavaria. The letters have been considered of medico-historical interest, and as I cannot learn that they are to be found in any library on this side of the Atlantic, I venture to lay them before the profession. The pamphlet bears the date 1781, and was printed in Erlangen. The notes to the following translation are all mine. — J. R. C.