

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
of DR. Horatio R. Storer.

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HORATIO ROBINSON STORER.

STORER, Horatio Robinson, Newport, R.I., was born February 27, 1830, at Boston, Mass.; he is the son of Dr. David Humphreys (formerly professor of obstetrics and medical jurisprudence in Harvard University, and president of the American Medical Association) and Abby Jane (Brewer) Storer; his father was a descendant, through his mother and father, respectively, of Governor Dudley, of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and of Governor Langdon, of New Hampshire. Dr. Horatio Storer is the grandson of Woodbury Storer, chief justice of the court of common pleas at Portland, Me. He attended the Boston Latin School in 1841-46, and then entered Harvard University, from which he was graduated A. B. in 1850; while in college he was president of the Harvard Natural History Society, and was a private pupil of Agassiz and Asa Gray, and after accompanying Jeffries Wyman to Labrador, published "Observations on the Fishes of Nova Scotia and Labrador, with Descriptions of New Species" (*Boston Journal of Natural History*, 1850); while still an undergraduate, he also spent a summer in Russia; his medical studies were under the direction of his father and his associates in the Tremont Medical School, of Boston, but at the same time he attended lectures at Harvard College, where he received his degree of M. D. in 1853; during 1866-'68, he also went through the Harvard Law School, to better fit himself for teaching medical jurisprudence, receiving the degree of LL. B. After graduating in medicine he went to Europe, spending two years in study at Paris, London, and Edinburgh, being one year assistant in private practice to Sir James Y. Simpson.

In 1855 he returned to Boston; in 1853 he had become a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society; in 1865, having previously been assistant to his father at Harvard University, he was elected to the chair of obstetrics and medical jurisprudence in the Berkshire Medical College, which position he held till the close of the institution in 1869. He was the first, save Prof. J. P. White, of Buffalo, to give direct expositions of uterine diseases in the living subject to his class. He was the first in this country to teach gynecology proper, as contra-dis-

tinguished from obstetrics or midwifery, his separate course upon the diseases of women, unconnected with gestation, childbed, or the puerperal state, comprising not less than sixty lectures. For several years he gave at Boston a semi-annual course to medical graduates, upon the surgical diseases of women, refusing to admit any applicant who was not affiliated with the American Medical Association. These lectures were attended by physicians from all parts of the country, and were the first step toward the present post-graduate schools. With Drs. Atlee, of Philadelphia, Peaslee, of New York, and Kimball, of Lowell, he came to monopolize the ovariectomies of the United States and Canada; but finally, in 1872, his health failed, he having an attack of septicaemia, from which he barely escaped with his life. He then went to Europe, and remained there 1872-'77, during which time he studied, on an extensive scale, the fevers of southern Italy.

In 1856 he represented the Boston Lying-In Hospital in the American Medical Association, thus becoming a member of that body early in his professional career. Attending its meeting at San Francisco, in 1871, he delivered a lecture in the state house at Sacramento, on "Female Hygiene," by special invitation of the California state board of health, and, at the request of the physicians of San Francisco, repeated the lecture in that city (Transactions of the California State Board of Health, 1871).

Dr. Storer has been physician to the Boston Lying-In Hospital; to St. Elizabeth's Hospital for Women, and to St. Joseph's Home; consulting surgeon to Carney General Hospital; surgeon to the New England Hospital for Women and Children; member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, Rhode Island Medical Society, Suffolk District Medical Society, and Boston Society of Medical Observation; American Academy of Arts and Sciences; Massachusetts Medical Benevolent Society; Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh; American Public Health Association; one of the founders, secretary, the active editor of its journal for four years, and now honorary president of the Gynecological Society, of Boston; president of the Rocky

Mountain Medical Association ; corresponding member of the obstetrical societies of Berlin, Edinburgh, and London, and of the New York and Rhode Island medico-legal societies ; honorary member of the California State Medical Society, the Canadian Medical Association, the Medical Society of the Province of New Brunswick, the Louisville Obstetrical Society, the medical societies of Finland and of Sorrento, Italy. He was admitted to the Medical Register of Great Britain, by a vote of the Branch Medical Council of England, December, 1876 ; president of the Association of American Medical Editors, and made an address before it in San Francisco, in 1871 ; was prize essayist and secretary of the American Medical Association in 1865, and vice-president in 1868 ; a member of the Massachusetts Lunacy Commission in 1863, and was one of the incorporators of the Massachusetts Infant Asylum for Foundlings ; he was founder and is corresponding secretary of the Sanitary Protection Association, of Newport, R. I. ; is consulting surgeon to the Newport Hospital ; one of the founders of the Newport medical and natural history societies, and president of both, and one of the founders of the Harvard Club, of Rhode Island.

Dr. Storer has for forty years been a frequent writer, chiefly upon gynecological and sanitary subjects, his first medical publication, subsequently reproduced in this country, having been in 1855, at Edinburgh, in conjunction with Dr. (now Sir) William O. Priestley, the obstetric memoirs and contributions of their preceptor, Prof. James Y. Simpson. The manner in which these young physicians performed their duties as editors, and the kind way in which Dr. Simpson spoke of them in his preface to the Edinburgh issue, at once brought them into favorable relations with the profession throughout the world, at a time when gynecology was still in its infancy.

Dr. Storer has devised a number of both surgical and gynecological instruments and methods. "Porro's operation" was antedated by him by seven years, and a case was reported by his assistant, Dr. George H. Bixby, in the *Journal of the Gynecological Society of Boston*, October, 1889, p. 223. The priority is now acknowledged by such recog-

nized authorities as Dr. Harris, of Philadelphia; Mixter, of Boston (*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, October 20, 1892, p. 388), and Lazarewitch, of St. Petersburg (*System of Obstetric Medicine and Surgery*, St. Petersburg, 1892).

Since invalidism compelled his retirement from active practice, Dr. Storer has devoted himself to the preparation of a work upon the history of medicine from the novel and interesting standpoint of numismatics, his papers being the first upon this subject in the English language. He has already published:

1886. "The Medals, Jetons, and Tokens Illustrative of Midwifery and the Diseases of Women." *New England Medical Monthly*, November, December, 1886.

1887. "The Medals, Jetons, and Tokens Illustrative of Sanitation" [Water supply, bathing, mineral springs, drainage, sewerage, ventilation, diet, famine, epidemics, military and naval hygiene, climate, registration, life insurance, hospitals, etc.], *The Sanitarian*, May, July, August, October, 1887; February, April, July, August, November, 1888; February, March, April, June, September, 1889; January, February, May, July, August, September, October, 1890; July, August, September, 1891; January, February, March, 1893; July, August, 1894. "The Goethe Medals" (the poet was educated as a physician), *American Journal of Numismatics*, October, 1887; January, 1888. "The Medals of Guislain" (the Belgian alienist), *Medico-Legal Journal*, December, 1887.

1888. "Les Médailles de la Princesse Charlotte d'Angleterre, Première Femme du Roi Leopold Ier de Belgique" (dead in childbirth), *Revue Belge de Numismatique*, January, 1888; October, 1891. "The Medals of St. Charles Borromeo, Cardinal, Archbishop of Milan" (identified with the Plague of 1576). *American Journal of Numismatics*, July, October, 1888.

1889. "The Medals, Jetons, and Tokens Illustrative of the Science of Medicine," *ibid.*, January, April, July, October, 1889; January, April, July, October, 1890; January, April, July, October, 1891; January, April, July, October, 1892; January, April, July, October, 1893; January, April,

July, October, 1894. "The Medals of Benjamin Rush, Obstetrician," *Journal of the American Medical Association*, September 7, 1889.

1891. "The Medallic Medical History of the United States," *Transactions Rhode Island Medical Society*, 1891.

1892. "The Medals of Natural Scientists, Part I," *Proceedings Newport Natural History Society*, 1892.

Since entering this new field of professional labor, Dr. Storer has become a member of the Newport Historical Society and American Numismatic Association, corresponding member of the Archeological and Geographical Institute of Pernambuco, foreign associate of the Royal Numismatic Society of Belgium, and honorary member of the American Numismatic and Archeological Society.

Dr. Storer has been thrice married: To Emily Elvira and Augusta Caroline, daughters of Addison Gilmore, of Boston, and nieces of the war governor, Joseph A. Gilmore, of New Hampshire; and to Frances Sophia Mackenzie, of Canada. His children are: Jessie Simpson, born in Edinburgh (deceased); Frank Addison; John Humphreys, LL. B., of Harvard, curator of coins and medals in Harvard University; Malcolm, M. D., of Harvard, a surgeon of Boston; and Agnes Caroline, born at Sorrento, Italy.

