

"In the inauguration of the woman's college, as there were no women ready they were obliged to choose men as professors, but when in the process of time we found capable graduates, and desired to place a woman in the chair of obstetrics it took us a whole year to oust the male professor. By exerting his influence on certain members of the board of trustees, he prevented us from having a quorum. We held innumerable meetings to no purpose, and at last were compelled to go to Albany and present the case before the regents of the university. Dr. Lozier and I represented the woman's side of the question and got a decision in our favor.

"During all these exasperating and multitudinous trials, Dr. Lozier never lost her courage or faith in our final success, but calmly and steadily worked on until she secured buildings for a college and a hospital for women and children. Through her influence we got an appropriation from the legislature, to which she added \$10,000. At this time with our buildings paid for, the hospital established and the property worth \$70,000 free from mortgage, we all felt that our trials were ended. With students crowding into the classes and patients into the hospital, some professors and physicians from our own graduates, with an efficient and untiring dean in Dr. Lozier, what more could we desire? We were on a sure basis, on the high road to success; but certain male professors in the institution, desiring larger buildings up-town, persuaded the women, with fair promises of aid, to sell out and take possession of more desirable quarters.

"Dr. Lozier advised strenuously against the project, but was overruled. The new buildings being heavily mortgaged and the promised help unrealized, another reverse in the college interest was inevitable. Still Dr. Lozier worked on hopefully to the end, doing as she had always done everything possible for the medical education of women.

"To give a realizing sense of the persecutions endured by those who took the initiative steps to secure a medical education, let me describe the reception of the first class of girls at Bellevue Hospital.

"Dr. Lozier, having by the aid of her lawyer investigated the legal aspect of the question, ascertained that the students belonging to any accredited medical college had the right to attend clinical lectures in state hospitals. As there was no reservation on the ground of sex, she secured tickets of admission for the class in the Homœopathic College for Women.

"Accordingly, it was arranged one Saturday morning that they should go, accompanied by one of the trustees of the college. As the press of the city, getting wind of the proposed invasion, had made many adverse comments, there was a disinclination on the part of the trustees to make the first venture. Dr. Lozier could not leave her pressing engagements at that hour, so she persuaded me to take the initiative.

"Accordingly, at the appointed time with the class of thirty I entered the amphitheatre. We were greeted by a thousand students with shouts of derisive laughter, and ever and anon during the lecture were pelted with chewed balls of paper. The professor selected the most offensive subject and disease for the day, thinking thereby to end the experiment. But the question how much we could, should and would endure had been freely discussed and decided, and it was agreed by both trustees and students that, barring forcible expulsion, whatever was done and said we would maintain our ground for one season at least and vindicate the rights of our students to all the advantages of clinics and lectures in the hospital. Although the

professor took especial pains to be as coarse as possible, and all his worst periods were vociferously applauded by the students, we quietly sat there through the entire lecture.

"One very touching episode for the credit of manhood occurred at the close of the lecture, that in a measure redeemed the occasion. Three young men, sitting behind us on a bench quite alone, politely accosted me with many kind expressions of regret at our rude reception. One said 'pray do not judge all men by what you have witnessed to-day. There are many students here as shocked as you have been, who would be glad of some protection against the vulgarity seemingly inevitable to a medical education. We do hope you will continue to bring your class; there must be enough chivalry and moral sense among so many students to prevent a recurrence of the disgraceful proceedings of to-day.' I thanked the young men and told them we would come regularly all winter, no matter what was done. As we left the building the students had formed themselves into a double line, through which we passed, mid jeers and groans, coarse jokes and shouts, pelted with bits of wood and gravel. When seated at last in the omnibuses, they gave three cheers and a tiger. Of course the lecturer of the day had it in his power to check all such manifestation, but as he encouraged it, we had no appeal. He was one of the most distinguished physicians in the city, but I will not mention his name, as he redeemed himself afterward by extra kindness and attention to the class. In the woman's college in Philadelphia similar scenes were enacted and later, in Edinburgh, Scotland, we heard of other forms of persecution. Talking of these things one day with the late lamented William Henry Channing, he said 'I blush for my sex as I read and hear of these outrageous persecutions of young women, struggling to acquire knowledge which will be as great a benefit to men as it will be to themselves.' And all these trials our dear friend suffered twice and thrice over, first in her own personal experience, and then in every class of students that followed in her footsteps.

"But in spite of all adverse winds, as a physician she was pre-eminently successful, not only in curing disease, but in a financial point of view—that is, she made large sums of money, but was not always fortunate in her investments. She was most generous in her gifts to all reforms for the benefit of her sex. Her successes far outnumber her trials, and her influence for good will be felt more and more as the years roll on. The world is better through what she has suffered, and her life must be a new inspiration to woman."

An incident connected with her funeral, worthy of note, is that six women physicians, niece, grand-nieces and cousin, all descendants of her brothers, followed her remains into the church. Forty-eight women physicians, graduates of the college which she founded, passed her coffin and took their last look at her sweet face, and dropped into the casket a sprig of arbor vitæ as their tribute of love.

The work laid down by Dr. Lozier was taken up by Dr. Phoebe J. B. Wait, the second dean of the college, a woman of great strength of character and one who had already won the love of the students as professor of obstetrics. It was said of her that she knew every matriculate by name, and also knew all their trials and perplexities, and her never-failing tact and sympathy helped many a discouraged student over some of the rough places of life. Her intense interest in all matters relating to the advancement of women made her untiring in her service for the women students of the

college, and she cheerfully responded to countless calls for help from younger physicians in trying cases along the line of her specialty; while the number of needy patients to whom her service was given, without stint and without price, was legion.

Many times did she go at midnight or later in response to urgent calls from those patients who were unable to give more than grateful thanks. Her personal fatigue was always forgotten in the joy she experienced in helping to bring a new life into this world, and in saving that of the mother. One who stood closest to her said soon after her death, "I am thinking of all the poor people who came to her from day to day for medical help and counsel and advice. The rest of us can get along in some way, but what they will do troubles me. She entered into their lives and their sorrows and misfortunes, and was able to help and encourage, as few can help and encourage."

Dr. Wait's career was a most interesting one. Although she had often considered the advisability of studying medicine, it was not until after her marriage with Mr. William Bell Wait, principal of the Institution for the Blind in New York city, that she actually began to do so. One evening she attended the commencement exercises of the New York Medical College and Hospital for Women. The principal address on this occasion was delivered by Rev. Stephen H. Ling, D. D., rector of St. George's church in New York city. He spoke earnestly of the high calling of the physician, and of the possibilities the medical profession offered to woman. She was deeply impressed by this address and soon afterward determined to enter upon a course of study at that institution. This decision was reached only after the most careful consideration, for as yet there were but few women engaged in the practice of medicine, and they met with no little hostility from the laity and profession alike.

Aside from her professional duties, Dr. Wait was interested in various activities. As president of the Society for Promoting the Welfare of the Insane, she went before the state legislature on various occasions and for various objects, and to her influence is due the passage of the act providing for one woman physician for women patients in hospitals for the insane; and also for the cottage system in preference to large hospitals, special schools for training nurses to work among the insane, and the free use of the United States mails for patients in hospitals for the insane of this state.

Dr. Wait and her co-workers communicated with every medical college in the United States to induce them to establish a chair of mental and nervous diseases in their respective institutions, that young physicians might thus be better prepared to deal with such diseases.

To show how deeply her heart was stirred for women who had the misfortune to be secluded in correctional institutions or in hospitals for the insane, the following extract from an address made by her in 1898 is here given: "Upon the same principle that police stations each have a matron for the care of the women inmates, every almshouse, workhouse, prison, reformatory or hospital for the insane where women are kept should be provided with competent women physicians for all women inmates. It is sorrowful enough to think of these vast armies of women being shut away from the world for sickness or for vice, without friends or hope or comfort, but it is still more so to think that with women physicians all about, humanity should not open its eyes to the absolute importance of placing them wherever women are being cared for in institutions which are philanthropic, cor-

rectional or reformatory. This idea, which is so strongly fixed in my mind, is not shared by the popular mind, and it appeals to me that the mission of women physicians, and all of those who believe in the wisdom of women practicing medicine, should be to advocate a reform which shall require every public institution where women are cared for, to employ for them women physicians in case of sickness. In New York state alone there are ten thousand women being cared for to-day in hospitals for the insane, and only one woman physician to each hospital. In the United States there are in round numbers sixty thousand insane women in the hospitals for the insane, and all of these should be treated by women physicians."

Dr. Wait was a prolific writer, her numerous published and unpublished articles along various lines, chiefly medical, are marked by great ability and originality. In the many societies and clubs of which she was a member she willingly responded to all requests for papers on diverse subjects. A few years ago the "Ladies' Home Journal" published a series of articles on the associations and professions open to women. In response to an invitation from the editor of that magazine, Doctor Wait contributed an interesting paper on "Medicine as a Profession for Women." Another valuable contribution was a paper entitled "The Education of Our Girls," prepared for the meeting of the alumni association of Alfred Academy, from which she was graduated. Still another paper requiring much careful research was that prepared to be read before the Phalo Club of New York city. It was a description and history of the ancient Babylonian city of Nippur, as exemplified in the ruins and tablets unearthed during the past decade and a half by the oriental department of the University of Pennsylvania under the supervision of such well known archæologists as Peters, Haynes and Hilprecht. These three papers might be multiplied many times, but they are sufficient to exhibit the character and scope of the work to which Dr. Wait turned her versatile mind.

As an instance of the care with which Dr. Wait did her work, one case may be cited. She was to write on some phase of the care of infants. Knowing that there are fully ten times as many deaf children as there are blind, and that while blindness is decreasing in proportion to the population, deafness is not decreasing, she looked about for causes leading to deafness. She traveled the length of the elevated and many of the surface roads, noticing the exposure of children to draughts from open windows and doors. She visited the homes of many poor people, and there found so many cases of ear trouble, that these facts and observations, coupled with what she knew from medical sources, led her to write most forcibly on "A Plea for the Infants' Care."

So active a life necessarily makes heavy draughts upon the physical and nervous resources. Naturally strong and robust, Dr. Wait nevertheless early recognized the necessity of periodical respites from her professional duties in order to insure continued good health and the strength necessary to prosecute her work. She was fond of the seashore, and for years spent the summer months quietly with her family at Spray Rock cottage at Weekapang (Noyes' Beach, Rhode Island).

In the summer of 1903, after the close of the meetings of the International Woman's Christian Temperance Union at Geneva, she spent several weeks traveling in continental Europe and in Great Britain. This trip she greatly enjoyed and returned from it to her accustomed work with renewed physical and mental vigor.

This useful career was terminated very unexpectedly. To all appearances she was in her usual health up to Monday, January 25, 1904, and that afternoon attended a reception given by Phalo, where she served as a member of the reception committee. In the midst of the luncheon she was taken ill. In reaching home a physician was immediately summoned, but pneumonia speedily developed and she passed peacefully away on the following Sunday morning, January thirtieth.

When the sad tidings of the sudden death of Dr. Wait reached her many friends, the thought voiced by one and all in their letters to the stricken family was that she was *so strong*. That word characterizes her every thought, word and deed. Her mind was clear and brilliant; she was always ready to give wise counsel when asked and every hour was filled with loving and efficient service for others. As a wife, mother and friend, she was ideal, always bestowing and never desiring a return for services rendered.

She was a charming hostess. No guest ever went from her home without feeling better, happier and more cheery for having been in her presence. Seldom did one pass hence leaving a larger circle of personal mourners than did Dr. Wait.

Another noble woman who gave freely of her time, strength and money was Mrs. Ellen Louise Demorest, who was for sixteen years a valued member of the board of trustees of the woman's college, and for fourteen years its honored treasurer. During the early struggles to maintain the work, her financial ability, supported by her interest in the education of women and her philanthropic sentiments for the needy poor of the hospital, largely contributed to the success and in a great measure to the present prosperity of the institution. In emergencies she was ever ready to render substantial aid and the frequency with which the phrase, "borrowed from the treasurer," occurred in her reports to the board, often provoked a smile from the members present; but it was that "friend in need" who was the "friend indeed." She was active and helpful in all good works, and an especially enthusiastic supporter of all temperance reforms; her sympathies were deeply interested in the welfare of the insane, and her efforts to improve their condition are well known to her collaborators in this most beneficent work. She was an ardent advocate of the higher education of women—social, political and industrial; and with the courage and zeal to carry out her convictions, she hesitated neither to condemn the wrong nor to defend the right; and the world is better for her having lived in it.

Among others of the pioneer women on the board of trustees, who by their faithful and devoted service helped the college through its dark days, may be mentioned Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mrs. Angelina Newman, Mrs. Emma Keep Schley, Alice B. Campbell, M. D., Amelia Wright, M. D., Mrs. Fowler Wells, Cordelia Williams, M. D., Mrs. Lucius E. Wilson, Mrs. Mary Knox Robinson and Mrs. H. L. Bender.

Mrs. Angelina Newman was one of the original incorporators and is the only one now living. Mrs. Mary Knox Robinson, Dr. Cordelia Williams, Mrs. Lucius E. Wilson and Mrs. H. L. Bender are still members of the board of trustees, after over twenty years of constant service, and they are still laboring untiringly for the best welfare of the institution. Dr. Williams as vice-president of the board, Mrs. Bender as secretary and Mrs. Wilson as treasurer. Their faithful, loving service is of inestimable value to the college and its hospital.

CHAPTER V

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

By John Preston Sutherland, M. D.

Boston University School of Medicine may be described in metaphor, as a stream, confluent from three contributing sources. Three apparently divergent interests united in its inception; the New England Female Medical College; the rise of homœopathy in New England; the founding of Boston University. These were the three great chapters in the "Book of the Beginnings of the School" whose history we are setting ourselves to record. A glance at each of these is necessary to the right understanding of the school's origin and traditions.

First, then, no sketch of Boston University School of Medicine can be considered in the least degree adequate that fails to include a tribute to the institution whose brave pioneer life contributed so materially to its own existence. This institution for a quarter of a century was known as the New England Female Medical College. It began its career as the Boston Female Medical School, but during the fourth year of its life its name was changed. It had the support of a society organized for the purpose of enlightening public sentiment, and enlisting it in favor of the professional education and employment of women; and of providing facilities for the medical education of suitable women.

It was through the progressive, liberal spirit, broad-mindedness, faith, earnestness and unflinching activity of Dr. Samuel Gregory that the society and the college came to be. As early as 1845 preparatory steps were taken by Dr. Gregory, by the distribution of circulars and pamphlets, which culminated in the establishment of the Boston Female Medical School on November 1, 1848, and the Female Education Society, November 23, 1848. It is worthy of note that when the act to incorporate this society was before the Massachusetts legislature in April, 1850, after a thorough investigation and a protracted debate, it passed the senate with only four votes in the negative, and the house without a dissenting voice. The school was opened in Boston in 1848 with two lecturers and twelve pupils; "the first class of females ever assembled in America for the purpose of qualifying themselves to enter the medical profession." It seems fitting that so radical a departure from contemporary opinion as that which invited women so far from domestic interests as to the field of medical practice should date from Boston, "that three-hilled rebel town," so brave in new departures on the road to freedom. From its inception in 1848 to the time of its being merged with Boston University School of Medicine, in 1873, ninety-eight women completed their studies in this college and received its diploma, among them women widely and honorably known, thereafter, for notable usefulness in their chosen profession.

In 1854 the legislature appropriated the sum of \$1,000 annually for five years for the establishment of forty scholarships in the college.