

# PART TWO



*Biographical Sketches*



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF  
MATRICULANTS AND GRADUATES  
1850–1972



## DANIEL LAING JR.

*Matriculated November 1850*

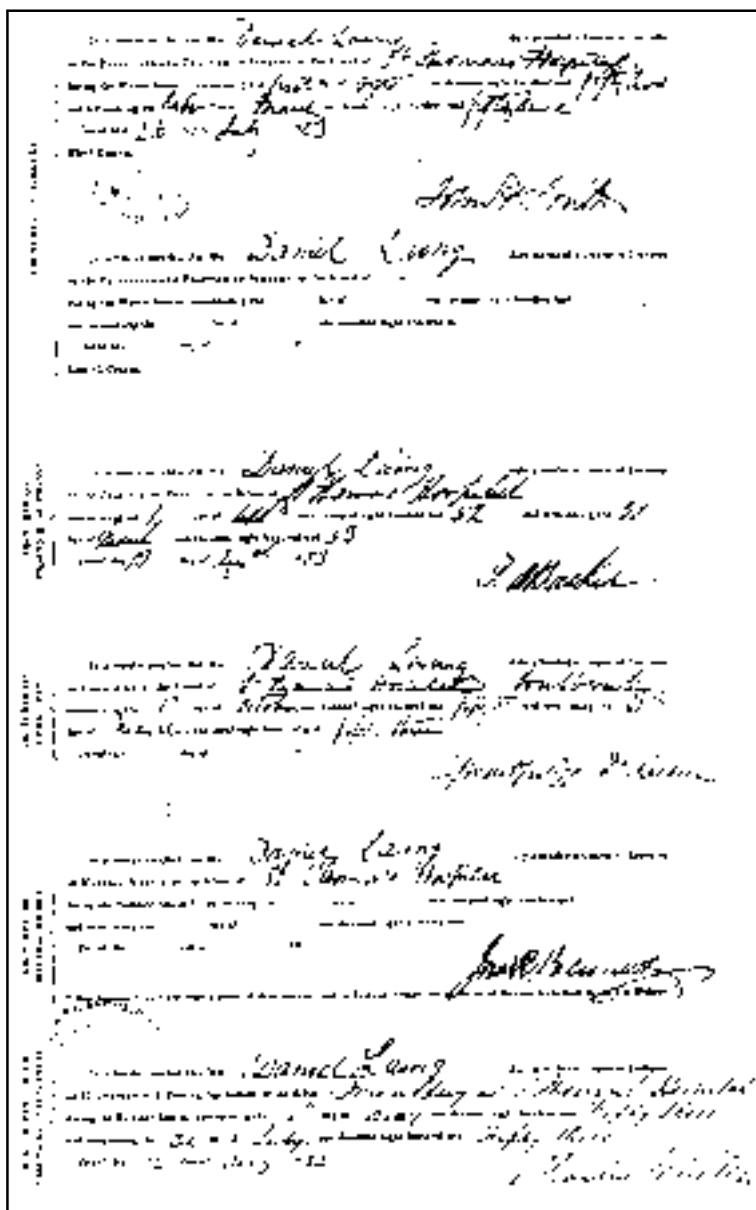
EXPELLED, MARCH 1851

FOLLOWING HIS EXPULSION from Harvard Medical School, Laing resumed his studies with Dr. Clarke until July 1851. By 1852 Laing was in Paris, studying under the internationally renowned master French surgeon, Velpeau. Martin Delany referred to Laing in 1852 as:

...a fine intellectual young gentleman of Boston, a student also of Dr. Clarke of that city, one of the Surgeons of the Massachusetts General Hospital, who attended the course of lectures the session of 1850–1851, at the Medical School of Harvard University, is now in Paris, to spend two years in the hospitals, and attend the Medical Lectures of that great seat of learning. Mr. Laing, like most medical students, has ever been an admirer, and anxious to sit under the teachings of that great master of Surgery, Velpeau.



*The French surgeon Velpeau and students at the Charité Hospital in Paris during an autopsy. (From a postcard courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine. The postcard copies an engraving by Louis Eugene Pirodon of an 1864 painting by Augustin Feyen-Perrin, entitled “Velpeau enseignant a l’Hôpital de la Charité.” The original painting is in the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Tours.)*



One of several certificates  
testifying to Daniel Laing's  
studies in London. (Courtesy of  
Dartmouth College Library.)

Several certificates attest to the fact that Laing continued his studies at the Royal College of Surgeons in London from 1852 to 1853, where he took up anatomy, physiology, and pathology at St. Thomas' Hospital, and attended lectures on the Principles and Practice of Surgery, the Practice of Physic,

Laing was not the first African-American to study under Velpeau. In 1849, John Van Surly de Grasse, a 1947 graduate of Bowdoin College, was listed as an assistant dresser for Velpeau. A second reference to Laing's studies in Paris may be the one provided by Paul F. Eve, MD, Professor of Surgery in the University of Nashville, in letter dated July 20, 1852, that appeared in the September, 1852, issue of the *Nashville Journal of Medicine and Surgery*. Eve, who had been in Paris observing Velpeau's work, wrote the letter soon after his arrival in London:

A few days before leaving Paris we had quite a *nice* little professional anecdote to occur in one of its hospitals. France is essentially democratic however she may tolerate a despotic ruler. All classes of society, and all *colors*, too, mingle freely there. Among the students of Velpeau is one as black as can be, who observing a South Carolinian recently arrived, took peculiar and persevering pleasure in exhibiting the interests of the great Charité hospital, much to the annoyance of our young countryman. During an operation, the negro asked him where he was from. Charleston, South Carolina, was the reply; when the black promptly observed, Oh! Ah! Then we are *fellow-students* and *fellow-patriots*; for I am from Boston, Massachusetts.

Chemistry, and *Materia Medica*.

Then, in 1853, following studies in Paris and London, Laing returned to New England and enrolled at Dartmouth Medical College, from which he received his MD in 1853. But since the vote of the Dartmouth Board of Trustees was held in July 1854, he is listed in the 1925 Dartmouth General Catalogue as a member of the Class of 1854. To receive his degree, he submitted several certificates testifying to his preparation in medicine. One, dated January 24, 1854, is signed by him:

Boston Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 1854.

This certifies that Daniel Laing Jr. studied medicine under my direction from Nov. 1, 1850 to July 18<sup>th</sup> 1851.

H. by G. S. Jones M.D.  
1854

This certifies that the same Laing Jr. studied medicine under my care and direction from July 18<sup>th</sup> to date.

Geo. Stevens Jones M.D.

Boston Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 1854

I hereby certify: that I attended to the study of medicine under the direction of the College at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, England, from May 1852 up to the latter part of September 1853.

(signed) Daniel Laing Jr.

*Testimonials of Drs. Clarke and Jones regarding Daniel Laing. (Courtesy of Dartmouth College Library.)*

Another certificate, dated January 27, 1854, was jointly signed and forwarded by Drs. Clarke and Jones, both practitioners in Boston. Dr. Clarke wrote:

This certifies that Daniel Laing Jr. studied medicine under my direction from Nov. 1, 1850 to July 18th 1851.

George Stevens Jones, MD, was a graduate of the Harvard Medical Class of 1846. Daniel Laing had continued his studies with him upon his return from Europe. Jones wrote a testimonial on Laing's behalf from Boston, dated January 27, 1854:

This certifies that Mr. Daniel Laing Jr. studied medicine under my care and direction from July 18th to date.

It appears that Daniel Laing, while at Dartmouth, was still sponsored by

the American Colonization Society. A letter from Joseph Tracy urges Dr. Hubbard of Dartmouth to expedite his graduation:

Colonization Office, Boston, January 30, 1854  
Professor O.P. Hubbard,

Dear Sir,

Our Committee conclude that, as it is important that Mr. Laing go to Liberia next Spring, and, in any case, would be required to study and see practice with some of the physicians there before practicing himself, it is desirable that he be graduated now. They therefore request you to consider his testimonials from England, received since his examination, and give him as favorable a graduation as the circumstances permit.

Very respectfully yours,  
Joseph Tracy

By summer 1854 Laing was in Liberia, according to a letter dated June 27, 1854, from an N. Lerds, addressed to C.G. Brewster, Esq., which reads, in part:

Dartmouth College June 27, 1854

My dear Sir,

Daniel Laing was a medical student of this college and graduated 1853. He is now in Africa,—a physician to the colony at Liberia.

It is not clear how long Laing stayed in Liberia or when he returned to the United States. The *General Catalogue* of Dartmouth College of 1925 lists his date of death as 1869, in Charleston, South Carolina.



## ISAAC HUMPHREY SNOWDEN

*Matriculated November 1850*

EXPULSED MARCH 1851

ISAAC SNOWDEN'S FATHER was a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Boston, located on May Street on Beacon Hill. The Reverend Snowden was an activist and a friend of fugitive slaves, and his church was a stop on the Underground Railroad. Of his eight children, four became abolitionists and social reformers and adopted a militant strategy, arming themselves against slave hunters.



Like Laing, Snowden seems to have stayed in Boston after his expulsion from Harvard Medical School, and renewed his apprenticeship with Dr. Clarke at the Massachusetts General Hospital—at least until 1852. Delany writes in his 1852 book:

Isaac Humphrey Snowden, a promising young gentleman of talents, is now reading Medicine under Dr. Clarke of Boston, and attended the session of the Medical School of Harvard University, of 1850–'51

According to the Dartmouth *Catalogue*, Snowden attended medical lectures at Dartmouth in 1851, but there is no record of his graduation. In November 1853, still under the auspices of the American Colonization Society of Boston, Snowden reapplied for admission to HMS, and indicated that he still planned to leave for Liberia. The letter from the Society made it clear that he would not attend HMS for an extended period. He was already engaged in the study of medicine, and planned to leave in the spring of 1854.

In trying to gain readmission, Isaac Snowden approached Harvard Medical students directly for support. Seventy-five members of a class of 118 supported his application with a petition. Among the signatories were Samuel Abbott Green, later president of the Massachusetts Historical Society and author of a classic history of Massachusetts medicine; Edward L. Holmes, later president (1890–1898) of Rush Medical College; Israel Tisdale Talbot, the first dean (1873–1899) of the Boston University School of Medicine; and Conrad Wesselhoeft, later a distinguished pathologist at Boston University School of Medicine. The petition read as follows:

To the Medical Faculty of Harvard College:

Gentlemen:

Mr. Isaac H. Snowden, a colored man now engaged in the study of medicine, for the purpose of practicing in Liberia, Africa has informed us that he wishes to leave this country for that place in the ensuing spring; and that in order to do so, it is very necessary that he should receive the benefit of the present course of lectures.

Believing his object to be a worthy one, we beg to present that we have no objection to his attendance upon this course of Lectures and respectfully ask that you will grant him permission to do so.

The dissenting student voice consisted of eight students only, who wrote to the faculty:

To the faculty of Harvard Medical College—,

As a movement has of late arisen in this institution for the purpose of admitting a negro as a student of Harvard Medical College—& as a paper to that effect has been signed by some of its members, & presented

to the faculty, some effort is necessary on the part of those opposed, to prevent this inexpedient action. We therefore students of Harvard Medical College placing all confidence in the judgment of our preceptors; would respectfully request of them that they would decide the matter unbiased by the opinions of others—

But once again, despite the clear and overwhelming student majority in favor of Snowden's admission, at a meeting of November 16, 1853, the faculty denied him admission and voted "not to rescind the Vote of Dec. 26th 1850." It is unclear if Snowden completed his degree in any medical college in the United States, but according to the annual report of the Colonization Society in 1854, he and Laing left for Liberia carrying with them medical books and surgical instruments.



*Martin Robison Delany. (Photo at the USA and Military History Institute, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, from the Massachusetts Commandery, Military Order of the Loyal Legion. Available online at [www.libraries.wvu.edu/delany/home.htm](http://www.libraries.wvu.edu/delany/home.htm).)*



## MARTIN ROBISON DELANY

*Matriculated November 1850*

EXPULLED MARCH 1851

DURING THE YEARS between his expulsion from Harvard Medical School and his death in 1885, Delany became increasingly involved in the events that shook the country, as he witnessed the Civil War, the Emancipation Proclamation, Reconstruction, and its ultimate collapse. He was born in Charlestown, Virginia, on May 6, 1822, of a slave father and a free mother. His mother had been a seamstress and escaped to Pennsylvania with her five children to avoid punishment for violating state law, after whites discovered that she had taught her children to read and write with books bought from a Yankee book peddler.

During the 34 years between his expulsion and his death, Delany emerged as a physician, author, journalist, soldier, and activist, fighting for emancipation and equal rights. In 1852 he published the first book-length analysis of the economic, social, and political status of blacks in the United States, entitled *The Condition, Elevation, Emigration, and Destiny of the Colored People of the United States, Politically Considered*, where he explored the emigration of blacks to Nicaragua and Africa. Seven years later he published a novel entitled *Blake, or the Huts of Amer-*

*ica: A Tale of the Mississippi Valley, the Southern United States, and Cuba*, published in 1859, which was serialized in the *Anglo-African* newspaper. The novel tells the story of Henry Blake, who organizes a slave rebellion, leads his son and wife's parents to Canada, marshals forces in Cuba, rescues his enslaved wife, attempts to turn Africans against the slave trade, and forges an alliance with wealthy mulattos. Delany also authored numerous poems and essays.

In 1854, back in Pittsburgh as a practicing physician, Delany played a leading role during the city's cholera plague and rendered much valued service to the city, for which he was awarded a citation from the Board of Health and City Council. When nearly every white doctor in Pittsburgh had left the city on the appearance of the disease, Delany remained and organized a corps of black nurses of both sexes who cared for the helpless white and black cholera victims.

Two years later, in 1856, Delany was in Chatham, Canada West, practicing as a physician specializing in chronic diseases and diseases of women and children. He continued to lecture frequently, remained active in politics, and organized biannual conferences on emigration until 1858, when he sailed to West Africa for a two-year expedition. While in Liberia, he held extensive talks with the Alake of Abeokuta regarding African-American resettlement and commercial production of cotton in what is now Nigeria. In Delany's plans, this nation of Afro-American emigrants would compete economically with the slave economy of the American South, supplying cotton to textile manufacturers in England and New England. While in London in the spring of 1860, Delany was invited to address the Royal Geographical Society and the International Statistical Congress on the subject of the "Dark Continent." Lord Henry Brougham, the Congress president and a pioneer in the British antislavery movement, introduced the notables and remarked on the presence of a black man, adding that he hoped that this would not offend George Mifflin Dallas, the United States minister. Dallas, who was seated on the platform, tried to ignore the taunt, but Delany seized the opportunity to respond. Rising to address himself to Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria, he thanked Lord Brougham for the recognition and then said, "I assure your Royal Highness and his Lordship that *I am a man*." His simple affirmation evoked cheers from the audience in London but not in the United States, where *The New York Times* lamented over "the public humiliation" of an American minister. US President Buchanan met with his cabinet to consider asking the British government for an apology, but took no further action.

The treaties Delany had signed with African authorities were revoked by the African signatories as a consequence of conflicts arising from British imperial politics.

Following the failure to achieve emigration to Africa, Delany left Canada for the United States, where he lectured on Africa through the middle of 1863. Frederick Douglass reported him to be “the intensest element of black nationality to be met with outside the Valley of the Niger,” while *The Liberator* described him as “a better specimen of his race than any we . . . have seen before,” noting that he wore “the wedding dress of a Chief” and exhibited “specimens of native manufacture.”

As the antislavery crisis reached a climax, Delany increasingly turned from the practice of medicine to the problem of emancipation. On February 8, 1865, during an interview with President Lincoln, he proposed that the President allow him to create an entirely black army:

I propose, sir, an army of blacks commanded entirely by black officers, except such whites as may volunteer to serve, this army to penetrate through the heart of the south . . . until every slave is free, according to the letter of your proclamation.

President Lincoln wrote to Stanton, the Secretary of War: “Do not fail to have an interview with this most extraordinary and intelligent black man.” Delany and Stanton met, and Delany recruited thousands for the Union Army’s 54th Massachusetts Regiment and was later commissioned as a Major in the US Army. His appointment as the first black field officer in American military history was widely hailed in the black community.

Delany left military service in 1868, but remained in Hilton Head, South Carolina, during Reconstruction, as an officer in the Freedmen’s Bureau, and published works on public policy toward freedmen. With the collapse of Reconstruction, Delany was removed from office in 1878. He then rejoined his family in Xenia, Ohio, near the campus of Wilberforce College, and continued to write about citizenship, land, and identity until his death in 1885. In one of his later publications, in 1879, entitled *Principia of Ethnology: The Origin of Races with an Archaeological Compendium of Ethiopian and Egyptian Civilizations*, he used the Bible and classical writers to explore issues of genius, genealogy, and civilization, and detailed the African origin of Nile Valley civilizations.

Delany’s writings, as his life, were at once the subject of criticism and admiration. The first biography written in his lifetime, by Frances E. Rollin Whipper under the pseudonym Frank A. Rollin, was entitled, *Life and Public Services of Martin R. Delany, Subassistant Commissioner, Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and of Abandoned Lands, and Late Major 104th US Colored Troops*. “He stands,” Whipper wrote, “proudly before the country the blackest of the black, presenting in himself a giant’s power warped in chairs.” Between 1838 and 1889, over 100 writings would appear about Delany, followed, in

later decades, by many biographies, articles, books, and PhD dissertations. In the 1960s, attention given to Delany gathered considerable momentum, especially with regard to his critique of the abolitionist movement. This culminated in the early 1970s, with four treatises published between 1970 and 1975. Many scholars viewed Delany as the father of Black Nationalism and Pan Africanism, and as the 19th-century Malcolm X.

During his lifetime, he had enjoyed the support of some luminaries. Dr. James McCune Smith of New York, the first African-American physician with an MD degree, referred to Delany's newspaper *The Mystery* as "one of the best papers ever published among the colored people of the United States." And Frederick Douglass would write about Delany:

I thank God for making me a man, simply, but Delany always thanks Him for making him a Black man.

In March 1843, Delany had married Catherine A. Richards, the mulatto daughter of a wealthy black Pittsburgh landowner and merchant. They had 11 children of whom seven survived to adulthood. Delany's activities had often strained family resources, and when he died in Wilberforce, Ohio, in 1885, his family could not afford a grave marker. His grave is marked by a government-issued headstone.



## EDWIN CLARENCE JOSEPH TURPIN HOWARD

*Matriculated 1866*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1869

EDWIN C. J. T. HOWARD, who entered Harvard Medical School soon after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued, was one of the two earliest Americans of African descent to graduate from Harvard Medical School—and from the University. He was born free in Boston, on October 21, 1846, to Edwin F. Howard, a native of Boston, and Joan L. Howard, a native of New York City. Two others in his extended family were physicians: Dr. Edward V. Asbury, who had begun medical practice in Boston in 1852, and the well-known and respected Dr. John Van Surly DeGrasse, an 1849 graduate



Edwin C. J. T. Howard. (Photo in J. A. Rogers' *Africa's Gift to America*, 1989. Courtesy of Helga M. Rogers.)

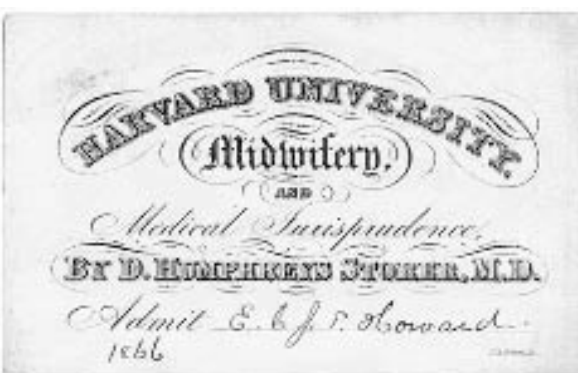
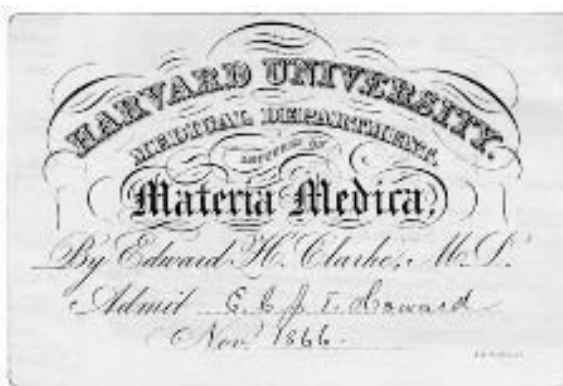
of Bowdoin College who had been admitted to the exclusive Massachusetts Medical Society in 1854 and who later became the first commissioned African-American surgeon in the United States Army.

After attending the Boston Latin School he left for studies at Liberia College in Monrovia, Liberia, where he stayed from 1861 to 1865. There, he studied under such eminent scholars as Dr. Alexander, Edward W. Blyden, Martin Tollman, and J. J. Roberts, the latter being the president of the college as well as of the Republic of Liberia. While in Liberia, Howard recorded his experiences and thoughts—in code—in several journals. Howard then began the study of medicine under Dr. Charles B. Dunbar, a graduate of Dartmouth Medical College from the early 1850s. Dunbar had had an active practice in New York until 1859, when he resettled in Liberia as a physician, until his death.

The earliest indication that Howard had returned to Boston is a ticket dated November 1, 1865, that he had purchased in order to study at the Boston City Hospital. But his name first appears as a matriculant at Harvard Medical School in the *Catalogue of Students Attending the 1866 Summer Session*, during the deanship of George Shattuck. There, his residence is listed as Monrovia, Liberia. His name reappears in the 1866–1867 winter class, summer of 1867, and winter 1867–1868, where his instructors are listed as J. V. DeGrasse and HMS, and finally in the *Catalogue of Students* of 1868–1869. Many of the tickets he purchased for instruction still survive, naming the courses and faculty he studied with: Medicine with L. A. Cutler (Boston City Hospital); Surgery with Henry J. Bigelow; Theory and Practice of Physic with George C. Shattuck; Midwifery and Medical Jurisprudence with D. Humphreys Storer; Anatomy and Physiology with O. W. Holmes; *Materia Medica* with Edward H. Clarke; Pathological Anatomy with John B. S. Jackson, to name but a few.

Howard graduated in 1869, in the same class as William James, George B. Shattuck, Charles P. Putnam, J. H. McCollum, and F. W. Draper. His thesis, according to the Order of Exercises, was on Puerperal Fever. The degrees were conferred by Professor Henry J. Bigelow, MD, Dean.

Immediately after graduation, and only a few years after Emancipation, Howard entered the practice of medicine in Charleston, South Carolina. He would write that he was busy “beyond his most earnest wish” but after three months he was able to collect one dollar. Within the year, he had moved to Philadelphia, where he distinguished himself during the city’s smallpox epidemic in 1870, not losing a single patient to the disease. In the same year, when the state of Pennsylvania organized a brigade of colored militiamen, he was appointed by Governor Glory as surgeon of the 12th Regiment.



Howard remained in Philadelphia for the rest of his active life. He was instrumental in establishing the Frederick Douglass Memorial Hospital in Philadelphia in 1895, the only hospital for African-Americans in Philadelphia. But in 1905, not being satisfied with the Douglass, he set out to organize Mercy Hospital. The circumstances are recounted in *The History of Mercy Hospital*:

The hospital situation, as it affected our group, was in a very unsatisfactory state in the latter years of the last century and the early part of the present. It is true, we were admitted to the wards of the general hospitals freely, but there was a trend toward segregation, which, in later years has become marked. Then too, our young men were graduating in increasing numbers every year from the medical schools, but with only two or three accredited hospitals in this country to provide the necessary practical experiences—others denied them because of color prejudice...

The plans for the new hospital were first discussed on December 5, 1905, in the offices of E.C. J. T. Howard with a "group of gentlemen." Dr. Howard addressed the group:

*Admission cards to medical school lectures attended by Edwin Clarence Howard, 1866–1868. DeGrasse-Howard Papers, 1776–1976, Massachusetts Historical Society. (Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society.)*

The present hospital, the Frederick Douglass, having assumed the character of a privately managed, narrow, unprogressive institution, fails to meet the objectives for which it was organized, viz., an opportunity for Negro physicians to get the incalculable benefits of hospital practice, which other hospitals had denied them, also to train our girls in nursing, as well as giving our people additional hospital facilities. That it is unprogressive is shown by the fact that in its ten years of existence there has been no need for an extra bed. Eighteen of the twenty-four Negro physicians practicing here, petitioned the Board of Managers of the Douglass Hospital, for an opportunity to cooperate with them in broadening the lines and improving the condition of affairs, but the petition was ignored. Hence, the call for the present movement.

*The founders of Sigma Pi Phi, from left to right: Richard J. Warrick, Henry M. Minton, Algernon B. Jackson, Edwin C. Howard, Alpha Boulé. (Photo in History of Sigma Pi Phi by Charles H. Wesley, Washington D.C. 1969. Courtesy of The Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Washington, D.C.)*



Edwin C. Howard was also instrumental in the establishment of the Sigma Pi Phi Society, the first black fraternity in the United States, the purpose of which was “to band together college degree men who were congenial,” and who would, through the society, “know the best of one another, and that they may in this life to his full ability aid the other, and by concerted action bring about those things that seem best for all that cannot be accomplished by individual efforts.” Again, the first meeting took place in the home of E. C. J. T. Howard, on May 15, 1904, with four men present:

Drs. Richard J. Warrick, Henry M. Minton, Algernon B. Jackson and Edwin C. Howard. The minutes of the meeting read as follows:

The following gentlemen: E.C. Howard, MD, A.B. Jackson, MD, R.J. Warrick, D.D.S., and H.M. Minton, Ph.G., met on the afternoon of the above date at Dr. Howard’s residence, 508 S. 10th Street, to discuss the organizing of a fraternity in Philadelphia of college graduates. Mr. Minton explained the general plan, and Dr. Jackson spoke briefly of the ritualistic work. The meeting adjourned to meet in two weeks at Mr. Minton’s.

H.M. Minton, Secretary *Pro. tem.*

Howard was temporary chairman. In the subsequent decades the Society would grow significantly in membership, and would include other African-American students from Harvard Medical School such as Fred-



erick Stubbs, W. Wilberforce Williams, Louis Tompkins Wright, Richard Birnie, and Euclid Ghee, to name a few. Howard built up a sustaining practice in Philadelphia and became the acknowledged leader of the younger, progressive physicians. A pioneer physician in the city until his death in 1912, he was an admirer of music, art, and literature, and was known affectionately as “the Dean of the Medical Profession in Philadelphia.”

Howard was described as “a very lovable man of innate refinement, suavity and undoubted ability.” He was a member of the Philadelphia County and Pennsylvania State Medical Societies, the American Medical Association, the Board of Education of Philadelphia, and the National Medical Association. For many years, he served as Visiting Physician at the Frederick Douglass Memorial Hospital and as Chairman and Lecturer in the Nurses’ Training School. He had been the Co-Founder of two hospitals: The Frederick Douglass and Mercy Hospitals.

A banquet was given in his honor two months before his death. The place cards bore the following poem, illustrating the esteem in which he was held by the 25 medical men who had assembled in his honor:

The longer on earth we live  
And weigh the various qualities of men,  
The more we feel the high, stern-featured beauty  
Of plain devotedness to duty  
Steadfast and still, nor paid with mortal praise,  
But finding amplest recompense  
For life’s ungarlanded expense  
In work done squarely and unwasted days.

He died of diabetes on May 10, 1912, in his home in Philadelphia, at the age of 66. His obituary in the *Journal of the National Medical Association* identified him as the oldest practitioner in the city of Philadelphia. Neither he nor his two sisters, Adeline T. and Imogene Joan, ever had married. Adeline became a principal of the Wormley School in Washington, D.C., and Imogene Joan had a remarkable history, mentioned throughout the book entitled *Work of the Afro-American Woman* by N.F. Mossell (1894). All three are buried in Eden Cemetery in Darby, outside of Philadelphia.

It is not known whether he ever returned to Harvard Medical School, or to Boston, the place of his birth.



## THOMAS GRAHAM DORSEY

*Matriculated 1867*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1869

ON COMMENCEMENT DAY in 1869, there was a second African-American student upon whom Dean Bigelow conferred the MD degree. This was Thomas Graham Dorsey of Philadelphia. At age 30, and by virtue of the alphabetical order in which the names were arranged, Dorsey was the first student of African descent to be called and receive the MD degree from Harvard Medical School.

Dorsey remains an enigmatic figure. The few surviving documents testify that he was born in Philadelphia in February 1839 to Augustus Dorsey, a clothier in Philadelphia, and Mary E. Dorsey. He attended the Preparatory School at Oberlin College in 1859 as a senior, then went on to complete two years in the college department at Oberlin from 1860 to 1862.

He first appears at Harvard Medical School as a matriculant in the *Catalogue* of 1867–1868, through the 1868 summer session and the 1868–1869 academic year, graduating in 1869. According to a notation in the *Catalogue*, he had been in apprenticeship in Germantown and Philadelphia since at least 1865. According to two pieces of correspondence—both dating from August 1868—Dorsey began his medical studies in Philadelphia with Dr. J. M. Leedom of Germantown. The letter is written by a Dr. Thomas George Morton, a graduate of Haverford College and the University of Pennsylvania, and briefly outlines some of Dorsey's educational background, as well as the financial difficulties he had experienced while in Boston. It is dated August 17, 1868:

My dear Doctor,

A colored youth of considerable attainments, by name of Dorsey studied medicine last year in Boston, taking out the tickets for a full course of lectures, he has been a student of D. J.M. Leedom of Germantown and his means are exceedingly limited and desires to return to Boston and finish his studies, but the lack of funds is the great trouble; do you think the kind hearted Boston professors would give him all or even a part of the course *gratis*; could you write a line to Dr. Holmes and find out if it would be possible.

The name of the person is Thomas Graham Dorsey, has attended and paid for one full course at the Boston Medical School under Drs. Shattuck, Bigelow and Holmes. He can produce a most unexceptional character from some of our best physicians.

Very truly yours,  
Thomas George Morton

Philadelphia, Aug. 17th 1868  
 Dear Dr. Kirkbride

I enclose you with a  
 recommendation from my son  
 of Dorsey's services as a student  
 of the Pennsylvania Hospital, taking out the  
 books for a full course of  
 lectures. He has been a student  
 of all the divisions of the hospital  
 and has made an exceedingly  
 favorable impression on the  
 faculty. He has not finished his studies,  
 but the lack of funds is the great  
 trouble. Do you think you  
 have heard of any person  
 named Dorsey who is a student  
 of the Pennsylvania Hospital?  
 I would you could have the  
 information in a few days and if  
 it would be perfect.

The name of the person is

Thomas George Dorsey  
 has attended before for one  
 full course at the Pennsylvania  
 Medical School under  
 Dr. McPherson, the plan  
 of the course  
 the course provided a most  
 comprehensive character from  
 some of our best physicians  
 very truly  
 Thomas G. Norton

Dr. T. S. Kirkbride  
 P. M. Insane  
 W. H.

Letter from Dr. Thomas G. Norton to Dr. Kirkbride, 17 August, 1868. (Courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)

Thomas Morton's letter was addressed to his father-in-law, Dr. Kirkbride of the Pennsylvania Hospital of the Insane. Dr. Kirkbride obliged Morton's request and wrote to Oliver Wendell Holmes. Kirkbride's reply, dated a day later, August 18, 1868, reads in part:

My dear Doctor,

I take the liberty to enclose to you, a letter I have just received from my son in law, Dr. Thomas George Morton, one of the surgeons of the [...] and Pennsylvania Hospital, and would only add that the character of Mr. Dorsey in this community is all that is there represented. Will you have the kindness to let me know, whether anything can be done in such a case.— [...]

I am,

With great respect,

Very truly yours,

Thomas S. Kirkbride

A note added at the top of the letter, presumably by Oliver W. Holmes, reads:

I answered Dr. Kirkbride—perhaps you had better answer too—said we would do everything, etc. etc. . . .

Evidently, the matter was arranged. Dorsey returned for the 1868–1869 session and graduated in 1869.

The information about Dorsey's life following graduation is even more fragmentary. Two sources suggest that he spent much of his life after 1869 in Washington, D.C. The first, *The Medical Register and Directory of the United States of 1877*, lists Thomas Graham Dorsey at 124 Fourth Street, S.E. A second address, possibly for his residence, places him at 400 B. Street, S.E. According to other sources, he practiced medicine in Washington, D.C., from at least 1872, coinciding with the years of Reconstruction, until his death on November 22, 1897. This information, as well as the date of his death, comes from a postcard completed by his wife in response to a request for information by archivist W. G. Brown, who in 1900 had begun to update information on alumni of the University. Two postcards were returned for Dorsey, both from his wife. The first, received on February 28, 1900, supplied basic biographical information about his parents, his place of birth, address, etc. Next to the question inquiring about Dr. Dorsey's publications, a brief notation reads "don't remember." The second postcard, dated March 30, 1900, provided the address of 400 B St. S.E. and continued:

He would have been sixty-one years this gone Feb. He was born in Philadelphia. Dr. Dorsey died November 22, 1897 at Washington D.C. He practic (sic) medicin (sic) about twenty-five years. Mrs. Selience (?), formerly Mrs. Dr. Dorsey.

Dorsey had graduated a year after Reconstruction was launched, and settled in Washington, D.C. He would have witnessed the founding of Howard University and its College of Medicine, Freedmen's Hospital, and the first medical association for black physicians in Washington, known as the *Medico-Chirurgical Society of Washington, D.C.* But his name appears in neither context. Much information does survive about his older brother, Charles A. Dorsey, a prominent figure in the educational, civil, and political life of New York, and the principal of Grammar School #67 in Brooklyn, New York, where he taught for more than 40 years, and which was subsequently named after him.



# JAMES THOMAS STILL

*Matriculated 1867*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1871

*With honors*

THE GRANDSON OF runaway slaves, James Thomas Still was the first child of Dr. James and Henrietta Still. Born July 12, 1840, in Medford, New Jersey, he was the eldest of seven children.

His father, the legendary Dr. James Still, was known in his time as “the old ‘Black Doctor’ at the ‘Cross-Roads,’ the intersection of Mount Holly and Mount Laurel roads near Medford, New Jersey. Although he had received no formal medical training, the senior Dr. Still took care of a large patient population. An article in the April 19, 1962, issue of the *Mount Holly Herald of New Jersey* described “the old ‘Black Doctor’ at the Cross-Roads” as well as his son, James Thomas Still. According to the article, James Thomas Still was educated in a one-room schoolhouse near his home at the crossroads, and later attended a school in Mount Holly. He became a school teacher at Mt. Holly, N.J., between 1862 and 1863. During the Civil War he served for two years as a Sutter’s Clerk at Camp William Penn. While there, he began the study of chemistry. Two years after the end of the Civil War, Still matriculated at Harvard Medical School at the age of 27. His name first appears in the *Catalogue of Students* for the winter class of 1867–1868. He continued to study through the 1870–1871 sessions, graduating with honors in 1871, two years after Howard, Dorsey, and Freeman. His thesis, as listed in the Commencement Exercises of 1871, was on ‘Hay Asthma and Hay Fever.’

According to the *Central Record*, Medford, N.J., (January 9, 1975) James Still may have chosen Harvard

because it was located in abolitionist Boston—possibly with less racial barriers to his admission...

His was in a class of educated students many with bachelors and even masters degrees from well known colleges. James was mainly self-educated.



*James Thomas Still. (By permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.)*

Unlike Howard and Dorsey, James Still remained in Boston after graduation and began the practice of medicine at 166 Cambridge Street in Boston. Like E. C. J. T. Howard, he was known as the most respected black practitioner in the city.

The *Harvard Graduate Magazine* (Vol. IV, 1895–1896, p. 150) described Still's practice:

He took up his practice in Boston, chiefly among the colored people, who he has treated more for the love of his profession rather than what it paid him.

He also served as surgeon in the 2nd Battalion of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia under Maj. Lewis Gaul from 1871 to 1874. In the same year he married Elizabeth Handy of Philadelphia; they had six children.

An active member of the Boston community, he was the first and only African-American elected to the Boston School Board. Through his efforts an opening was first made for African-American teachers in the Boston schools. He also served as a Director on the Board of the Home for Aged Colored Women from 1875 to 1890.

James Still lived at 20 North Anderson Street in the West End, two blocks from the School. He died on June 22, 1895, at the age of 55, after a short illness from Bright's disease. The obituaries that appeared in the Boston papers—in the *Boston Journal* (Sunday, June 23, 1895), the *Boston Daily Advertiser* (Monday, June 24, 1895), the *Boston Transcript* (Monday, June 24, 1895), the *Boston Herald* (June 29, 1895), and *The Harvard Graduates' Magazine* (vol. IV, 1895–1896)—all testified to the high esteem in which Dr. Still was held, and provided glimpses of his life. According to the *Boston Journal*:

... Dr. Still was the most widely known of any of the colored physicians in the city... In 1871 he graduated from the Harvard School of Medicine. He took up his practice here in Boston, chiefly among the colored people. ... Dr. Still was not a member of any of the societies of the West End, with the exception of the Twelfth Baptist Church, Phillips Street, yet he was a prominent man among the colored people.

James Still's funeral was evidently a major event in Boston. In its June 29, 1895, issue, the *Herald* gave extensive coverage to the ceremonies. The article was subtitled "Funeral of the Well Known Colored Philanthropist," and read in part:

In the demise of Dr. Still the colored race of this city lost one of its leading members...

Funeral services were conducted at the Charles Street A.M.E. Church by Rev. Peter T. Stanford, assisted by Rev. A. W. Adams of the Twelfth Baptist Church of which the deceased was a member; Rev. W. H. Scott of

Calvary Baptist; Rev. W. E. Offley of A.M.E. Zion Church and Rev. T. A. Smythe, who is temporarily filling the pulpit of Dr. Roberts.

Mr. Moses rendered the solo of Elijah entitled "Rest to the Soul," and the choir sang the anthem, "Come Ye Disconsolate," and "There is a Green Hill Far Away." There were numerous floral tributes, including a cross and crown from the medical fraternity.

The pallbearers included Drs. W.C. Lane, Miles Gordon, Samuel Courtney, A.L. Brown, T.M. Patrick, Samuel J. Harris, Henry Faulkner, Samuel Fuell and Messrs. Charles Pitts, J.W. Rappey and John Swain.

The Harvard Medical Association was represented by Dr. Courtney and the old 2nd battalion M.V.M. by Commander J. Wesley Furlong.

The church was crowded as the deceased was one of the best known and most popular men of his race in the city. . . . He wrote several books and was a contributor to medical magazines and other publications. . . .

Those who conducted the service and those who stood as pallbearers were some of the most educated religious leaders in the nation, and known for their community activism. Dr. Still himself was also so known, as was his paternal uncle, William Still, widely recognized as the Father of the Underground Railroad and the most important figure involved in the operations of the Railroad, next to Harriet Tubman.

Throughout his life James Still was a spokesman for civil rights and an outspoken critic of segregation and Jim Crow laws. One of his works, a 32 page pamphlet entitled "*Don't Tell White Folks, Or Light out of Darkness*," published in 1889, is a passionately argued thesis where he challenges white as well as black institutions—including church and government—and leaders, often castigating them for misleading the people and perpetuating the deplorable predicament of African-Americans. The pamphlet called for reforms and, above all, education. It ends thus:

How is the Negro family to rise to manhood and manliness through the barber's "profession," and the janitor's and messenger's "callings," any more than the white man has? Is it not more feasible for the "wise" race-loving Negro to form race-respecting "leagues" to protect the pickaninies from these blizzards of race-destruction, which are more deadly than the combined evils of southern tyrants? Are these, with other proper suggestive questions, not vital ones for the Negro now to consider? Will not such studies, earnestly pursued, put him on the road to *produce* some good for this country of the people?

Let us all, black and white, investigate—learn the facts of the case and demand such reform for the good of all the people.

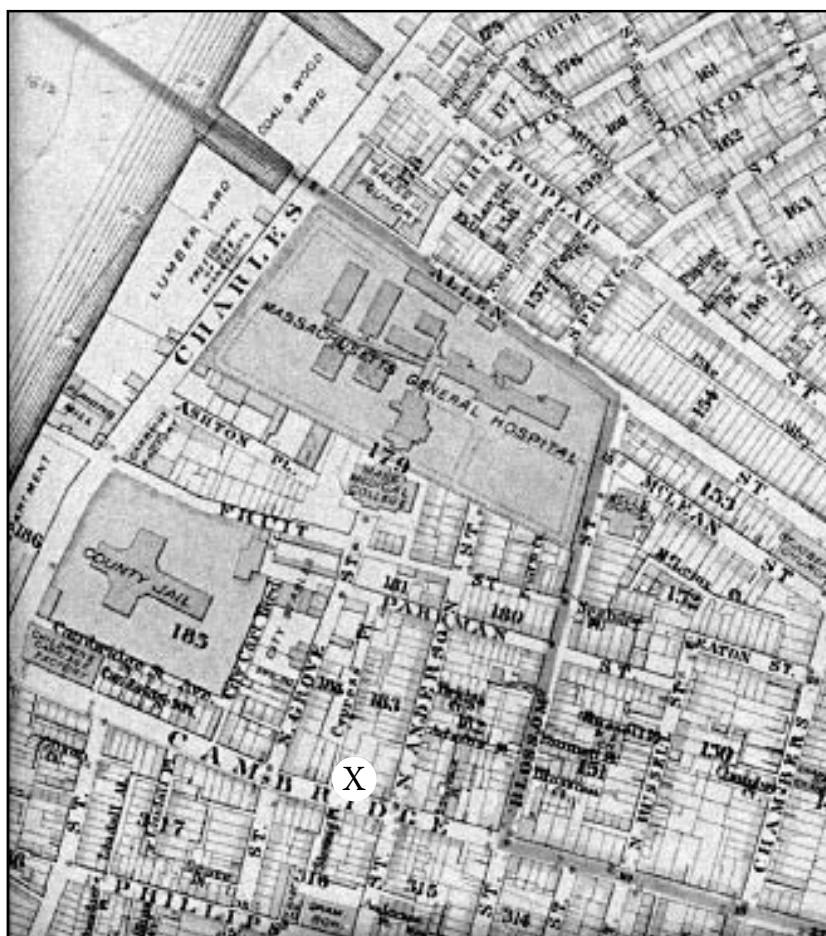
At his death Still left little or nothing to his family. He was buried in the same public cemetery as many of the women he had helped at the Home for

Aged Colored Women. His widow and six children moved back to the old house at the crossroads and lived there with his two sisters.

*Additional information about Dr. Still's family was provided by one of his descendants, Mr. G. William Hunter, on April 4, 2004. It reads, in part:*

*My name is G. William Hunter and I am the Executive Director & General Counsel of the NBA and WNBA Basketball Players Associations... I am also a descendant of William Still—the father of the Underground Railroad and his brother James Still Sr. The Still family tracks its ancestry back to Guinea West Africa—with the first member of the family arriving in Gloucester, N.J., in 1650 aboard a slave ship. Our immediate progenitors were Levin and Charity Still who were slaves on the Saunders Griffin Plantation on the eastern shore of Maryland around 1795. Levin Sr. purchased his freedom and was able to secure Charity's freedom—through*

*James Still lived at the location marked by the X on this 1882 map of Boston. His house was two blocks from the Massachusetts General Hospital and the School, before it moved in 1883. (By permission of the Harvard Map Collection, Harvard College Library.)*





*the aid of the Underground Railroad. Charity gave birth to a total of 18 children. The first four children Levin Jr., Peter, Mahalah, and Kitturah were born into slavery. The remaining fourteen children were born free after Levin and Charity were established in South Jersey. I am a direct descendant of Samuel Still who was the first child born free...*



## ROBERT TANNER FREEMAN

*Matriculated at Harvard Medical School 1868*  
GRADUATED HARVARD DENTAL CLASS OF 1869

A GRADUATE OF the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, Robert Tanner Freeman was a matriculant of Harvard Medical School during the 1868–1869 session. The first African-American to receive a degree in dentistry from an academic institution, he was born around 1846, in Washington, D.C., to slave parents. Freeman’s father later worked as a carpenter in Raleigh, North Carolina, and eventually purchased his and his wife’s freedom in 1830 and moved to Washington, D.C.

His interest in medicine led him to apply for a position as a dental assistant in the office of Dr. Henry Bliss Noble on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. Noble hired him and tutored him privately in the “art and science of the practice of dentistry,” and encouraged him to follow a dental career through formal training. Freeman first applied to two dental schools and was rejected on racial grounds. He then applied, along with 15 others, to the dental school at Harvard when it was first established in 1868. In March 1869, he was one of only six who passed the first examination, and received the Doctor of Dental Medicine degree. Referring to the Dental School’s first group of graduates, Dean Henry M. S. Miner noted that

Robert Tanner Freeman, a colored man who has been rejected by two other dental schools on account of his race, was another successful candidate. The dental faculty maintained that right and justice should be placed above expediency and insisted that intolerance must not be permitted. Dr. Freeman was the first of his race to receive in America a dental school education and dental degree.



*Robert Tanner Freeman.*  
(Photo courtesy of the  
Harvard Medical Library  
in the Francis A. Countway  
Library of Medicine.)

After graduating from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, he moved to Washington, D.C., and began private practice on Pennsylvania Avenue. His practice thrived for 14 years until his death on June 14, 1873. In 1909 the first dental society composed of African-Americans, founded in 1900 and known as the Washington Society of Colored Dentists, renamed itself the Robert Tanner Freeman Dental Society, in honor of America's first African-American in dentistry.



## GEORGE FRANKLIN GRANT

*Matriculated Harvard Medical School 1868*

GRADUATED HARVARD DENTAL CLASS OF 1870



*George Franklin Grant.  
(Photo courtesy of the  
Harvard Medical Library  
in the Francis A. Countway  
Library of Medicine.)*

THE SECOND AFRICAN-AMERICAN to graduate from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, George Franklin Grant first appears as a matriculant in the 1868–1869 academic session at Harvard Medical School, along with Robert Tanner Freeman, Edwin Howard, James Still, and Thomas Graham Dorsey. Grant appears again in the 1869–1870 academic session at Harvard Medical School.

Born to former slaves in Oswego, New York, on September 15, 1846, he worked as an apprentice to a Dr. Smith in Oswego. At the age of 21, in 1867, Grant arrived in Boston and began his studies at Harvard Dental School that fall, graduating in 1870 with the degree of DMD.

One year later he was appointed Assistant in the department of Mechanical Dentistry at Harvard Dental School, where he served for three years. In 1874 he was named Demonstrator of Mechanical Dentistry, and from 1884 to 1889 he was Instructor in the Treatment of Cleft Palate and Cognate Diseases, still at Harvard Dental School.

Among his private patients was Harvard University President Charles Eliot, and, according to some sources, some of the wealthiest men in Boston. He worked until six months before he died, in 1910, of cancer of the liver in his summer home in New Hampshire. He was 65 years old. In 1911 the *Dental*

*Cosmos* (53(1911): 125–126) carried the obituary submitted by the *Harvard Odontological Society* on Grant's death, which read, in part:

...In the treatment of cleft palate Dr. Grant was a pioneer and an acknowledged authority. His exceptional technical abilities and faculty of imparting his knowledge to others attracted to him a host of admiring and appreciative students and practitioners.

As a man, Dr. Grant's ideals were high; he was a true friend and keenly appreciative of true friendship. He had a fine, sensitive and generous nature. Truthfulness, uprightness, optimism, resourcefulness—all these qualities he possessed in a commendable degree. He was blessed with a good measure of material success, by virtue of which he was enabled to assist many an impecunious young man and woman in their struggles for an existence; and to whom he gave, in reply to their oft-repeated thanks, his favorite and simple admonition: "Now, don't say anything about it! Do your work as well as you can, and be kind; that will be the best reward you can give me."



## JOHN NAUSTEDLA LEWIS

*Attended 1871*

JOHN NAUSTEDLA LEWIS's name is mentioned in the early Matriculation Book and the *Catalogue of Students* of 1871 only. His address is listed as Monrovia, Liberia, where he gained his education and for two years and six months, beginning in October 1865, he conducted his medical study. His preceptor is listed as C. B. Dunbar of Liberia College.

He enrolled at Harvard Medical School in September 1871 for just one term, possibly because he wished to gain additional medical training. His name does not appear in subsequent *Catalogues*.





*Ferdinand Augustus Stewart.  
(Photo courtesy of the  
Harvard Medical Library  
in the Francis A. Countway  
Library of Medicine.)*

## FERDINAND AUGUSTUS STEWART

*Matriculated 1885*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1888

FERDINAND AUGUSTUS STEWART was the first of the students of African descent graduating from Harvard Medical School to come from the Deep South. He was born just before the Civil War, in 1862, in Mobile, Alabama, to Henderson Stewart, an oyster dealer, and Louisa (Jones) Stewart. In 1880 he graduated from the Emerson Institute in Alabama and five years later, in 1885, from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, with the AB degree in the Classics. Three years later, in 1888, he received his MD from Harvard Medical School, along with 99 other students.

Following his graduation from Harvard Medical School, Stewart began the practice of medicine in Nashville, Tennessee. Beginning in 1889 he served for many years as Physician and Surgeon to Fisk University, where he also received his MA degree in 1890. Also in 1899, he began his academic career at Meharry Medical College in Nashville. He held the title of Professor of Pathology from 1889 to 1908 and subsequently, Professor of Surgery, with an appointment on the surgical staff of Hubbard Hospital. He remained on the faculty of Meharry Medical College for 42 years, retiring in 1931. He held a record for length of service surpassed only by Dr. George W. Hubbard, the first president of Meharry Medical College.

Involved in many aspects of community life, Stewart reached a position of prominence in the state of Tennessee during his lifetime and served in many state and national capacities, including President, Tennessee State Medical Association; fourth President elected, National Medical Association; Member, Finance Committee of People's Savings Bank and Trust Co.; Trustee, Fisk University; and Chairman, Executive Committee, Nashville Negro Board of Trade.

Referring to the accomplishments of Ferdinand Stewart in 1912, J. A. Kenney wrote in *The Negro in Medicine* (1912: p. 16):

Dr. Stewart is a successful business man. He owns a large amount of real estate in the city from which he collects thousands of dollars annually as rent.

He lives in a well appointed home—a large brick building, which is adorned by a loving wife, and two interesting little children, a boy and a girl.

He believes in the future of the Negro, and that the discriminations and prejudices with which he has to contend are really beneficial, in that they are teaching him self-reliance, racial pride and economy.

Stewart's date of death is unclear. His name is not listed after the 1940–1942 issue of the *Directory of the American Medical Association*, and no obituary is available.



*The Harvard Medical Class of 1888 at Boylston Street. F.A. Stewart is in the center.  
(Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)*





Samuel E. Courtney. (Photo in W. N. Hartshorn's *An Era of Progress and Promise*, 1863–1910, Boston, 1910.)

## SAMUEL E. COURTNEY

*Matriculated 1888*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1894

SAMUEL E. COURTNEY represented the Harvard Medical Alumni Association at the funeral of James Still, and served as one of the pall bearers. At that time, he was 40 years old and a successful practicing physician in Boston.

Courtney had arrived at Harvard Medical School at the age of 33. Born in Malden, West Virginia, in 1855, he had attended public schools there, then entered the Hampton Institute where he received his BS in 1879. He then prepared for the profession of teaching at the State Normal School in Westfield, Massachusetts, and served as a teacher of mathematics at the Tuskegee Institute.

He returned to Boston and matriculated at Harvard Medical School in 1888. Samuel Courtney interned at the Boston City Hospital, and later served as House Physician in the Boston Lying-In Hospital.

Like James Still, Samuel Courtney remained in Boston. The first entry for him in the 1895 *Boston City Directory* lists his home and office address at 98 West Springfield Street. In 1928, while his office is still listed there, his home address had changed to 781 Commonwealth Avenue in Newton Center and remained so until his death. Like Still, also, he was involved in the School Board of the City of Boston, and served two terms of three years each. He had a successful practice with a patient population that included, according to some sources, many whites. He specialized in obstetrics.

In 1896, Courtney married Lilla V. Davis, a well-known educator and the founder and first teacher of the Cotton Valley School, an institution of the American Missionary Association in Fort Davis, Alabama. They frequently entertained Booker T. Washington, Courtney's teacher at Hampton, in their home.

In an 1891 report entitled *Twenty-Two Years' Work of the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute of Hampton, VA*, Courtney would describe his experiences:

Since leaving Hampton in 1879, my life has been quite a busy one. The summer after graduating, I went to Massachusetts and worked a year; paid up my school bills, and returned South and taught five months in Augusta County, VA; having sixty-five pupils in my day-school, and twenty-seven young men and women in my evening-school. At the close of the school term, I returned to Massachusetts. After working

a year, I entered the State Normal School at Westfield, Mass., graduating in 1885. Immediately after graduating, I went to Tuskegee, Alabama, to assist Mr. Washington, in his noble effort to plant a young Hampton in the far South. I spent three very pleasant and profitable years, teaching at Tuskegee. During part of my summer vacations I conducted a State Teachers Institute in Alabama, under the auspices of the State Superintendent.

I very reluctantly resigned my position at Tuskegee to pursue a long cherished desire, a medical course. I entered the Harvard Medical School in September 1888. The professors and students are kind and generous. I like the study of medicine very much.

He then continues with an account of his community activities in Boston:

Though I am not in the South, I find I can be of some service to my people in Boston. After returning home from my church and Sunday-school (Unitarian) in the morning, I teach a class in the afternoon in the colored Baptist Sunday-school.

During my stay in the South, I noticed a gradual improvement of the colored people, in every respect. They are truly on the progressive march.

I hope that every son and daughter of Hampton will heartily co-operate with you in getting up the report of the "Twenty-two years' work of Hampton." The concurrence of all in this effort will corroborate the truth that "*It does pay to educate the Negro.*"

Much like Howard, Freeman, Grant, Still, and Stewart before him, Courtney's medical career would be encased in community and national issues that focused on developing institutions for African-Americans following Emancipation.

Courtney also served as Vice-President, National Medical Association (multiple terms); alternate delegate-at-large from Massachusetts to the Republican National Convention in St. Louis in 1896 and Philadelphia in 1900. He was also a co-founder of the National Negro Business League, which held its first meeting in Boston, August 23–24, 1900. From its inception, he was one of its most prominent spokesmen and a member of the executive committee. He was 86 years old when he died in June 1941 at Boston City Hospital, of carcinoma of the stomach.





*Milton Douglas Brown.*  
(Photo courtesy of the Brown family and available online at [www.afriqueonline.com](http://www.afriqueonline.com).)

## MILTON DOUGLAS BROWN

*Matriculated 1891*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1894

UNLIKE THAT OF Samuel Courtney, Milton Douglas Brown's life was short. He was born on September 24, 1871, in Ruthville, Virginia, to Robert Spencer Brown and Sydney H. Brown (né Brown). His father was a farmer and his mother was a teacher—one of the earliest to teach in Charles City, Virginia, after the ban on black education was lifted following the Civil War. According to the family legend, his maternal great-grandfather was US President John Tyler (1790–1862).

Brown was one of 12 children. His brother Daniel studied at the Boston Latin School and later at the Harvard Dental School and practiced dentistry in Baltimore.

His brother Fitzhugh studied at Morgan College, the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Chicago College of Science, and finally at the University of Illinois Medical School, earning his MD in 1911. He practiced surgery in Baltimore. Charles became a pharmacist. His brother James became a podiatrist.

Milton Brown began his studies at the State College in Petersburg, Virginia, now the Virginia State University, and matriculated at Harvard Medical School in 1891, graduating with the MD degree in 1894. Following graduation he moved to 1324 Calhoun Street, Baltimore, Maryland. In Baltimore, during a life cut short by tuberculosis, he served as Visiting Physician at the Provident Hospital, as Attending Physician in the Industrial Home for Colored Girls, as Attending Physician at the Baptist Orphan Asylum, and as Instructor in Chemistry at Morgan College. Provident Hospital, now Liberty Medical Center in Baltimore, was founded in 1894 and provided medical care to blacks migrating into Northern industrial cities and offered training opportunities to black physicians. The hospital also had a nursing school for black women. The Industrial Home for Colored Girls was one of several reformatories for youth established after the Civil War as private institutions segregated by race and gender. Morgan College, a historically black college, was founded in 1867 as the Centenary Biblical Institute by the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church to train young men for the ministry. It was renamed Morgan College in 1890 in honor of Reverend Lytleton Morgan who had donated the land. Now Morgan State



University in Baltimore, it has served the educational needs of black Marylanders for more than 125 years.

Milton Douglas Brown died on September 21, 1900. He was 29 years old.



## WALTER LEGARE PETERS

*Matriculated 1893*

WITHDREW 1894

WALTER LEGARE PETERS, the son of Andrew and Susan Peters, was born on July 8, 1876, in Bishopville, Sumter, South Carolina. He began his studies at Claflin University, the first historically black college in Orangeburg, South Carolina. In the 1890–1891 *Catalogue of Claflin University College of Agriculture and Mechanics' Institute*, his name appears in the first year of “Normal Classes.” Next to his name, under the column entitled “Trade,” reads: Carpentry, Bricklaying.



*Claflin College, 1897.  
(Photo courtesy of  
Claflin University  
Archives.)*

The next reference to Peters is in the 1896–1897 Claflin University Catalog where he is listed among the class of 1893 “College Classical Preparatory.” Next to his name is the entry “Deceased” but with no indication of the actual date of death. In the catalog of the following year, 1897–1898, the note next to his name reads: “Studied medicine. Deceased.”

The reference to his medical studies comes from a brief notation in the 1900 Catalogue of Howard University College of Medicine where he was enrolled during the 1894–1895 session. The Howard Catalogue also notes that Walter Legare Peters had studied medicine at Harvard Medical School. It is not known how long he stayed there, but it was most likely between 1893 and 1894, before he attended Howard University College of Medicine. He died on October 28, 1895, in Sumter, a few months before his 20th birthday.



## EDWARD JACKSON DAVIS

*Matriculated 1895*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1899

EDWARD JACKSON DAVIS was born in March 1870 in Charleston, South Carolina, to William Pinkney and Sarah A. (Bradford) Davis. He was listed by the US Census of 1880 as a farm laborer. He received his secondary education in South Carolina and his AB from Fisk University in 1895. The same year, he matriculated at Harvard Medical School and graduated with the MD degree with the class of 1899. He was the first recipient on record of the Hayden Scholarship.

One year after graduation Davis was in private practice in St. Louis, Missouri. His name and address first appear in the *City Directory of St. Louis* in 1901, where his address is listed as 4272A North Market Street. In the 1902 and 1903 *Directories*, his address is listed as 2701 Morgan. Until 1903, Davis served as resident physician at Provident Hospital, which had been organized in 1894 as a small private hospital run by black physicians, and for years served as the only place black physicians and surgeons could treat their private patients. In 1898 a nurse’s program for black women was begun, and in 1918 Provident was renamed People’s Hospital. At its height, it was a seventy-five-bed, short-term general hospital. It was closed in 1978.

While in St. Louis, Edward Jackson Davis also served as Inspector of Hy-

giene at the St. Louis Public Schools, and by 1904, was recognized as one of the leading doctors of the city. That year, he was appointed Government Physician to Zuni Indians in the United States Indian Service, Department of Interior, McKinley County, at Zuni, New Mexico. His work at the Zuni Indian Reservation coincided with the heightened efforts of the federal government to establish hospitals and boarding schools in every reservation. He served in that capacity until 1918. In addition, Davis served as Examiner to several insurance companies: the New York Life Insurance Company, the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company, the Western States Life Insurance Company, the Kansas City Life Insurance Company, and the Occidental Life Insurance Company.

Davis married in 1905 and had one child. It appears that he returned to St. Louis and served as Treasurer and member of the staff of the People's Hospital, where he died in January 1943 of a cerebral hemorrhage. He was 72 years old.



*John Willard Thomas.  
(Photo courtesy of  
Harvard University  
Archives.)*

## JOHN WILLARD THOMAS

*Matriculated 1896*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1900

THE FIRST HARVARD MEDICAL STUDENT of African descent to graduate from Harvard College, Thomas was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on December 25, 1871, to William and Augustine (Badeau) Thomas. He studied at the Cambridge Latin School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and entered Harvard College in 1891, graduating with the AB in 1895, in the same class as William Monroe Trotter. In 1896 he matriculated at Harvard Medical School and graduated in June 1900, having received support from the Hayden Scholarship Fund. By summer 1902 he was practicing medicine in New Orleans and reported in his Harvard College Class Report of 1895:

Received MD degree from Harvard in 1900. Have been practicing medicine for the past year. Am not definitely located and so have no surer address than Cambridge.



Three years later he had settled at 1566 Canal Street in New Orleans. He submitted no reports until 1925, when the class secretary of his college class wrote:

A new folder had to be made for Thomas' letter. He had not been heard from for 25 years. "I have no particular report to make," he said, "except that I have a son at Harvard, who is to graduate this year. He prepared for college at Williston Seminary in East Hampton, Mass.

"Since graduating in medicine, I have continued the practice of my profession."

Thomas' statistics did not even give the fact of his marriage. He said nothing further about his son, and so the Secretary was unable to classify him with the other "Harvard Sons."

John Willard Thomas died in New Orleans on June 21, 1956, age 75.

*Harvard College Class  
of 1895, from the  
Album of the Harvard  
College Class of 1895.  
(Courtesy of Harvard  
University Archives.)*



## ARTHUR RICHARD BODEN

*Matriculated September 1899*

WITHDREW SHORTLY AFTER MATRICULATION

REENTERED SEPTEMBER 1900

WITHDREW FEBRUARY 1901

ARTHUR RICHARD BODEN was born on October 8, 1881, in Boston, Massachusetts, to Richard Boden, a hotel waiter, and Caroline Boden. The little information that is available about him indicates that while at Harvard Medical School he lived at 23 Westminster Street in Boston; that he held various jobs before entering Harvard Medical School; that he had studied at English High School from which he graduated in 1899; and that he had spent one year at Tufts College.

Boden matriculated at Harvard Medical School in 1899, but according to a note on his record he “dropped out shortly after matriculating,” during the 1899–1900 academic year. He then reentered HMS in 1900 and stayed until February 1, 1901, when he withdrew and did not return. He had received support from the Hayden Scholarship Fund. It appears that he did not pursue the MD degree elsewhere in the United States, since his name does not appear in the *American Medical Directory*.



## THOMAS HASBROUCK THOMAS

*Matriculant 1899 through June 1904*

“FAILED TO RECEIVE DEGREE BECAUSE OF NON-PAYMENT OF DUES”

THOMAS WAS BORN in Utica, New York, in 1873, to William H. Thomas, a clergyman originally from Maryland, and Christiana Thomas of New York. He attended Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, established in 1854 for the education of African-American youth, and graduated in 1894. A year later, he was in Washington, D.C., and remained there until 1898, attending the Howard University College of Medicine from 1895 to 1898, although there is no mention that he graduated from there with the MD degree.

He next appears as a matriculant in the 1899 *Catalogue* of Harvard Medical School. His record shows that he lived at 166 Cherry Street in Cambridge,

and was granted permission to take entrance examinations in the following June. According to his records, he had completed all his requirements by 1904, but did not receive the MD degree. Two brief notations explain the reason. One states that Thomas “did not apply for degree to which he is entitled.” According to the catalogue for this period “candidates for the degree must make application for it in writing, on blanks furnished at the Dean’s Office, on or before May 31 of the year in which they propose to graduate.” Thomas evidently had not applied. The other note explains the failure to apply and is dated June 1903: “Failed to receive degree because of non-payment of dues.” He had been a recipient of the Hayden Scholarship.

No additional information about his career has been available, and there is no indication that he pursued the MD degree elsewhere in the United States.



## MARCUS LEONARD BARKER

*Matriculated September 1902*

WITHDREW JANUARY 1904

INFORMATION IS EQUALLY SCANT for Marcus Leonard Barker. According to his school records, Barker was born in 1876 in Bridgetown, Barbados. Before matriculating at HMS he was a school teacher who had received the AB degree from the University of Durham in England in 1897. The University of Durham had, since 1875, been affiliated with Codrington College in Barbados, and it is possible that Barker had begun his studies at Codrington College. He was 26 at the time of his matriculation at Harvard Medical School, and both his parents were deceased. While at the School he received support from the Hayden Scholarship Fund and lived at 35 Holyoke Street in Boston.

A brief notation in his records at Harvard Medical School indicates that he withdrew on January 4, 1904. It appears he did not pursue the MD degree elsewhere in the United States.



## JAMES GUINNE TRIMBLE

*Matriculated 1902*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1906

JAMES GUINNE TRIMBLE was born in Nashville, Tennessee, on October 16, 1880, to James Guinne Trimble Sr., a farmer, and J. Guinne Trimble. He graduated from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, with the AB degree in 1902, and matriculated at Harvard Medical School in September of that year.

His records indicate that he graduated with the MD degree in 1906, in the last class to do so from the Boylston Street location. He settled in Brooklyn, New York, in the same year, where he lived and practiced until his death in 1970, at the age of 90.



*James Guinne Trimble. (Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)*

## AUGUSTUS RILEY

*Matriculated 1903*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1907

AUGUSTUS RILEY\* WAS BORN on November 17, 1878, in Riley, Alabama, the son of Thomas Mercer Riley and Sarah (McCreary) Riley. He attended Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, and later Oberlin College, where he received his AB degree in 1903.

The same year he matriculated at Harvard Medical School, and graduated in June 1907. He trained in Boston, first at the Long Island Hospital in Boston (1907–1908) for one year, followed by one year at the Massachusetts General Hospital (1908–1909).

Augustus Riley had a distinguished career in genitourinary (GU) surgery in Boston. According to his records at Harvard Medical School and at Oberlin College, his academic positions included Teaching Fellow in Surgery, Harvard Medical School, 1911–1912; Assistant in Surgery, Harvard Medical School, 1918–1919; Assistant in Anatomy, Harvard Medical School, 1918–1919; Assistant in GU Surgery, 1920–1925; Instructor, GU Surgery, Harvard Medical School, 1925–1926, and Assistant Professor, GU Surgery, Harvard



*Augustus Riley. (Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)*

Medical School, 1926–1943. In addition to his teaching service at Harvard Medical School, he also held appointments at Tufts and at Boston University Medical Schools. His hospital appointments included Assistant Visiting Surgeon, Boston City Hospital; Associated-Chief, GU Department, Boston Dispensary, and Chief of GU Department, Boston City Hospital, until 1943. That year he resigned from his position at Harvard Medical School and his staff position at Boston City Hospital to become Professor of Urology and Dean of Middlesex Medical School, in Waltham, Massachusetts. Middlesex Medical School opened its doors in 1919 and closed in 1946.

Among his memberships in medical societies were: the Massachusetts Medical Society; the American Medical Association; the Boston Surgical Society; the American College of Surgeons; the American Urological Society; and the New England Urological Society.

In 1957 Riley was a consultant at Boston City Hospital, the Boston Dispensary, and Mount Auburn Hospital. By then, he had authored many studies on urological surgery. He died at Vuley Nursing Home at 1842 Beacon Street in Brookline, Massachusetts, on May 17, 1966.

\* Records at Harvard Medical School make no reference to Dr. Riley's ethnicity or race. However, the archival records of Oberlin College and the online listing of *Negro Graduates of Oberlin College, 1844–1972* (<http://www.oberlin.edu/archive/holdings/finding/RG5/SG4/S3/graduates.html>), suggest that he was of African descent.



## LEO EDWARD WELKER

*Matriculated February 1903*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1908 (FEBRUARY)

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION FOR Leo E. Welker has been difficult to locate. Welker's Harvard Medical School records indicate that he was born in 1881 in Cambridge, Illinois, had received the PhD in Pharmacology from Iowa College in 1903, and that his mother's name was W. B. Battle. He grad-



uated in February 1908 having been the recipient of the Hayden Scholarship for two years. His last known address was 603 E. Philadelphia Avenue in Detroit. His name disappears from the *American Medical Directory* after 1936.



## EDWARD DUNN BROWN

*Matriculated 1904*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1908

EDWARD DUNN BROWN was born in Newbury, North Carolina, on May 27, 1875, to John Brown, a barber, and Caroline (Collier) Brown. He seems to have moved to Chicago, since he lists Chicago as his home address while at Harvard Medical School. He received the AB degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1899. According to the University of Pennsylvania records, he was admitted to the junior class for the 1896–1897 academic year as a special student with advanced standing. For reasons unknown, at the end of his senior year the Academic Council decided in June 1898 that he should be allowed to retake several examinations “in view of the peculiar difficulties” he had encountered. There is no explanation as to what those circumstances were, but the Council stated that if he did pass the examinations he would receive his degree at the 1899 commencement. The examinations were set for October 1898 and Brown received his degree in 1899.

After spending two years in medical studies at the University of Pennsylvania, he matriculated at Harvard Medical School in 1904 and was awarded the Hayden Scholarship. In 1905, Dean William Richardson explained to him that, as a black student, he would need to arrange for referrals from the African-American physicians in Boston and Cambridge for his obstetrical experience. Dunn had acknowledged that Harvard Medical School could not force patients to accept an unwelcome student, but petitioned the dean “to put it up to the patients and leave me to face whatever difficulty might arise.” It is not clear whether his petition was accepted.

Edward Dunn Brown graduated in June, 1908, but he died five years later, in 1913, at the age of 38.



## GEORGE WILLIAM STANLEY ISH

*Matriculated 1905*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1909

GEORGE W. S. ISH was the first Harvard Medical student of African descent to graduate from the Longwood Quadrangle. He was born on October 28, 1883, in Little Rock, Arkansas, to Jefferson G. and Marietta (Kidd) Ish. His father, born a slave, later tutored slave children at Maryville College in Tennessee.



*George William Stanley Ish. (Photo in History of the Class of 1905, Yale College, Vol. I, Murray Sargent, ed., Yale University, 1905.)*

Ish graduated with the BA from Talladega College, in Talladega, Alabama, in 1903. He then received a second BA from Yale University in 1905, where he also spent a year in the medical department. When he arrived at Harvard his intention was to study engineering. But his advisor encouraged him to take up medicine instead. He matriculated at Harvard Medical School in 1905 and graduated in 1909, having been the recipient of the Hayden Scholarship for one year.

In addition to a full life as a general practitioner in Little Rock, Ish served as the Medical Director and Chief of Surgical Staff at the United Friends of America Hospital in Little Rock. He was a member of the staff of St. Vincent Infirmary and the Arkansas Baptist Medical Center; served as School Physician and Instructor in Health Education at Philander Smith College from 1934 to 1965; and was a member of the State Board of McCrae Tuberculosis Sanatorium from the time it was opened to when it closed. Through Ish's efforts, McCrae became the first institution in Arkansas and one of the first in the nation to use isoniazid and streptomycin in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis. He was Medical Examiner for the Selective Service System during World War II, a charter member of the Urban League, and a member of the

Board of Directors of Dunbar Recreational Center. His other memberships included the Arkansas Colored Medical Association, where he also served as Secretary for 25 years; General Practitioners Branch of Pulaski County Medical Society, where he also served as President; the National Medical Association; the American Medical Association; and the John A. Andrew Clinical Society at Tuskegee, Alabama. His office address was 210 Century Building, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Ish was married twice and had four children. His brother, Jefferson, was also a graduate of Yale College, continued his education at Columbia Uni-

versity, and later became Professor of Mathematics at the Lincoln Institute, Jefferson City, Missouri.

George William Stanley Ish died on March 15, 1970, at the age of 87, in the house his father had built in 1880. He had lived there all his life. A few years before his death, the June 9, 1968, issue of the *Arkansas Democrat Sunday Magazine* ran a long and detailed article on the historic house, describing the architecture, the many heirlooms within—and Dr. Ish:

Dr. Ish is a portly, genial man, 84 years old and still practicing. He consented reluctantly to the interview...declaring that he is “just an average doctor who has led an average life.”...But just the bare facts of his life belie his modest statement emphatically.... The doctor has seen many changes during his long life. He mentioned that he saw segregation aboard trains both come in and go out, and he listed among random experiences once having to transact business in a saloon because he was not allowed in the hotel where the other man, who was white, was staying. His life has had its high points and low points, but whatever his

*Harvard Medical Class of 1909 on the steps of Building A (now the Gordon Hall of Medicine) on Longwood Avenue. (Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)*



own emotion, he is known for having kept that to himself and being doctor, leader, friend, and, above all, sympathetic listener to scores of other persons.

The gaunt old Ish house stands as a monument to a remarkable pioneer family of Little Rock and to the present family head and lifelong occupant of the home. Last month Dr. and Mrs. Ish received their most recent recognition when they were honored as Family of the Year at the annual meeting of the Urban League of Greater Little Rock.



*Clarence Hudson Richardson.*  
(Photo in *Who's Who in Colored America, 1928–1929*, Joseph J. Boris, ed., New York, 1929, 2nd edition.)

## CLARENCE HUDSON RICHARDSON

*Matriculated 1906*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1912

CLARENCE HUDSON RICHARDSON was born in 1879 in Philadelphia to Thomas Richardson, a barber from Lowell, Massachusetts, and Fannie E. (Wood) Richardson, originally from Bordentown, New Jersey.

He attended preparatory school in Philadelphia, matriculating at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania in 1897 and graduating with the AB degree in 1901. Upon graduating from Lincoln he attended the University of Pennsylvania for two years, and, according to his records at Harvard Medical School, he worked for a while as a bellman before matriculating at Harvard Medical School on September 27, 1906.

He graduated with the MD degree in 1912 and began practice in Brooklyn, New York, in 1913. His addresses were listed as 56 Putnam Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, and 626 Herkimer Street, Brooklyn, New York. While in New York, he also served as a member of the Board of Health of Brooklyn.

Clarence H. Richardson died in Brooklyn in November 1931, of lobar pneumonia. He was 53 years old.



## GILBERT HENRY THOMAS

*Matriculated 1906*

WITHDREW FEBRUARY 1907

THE HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL records for Gilbert Henry Thomas indicate that he was born in Port of Spain, Trinidad, on January 2, 1882, to Jules Thomas, that he graduated from the Medical Board of Trinidad in 1900, and that he had worked as a “druggist” before matriculating at the School. He entered Harvard Medical School in 1906 and withdrew in February 1907. His name reappears for the last time in the summer session of 1908–1909, as a summer student.

After leaving Harvard Medical School, Gilbert Henry Thomas completed his medical education at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Boston, graduating in 1912. Founded in the mid-1880s, the College closed its doors in 1946.

According to the *American Medical Directory*, by 1914 Thomas was practicing medicine in New Gatun, Canal Zone. The *Directory* listings for Thomas stop after 1916, possibly owing to his death.



## RICHARD BIRNIE

*Matriculated 1907*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1911

BORN ON MAY 30, 1881, in Charleston, South Carolina, to Richard and Anna (Frost) Birnie, Richard Birnie prepared for college at Mt. Hermon High School at Mt. Hermon, Massachusetts. He attended Harvard College and received his BS in 1907. That September he matriculated at Harvard Medical School, graduating in 1911 with the MD degree.

Some details about his life come from his reports to his Harvard College Class and his medical class. In 1916, he reported to his Harvard College Class:

Immediately after graduation I entered upon the practice of medicine in Sumter, South Carolina, as an assistant to my brother. The practice was large and as it was in a rural community the opportunities for



gaining experience were great. I am now engaged in general practice in Brooklyn, New York. I enjoy my professional work and believe that in the face of great competition such as is found here a physician can live up to his ideals.

Six years later, in 1922, he would add in his report to his Harvard College Class:

After receiving my College degree, I entered Harvard Medical School, where I spent the usual busy four years . . . I have been engaged in general practice in Brooklyn, N.Y. I have not time at all for myself. I carry great responsibilities, but I am very happy.

At that time, his address was listed as 646 Herkimer Street, Brooklyn, New York, the same as that of Clarence H. Richardson. In 1942 he wrote a short update of his career in his 35th report to his College Class:



There is very little that is new to report. For the past thirty years I have been practicing medicine in Brooklyn, N.Y. That is a long time; however, I am still able to climb five flights when necessary. It must be admitted that the climbing is somewhat halting, but I reach the top. Whenever it is possible, I get away from this intense city. I fortunately made a never-to-be-forgotten trip to Europe before the wreckage. My family and friends, as well as I myself, enjoy reading the Class Reports so much that I feel it is only fair for me to break my long silence and contribute.

During the war years, he wrote in his 40th Report to his Harvard College Class, he worked "much harder than I had wished, due to the shortage of physicians. I consider this my greatest war effort. In addition I did the usual teaching of first aid for the Red Cross."

In 1961, in his 50th Reunion Report to his medical class, he wrote:

I live and have lived near a low economic group. I hope I have done as much for these people as I had planned.

He died in New York, on November 5, 1968, of a coronary occlusion. He was 87 years old.

*Richard Birnie. (Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)*

# ALEXANDER BISMARCK TERRELL

*Matriculated in 1907*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1910

ALEXANDER BISMARCK TERRELL was born at Ft. Worth, Texas, on December 18, 1885, to Isaiah M. and Marcelite (Landry) Terrell. His father, a school teacher in Texas beginning in 1882, later became the Principal at a Fort Worth High School and Supervisor of the “colored schools” in Fort Worth.

His mother was supervisor of music in a public school in Fort Worth. His older brother, Wendell Phillips, received his SB from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1906.

Alexander Bismarck Terrell was educated in the public schools at Fort Worth. In 1907 he received his BS from the University of Chicago and spent one year at Rush Medical College before matriculating at Harvard Medical School in September 1907. He graduated in 1910 with the MD degree. During his career, he would practice in Fort Worth, Texas, from 1912 to 1918; in Denver, Colorado, in 1918; and then in Chicago, from 1923 until the 1950s.

In 1950, he wrote in his 40th Harvard Medical Reunion Report that he was in general practice in Chicago and was Attending Physician at Provident Hospital in Chicago. He also reported that he had done an eighteen-month fellowship at the Chest Department of the University of Chicago and Billings Hospital, and had been a Fellow of the National Medical Association and of the American Medical Association. In World War I, he wrote, he had volunteered but not been accepted; and that his only son had died at the age of 19 of a rheumatic heart. He also reported that he was still in active practice, but confining his work to internal medicine.

He died in San Diego, California, on December 4, 1953, of prostate cancer. He was 71 years old.



*Alexander Bismarck Terrell.  
(Photo courtesy of the Harvard  
Medical Library in the Francis A.  
Countway Library of Medicine.)*



## WILLIAM LEVI DAWSON

*Matriculated September 1909*

WITHDREW NOVEMBER 1909

WILLIAM LEVI DAWSON was born in Albany, Georgia, on April 26, 1886, to Levi Dawson, a barber, and Rebecca (Kendrick) Dawson. He received his AB *magna cum laude* from Fisk University in 1909 and matriculated at Harvard Medical School in September of the same year.



*William Levi Dawson.  
(Photo in Black Americans  
in Congress, 1870–1989,  
by Bruce A. Ragsdale  
and Joel D. Treese, 1990.  
Office of the Historian, US  
House of Representatives,  
Raymond W. Smock,  
Historian and Director.)*

He withdrew from Harvard Medical School two months later on November 1, 1909. After leaving Harvard Medical School, Dawson studied law, first at the Kent College of Law and later at Northwestern Law School, and was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1920. He began to practice law in Chicago, where he also emerged as a prominent political figure. In 1942 he was elected to Congress from Chicago's First Congressional District. When Dawson took his seat in 1943, he was the only African-American member of the House of Representatives.

As a member of Congress, he called for an end to discrimination. In 1948 Dawson was selected to chair the Negro Division of the Democratic National Committee.

Based on seniority, he gained the chair of the House Committee on Governmental Operations (later renamed Government Operations) in 1949, becoming the first African-American chairman of a congressional committee.

Dawson served in the US Congress for 27 years, longer than any African-American to that point. He died in Chicago, on November 9, 1970. He was 84 years old.





## WILLIAM AUGUSTUS HINTON

*Matriculated 1909*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1912

*Cum laude*

WILLIAM A. HINTON was born in Chicago, Illinois, on December 15, 1883, to Augustus Hinton, a former slave and later a farmer and railroad porter, and Maria Hinton, also a former slave. He was the youngest student ever to graduate from his high school in Kansas. He studied for two years at the University of Kansas (1900–1902) and entered Harvard College in 1902. He received his BS degree in 1905.

Due to financial difficulties, he did not begin medical studies for four years. During those years he taught at Walden University in Nashville, at the Agricultural and Mechanical College in Langston, Oklahoma, and at Meharry Medical College, continuing his own education during the summers at the University of Chicago. While at Langston, he met a schoolteacher, Ada Hawes, whom he married in 1909. They had two daughters.

In 1909, he entered Harvard Medical School and completed his degree in three years. While he was awarded the Hayden Scholarship reserved for African-American students, he chose to compete with the entire student body and won the prestigious Wigglesworth Scholarship. That and a part-time job in the Harvard laboratories of Richard C. Cabot and Elmer E. Southard allowed him to attend medical school and support his family.

Following graduation he wanted specialty training in surgery, but was denied the opportunity by Boston area hospitals. He turned, instead, to the laboratory aspect of medicine. In 1912 he began working part time as a volunteer assistant in the Department of Pathology of the Massachusetts General Hospital, and for three years he performed autopsies on all persons known or suspected to have syphilis.

His first job after medical school involved teaching serological techniques at the Wassermann Laboratory, the Massachusetts State Laboratory for communicable diseases then based at the HMS complex. The Wassermann Laboratory had been named after August von Wassermann, who devised the first blood serum test for the detection of syphilis in 1906. Impressed by Hinton's knowledge of syphilis, Southard arranged for him to teach its laboratory diagnostic techniques to Harvard Medical students. Within two years of his medical school graduation, Hinton had published his first scientific



*William Augustus Hinton.  
(Photo courtesy of the  
Harvard Medical Library  
in the Francis A. Countway  
Library of Medicine.)*

paper on the serology of syphilis in Milton J. Rosenau's *Textbook of Preventive Medicine*.

In 1915, the Wassermann Laboratory was transferred from Harvard to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and Hinton was appointed Assistant Director of the Division of Biologic Laboratories and Chief of the Wassermann Laboratory. He served as Chief for 38 years. In the same year, in 1915, he was appointed Director of the laboratory department of the Boston Dispensary. While there, he established one of the first schools for training medical technicians in the United States. In a twenty-year period, 432 students would graduate, all of whom were employed by hospitals and laboratories across the country.

Hinton's teaching service at HMS began as Instructor in Preventive Medicine and Hygiene in 1918; in 1921, his responsibilities expanded to include Bacteriology and Immunology. Twenty five years later, in 1946, he was appointed Instructor in Bacteriology and Immunology. He was promoted to the rank of Clinical Professor in 1949. He was to be the first African-American to hold the rank of Professor at Harvard University in its 313 years—but only gained promotion one year before his retirement in 1950. He also taught at Simmons College, Tufts College School of Medicine and Dentistry, and the Harvard School of Public Health, and was a consultant to the US Public Health Service and at the Massachusetts School for Crippled Children.

He developed the "Hinton Test," used in the diagnosis of syphilis. In 1934 the US Public Health Service reported that the Hinton Test was the most effective test for the disease, using sensitivity and specificity as evaluative standards. Dr. Hugh Cumming, former Surgeon General of the US, referred to Hinton's work in an article in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* in June 8, 1935: "The Department suggests that physicians accept the Hinton Test as one of the most specific tests available" because it detected "syphilis as well as, if not more frequently than, any other test in use." In 1936 Hinton's textbook, the first by an African-American, entitled *Syphilis and Its Treatment*, was published by the Macmillan Company.

In 1948, he was elected a life member of the American Social Science Association in recognition of his achievements as a distinguished scientist, leading serologist, and public health bacteriologist. Hinton was a frequent lecturer to the constituent societies of the National Medical Association. In 1938 he had declined the Spingarn Medal, a gold medal awarded each year by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to individuals with the highest achievement during the year.

In February 1940, while changing a tire on the highway, he was hit by a car, resulting in the eventual amputation of his leg. He regained most of his general health, but the pain continued all his life.



On September 15, 1952, the *Boston Daily Globe* wrote:

It is 40 years since Dr. William Hinton was graduated from Harvard Medical School and began a career which brought him renown in the field of social diseases throughout the world. Retired on June 30 at 68 years of age from the position he has held for 38 years as chief of the department of clinical laboratories at the Boston Dispensary, Dr. Hinton will continue as consultant and as director of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Institute of Laboratories. He still teaches at Harvard Medical School, too, though salaries there cease at the retirement age of 65.

*Harvard Medical Class of 1912. Hinton is in the top row, right. (Courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)*

Hinton died of diabetes on August 8, 1959, in Canton, Massachusetts. Near the end of his life, he willed his \$75,000 in savings to be put into a special scholarship fund for Harvard graduate students. The fund was a memorial to his parents,

who, although born in slavery and without formal education, nevertheless recognized and practiced not only the highest ideals in their personal conduct, but also the true democratic principle of equal opportunity for all, without regard to racial or religious origin or to economic or political status.

He named the fund the Dwight D. Eisenhower Scholarship Fund to honor the president whom he felt had made great strides in providing equal opportunity employment during his administration. When referring to the scholarship in his book entitled *Mandate for Change*, President Eisenhower wrote:

I could not recall having been given a personal distinction that had touched me more deeply.

In 1974, 15 years after Hinton's death, when the new State Laboratory Institute Building of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in Boston was dedicated, it was named the William A. Hinton Serology Laboratory.



## CLYDE HENRY DONNELL

*Matriculated 1911*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1915

CLYDE HENRY DONNELL was born on August 4, 1890, in Greensboro, North Carolina, to Smith and Lula (Ingold) Donnell. His father, born a slave, became one of the largest holders of real estate among African-Americans in North Carolina. His mother had never been in bondage.

He attended the public schools in Greensboro for African-Americans and the high school operated by the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University.

In 1911 Donnell earned his AB degree at Howard University in Washington, D.C. The same year he matriculated at Harvard Medical School, and earned his MD degree in 1915. While at Harvard Medical School he studied under

Milton J. Rosenau, world-renowned scientist in preventive medicine and the founder of the world's first School of Public Health, at Harvard, in 1909.

Donnell was third in examinations for house officers at the Boston City Hospital but was offered no internship. He was urged to fight the case but decided against it. Dr. Richard C. Cabot, however, arranged for Donnell to work as Junior House Officer at Boston City Hospital under the auspices of the Harvard Graduate School for one year, 1915–1916. During that time he rotated as a fellow and observer at Boston City Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital, and the Children's Hospital.

He had earlier been interested in pediatrics and was offered a position at Boston Children's Hospital. But he declined the offer and returned to North Carolina in 1916, where he entered general practice. Between 1918 and 1932, he returned to Harvard Medical School for postgraduate work in internal medicine, roentgenology, physical therapy, X-ray, and physiotherapy. His career was dedicated to African-American health education.

In 1923, Clyde Donnell became the Medical Director of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, the largest African-American owned financial institution in the country. He hired black physicians to replace white physicians to conduct field examinations of prospective policyholders, and helped black physicians build their clinical practices. He was deeply committed to continuing medical education for African-American physicians, and was the founder of the Durham Academy of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Dentistry in 1918. He was also an active member of the National Medical Association and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Durham's Lincoln Hospital, a 150-bed African-American facility. Donnell pioneered in the study of the causes of mortality and morbidity in the black population, and worked to improve medical knowledge of black physicians by encouraging attendance at, and sponsoring, medical meetings and postgraduate seminars and clinics.

During his 43 years in practice in the Durham area, his career bridged the period from rigid segregation to the era of transition. Always progressive in outlook and adaptable to changing times, he was an intensely loyal member of the National Medical Association. At the time of his 45th medical class reunion in 1960, he listed his achievements in this way:



*Clyde Henry Donnell.  
(Photo courtesy of  
the Harvard Medical  
Library in the Francis  
A. Countway Library  
of Medicine.)*

Current Status: President and Chairman of the Board, Lincoln Hospital. (Lincoln Hospital is an affiliate of Duke University, and University of North Carolina); Senior Vice-President and Medical Director of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company; Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Mechanic and Farmers Bank; Vice-President of the Mutual Savings and Loan Association; Founder and Treasurer of the Durham Academy of Medicine.

Retired: from Senior Vice-President and Medical Director of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company January 1, 1960. I will remain a Director of the Company.

Biography: Since 1915: Formerly, Secretary and Treasurer of the Old North State Medical Society (32 years); ex-general secretary and business manager of the Journal of the National Medical Association, 1924–1928. Named ‘Doctor of the Year’ by the Old North State Medical Society in 1953. I am a member of St. Joseph’s Methodist Church. Affiliated with the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and have been since 1909; John Avery Boys’ Club; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Interracial Commission; National Negro Business League; Durham Business and Professional Chain; Durham Committee on Negro Affairs; Member of the North Carolina Harvard Club.

He was still active at the time of his 50th reunion in 1965:

Present Work: President and Chairman of Board of Lincoln Hospital. Chairman of Board of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, the largest financial institution among Negroes, business in force around a half a million dollars and assets around ninety million dollars. Our six million dollar 12-story new Home Office Building will be completed by May, 1965.

Societies: National Medical Association (formerly Secretary and Treasurer, Business Manager of the Journal); Old North State Medical Society, Secretary-Treasurer for 32 years; Durham Academy of Medicine, Founder.

Non-Medical Activities: Chairman of the Board of Mechanics and Farmers Bank; Vice President and one of the Founders of Mutual Savings and Loan Association; John Avery’s Boys Club; Durham Committee on Negro Affairs; Member of NAACP; Traveling –for the past eight years, my wife and I have spent the winter months traveling in the West Indies and South America.

Clyde Donnell died on October 10, 1971, in Durham, North Carolina. He was 81 years old.





# LOUIS TOMPKINS WRIGHT

*Matriculated 1911*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1915

*Cum laude*

LOUIS TOMPKINS WRIGHT, born on July 23, 1891, in La Grange, Georgia, was the second African-American to enter the class of 1915. His father, Dr. Ceah Ketcham Wright, was a prominent physician who eventually left medicine to become a clergyman. He died when Louis Wright was only four years old. His mother, Lula Tompkins Wright, later remarried another physician, Dr. William Fletcher Penn, Yale University's first black medical graduate.

Louis Tompkins Wright graduated from Clark University in Atlanta in 1911, as class valedictorian. Having grown up in the South, he had frequently observed blacks in chain gangs and witnessed race riots. During the famous 1907 riot in Atlanta when he was 15 years old, he stood guard at a front window in their house holding a loaded Winchester rifle with instructions from his stepfather to shoot to kill any man attempting to enter. While at Clark, he and a group of students had discovered the corpse of a black man tied to a tree in the dense woods adjoining the university, an obvious case of lynching. As with most lynching cases, it was not followed by any police action.

His stepfather encouraged him to apply to Harvard Medical School. When he presented himself as an applicant, Dr. Channing Frothingham, his interviewer, soon realized that the Clark University on Wright's academic record was not Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, but the one in Atlanta. Wright was referred to Dr. Otto Folin, who thought it even more bizarre that a man from 'one of these funny schools' should even try to enter Harvard without having taken his chemical examination. But at the end of this interview, which grew quite heated, Dr. Folin said, "Mr. Wright, have you any sporting blood in your veins?" The answer was "Yes." Otto Folin rang for his secretary and said, "Mr. Wright has had adequate chemistry for admission to this school."

In April of his fourth year, Wright had stayed out of school for three weeks to demonstrate against the showing of *The Birth of a Nation*, which aired in a Boston theater that month. This was the D.W. Griffith epic production originally named *The Clansman*, and glorified the role of the Ku Klux Klan. His teacher, Dr. Richard Cabot, supported his efforts. Two months later, in June 1915, Wright graduated with the MD degree, having received the Hayden scholarship

*Louis Tompkins Wright.  
(Photo courtesy of  
the Harvard Medical  
Library in the Francis  
A. Countway Library  
of Medicine.)*



for four years. He had ranked fourth in his class and graduated *cum laude*. Nevertheless, he was told to march at the tail end of the procession rather than in his rightful place near its head. He was tempted to boycott the proceedings but was dissuaded by his parents.

His application for internship was turned down at the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Boston City Hospital, and the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital. In the end, he accepted a post at the segregated Freedmen's Hospital in Washington, D.C. While there, an article on diphtheria focusing on the Schick test, a diagnostic injection that would produce skin inflammation and redness in patients lacking immunity to the disease, caught his attention. He questioned the authors' conclusion that this test could not be used for blacks because of their heavy skin pigmentation. Wright felt it was vitally important to know whether the Schick test could help halt diphtheria's rapid spread through the overcrowded ghettos occupied by the hospital's black patients. He set up a medical experiment to find out. The resulting paper, "The Schick Test with Especial Reference to the Negro," appeared in the *Journal of Infectious Disease* in 1917 and established him as the author of the first scientific publication from Freedmen's Hospital. This was not his first scholarly publication. His first paper, entitled "The Effect of Alcohol on the Rate of Discharge from the Stomach" had appeared in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, in 1916, a year following his graduation.

At the end of his internship in 1916, Wright took the licensing exam in three states and obtained outstanding scores, some of which were unprecedented. In Maryland, he received 94 percent, the highest mark of all who took the examination; in Georgia, he received 95.7 percent, the highest marks made by any one that year and one of the highest marks ever made in the state. In New York, where the stiffest examination in the country was given, he scored 92.37 percent.

Following training he returned to Atlanta to enter practice with his stepfather but stayed only one year, having experienced difficulty relating to a group of black physicians mainly from Meharry Medical School, who, according to Wright, did not want anything to do with black graduates from Northern medical schools. In 1917, during World War I, he was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the US Army Medical Corps and left for France with the 367th Infantry Regiment of the 92nd Division. While in France, he was assaulted with a German weapon called phosgene gas that permanently damaged his lungs. His colonel, who vowed before leaving the United States never to recommend him for promotion, told him at the front in France, "I sent you up here to get shot. You didn't, therefore, I am transferring you back to a hospital because you're the best doctor in the Division." He was then sent to Field Hospital 366, a triage hospital, and was in charge of the surgical



wards until the war ended. Following the end of the war, he was discharged as a Captain and received the purple heart.

In 1919, he settled in New York City and opened an office for the general practice of surgery on Seventh Avenue in Harlem and was appointed Assistant Physician in the Health Department Venereal Disease Clinic in Harlem. The same year he accepted a position as Clinical Assistant Visiting Surgeon at Harlem Hospital in New York, which at that time was being charged with gross inefficiency and racial prejudice. At Wright's appointment, four physicians refused to serve with a black. One surgeon was reported to have remarked that he "would not operate in the presence of a nigger or a woman," after which he pulled his gloves off and walked out of the operating room. The fight to integrate and improve Harlem Hospital continued throughout the 1930s and well into the 1940s. By the middle of the '40s the house and visiting staff leveled off at about one-half black and one-half white. Wright was made Surgical Director. However, in announcing this appointment, the Commissioner of Hospitals, Dr. Goldwater, made it clear that it would be for one year only, despite the practice of continuing such appointments indefinitely. Wright was dropped at the end of one year and replaced by a white physician. Four years later he became Director of the Department of Surgery and held that position until his death.

Beyond a fundamental reorganization of Harlem Hospital, Wright directed his attention to the black professional organization called the North Harlem Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical Society, which, he felt, was not working hard enough against segregation. He broke away in 1930 to head the newly formed Manhattan Central Medical Society. The first item on the Society's agenda was opposition to a new segregated hospital to be funded by philanthropist Julius Rosenwald, whose generosity had in recent years provided grants for black schools, artists, and writers. Now, unintentionally feeding into the prejudice of the times, the foundation wished to establish all-black medical schools, hospitals, and health programs. Wright believed that a segregated medical system could only lead to unfair training standards for doctors and nurses, would hamper patients in their search for appropriate medical care, and would contribute to further segregation in the community at large. A biting letter of opposition was sent to the president of the Rosenwald Foundation, and a pamphlet titled "*Equal Opportunity—No More, No Less*" was circulated in 1931. The project was stopped.

In 1934, he took over the chairmanship of the NAACP's Board of Directors, which he occupied until his death 17 years later. Despite his responsibilities, he researched and published on many topics, most noteworthy being a number of papers on bone surgery, including one on head injuries



*First Lady of the United States Eleanor Roosevelt and Dr. Louis Tompkins Wright at a dinner honoring Dr. Wright's founding of a library at Harlem Hospital. (Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Alumni Bulletin.)*

written specially for the 11th edition of a textbook entitled *The Treatment of Fractures*. In the same year he was elected Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. Several voting members staged a walkout in protest and some threatened to rescind their own fellowships. He received the Spingarn medal in 1940 "for his contributions to the healing of mankind and for his courageous and uncompromising position held often in the face of bitter attack, that black men of medicine should measure up to the highest standards of technical excellence and, as a corollary, that having done so, Negro medical men and nurses should be accorded every opportunity to serve, without discrimination on account of race or color."

In 1947 he established the *Harlem Hospital Bulletin* quarterly, which served as a vehicle for publishing many aspects of the rich clinical and investigative work performed during this period at Harlem Hospital. A year later, in 1948, he entered the field of cancer research. Grants from the National Cancer Institute and the Damon Runyon Fund allowed him to establish the Harlem Hospital Cancer Research Foundation. Wright and his researchers, including his daughter, Jane Cooke Wright, pioneered the use of chemotherapy to destroy cancerous cells. He published 15 papers detailing his investigations with drugs and hormones in treating cancer. A feature article in *Life* magazine two years later described him as a world authority on the treatment of *lymphogranuloma venereum* and *granuloma inguinale*.

In 1952, the year of his death, he was honored with the inauguration of a new library named after him at Harlem Hospital. More than 1,000 guests were present at the dinner held at the Hotel Statler, to hear him praised by former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. Among the guests were Governor Thomas E. Dewey, Mayor Vincent R. Impellitteri, and George Packer Berry, Dean of Harvard Medical School. Wright was introduced by Eleanor Roosevelt, who paid tribute to his gallantry in the fight against bigotry and discrimination:

As a citizen of the United States, I am grateful that he is here to be honored and that we are here to honor him.

Her speech was broadcast live on radio. The Harvard Medical Alumni Bulletin also paid tribute to his achievements and dedicated two pages to the event in New York. The article highlighting the event read:

The Medical School has played an effective role in starting one of its sons on a career leading to social and medical benefits for our whole society ...

And it concluded:

We salute this most distinguished member of the Class of 1915, the leading physician of his race in America, and bolster our faith both in man and in our medical School.

Throughout his career Wright attacked racial prejudice and discrimination in medicine, protested the inadequate medical care being received by black veterans, pressed a dozen investigations into discriminatory medical training and care, and held the American Medical Association accountable for inequalities in medical care for blacks across the country. He died of a heart attack in New York, on October 8, 1952.



*Benoni Price Hurst. (Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)*

## BENONI PRICE HURST

*Matriculated 1912*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1916

*Cum laude*

BENONI PRICE HURST was born on August 3, 1891, in Baltimore, Maryland, to Bishop John and Katherine (Thompson) Hurst. His mother was a native of Abbeville, South Carolina, and his father, a highly respected Bishop of the African Methodist Church, was from Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Hurst attended the Colored High and Trading School in Baltimore and Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts, where he earned his AB degree in 1912. That September, he matriculated at Harvard Medical School and graduated *cum laude* in June 1916.

He moved to Washington, D.C., where he was Instructor in Roentgenology at Howard University College of Medicine until 1935, and



served as Roentgenologist at Freedmen's Hospital from 1918 to 1936. He married Mae Apalonia in 1919; their son also pursued the study of medicine.

Benoni Price Hurst died in December 1943, in Baltimore, Maryland. He was 52 years old.



## AARON HOOD THOMASSON

*Matriculated February 1912*

WITHDREW IN 1915

BORN IN MONTISELLO, ARKANSAS, on December 6, 1871, to Aaron Hood Thomasson Sr., a tailor, and Artemis (Ozé) Thomasson, Aaron Hood Thomasson was one of seven children. He received his AB degree from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania in 1896 and his MD degree from the Boston College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1899.

In February 1912, at the age of 41, he matriculated at Harvard Medical School. By then, according to his records at Harvard Medical School, he had worked as a teacher in public schools and as a physician in private practice for several years. He withdrew for reasons unknown after the 1914–1915 academic year. It appears that at the time of his withdrawal from Harvard Medical School he was already in practice in Boston, because his name appears in the 1913–1914 issue of the *Medical Directory of Greater Boston*, where his practice is listed at 106 Warren Street in Roxbury.

The entry in the *Medical Directory of Greater Boston* also describes his professional activities and memberships, which included Superintendent, Boston Emergency and Grace Hospital; Member, American Academy of Medicine; Member, New England Association of Physical Therapeutics; Member, American Association for the Advancement of Science; and Professor of Physiology and Histology, Boston College of Physicians and Surgeons.

The date of his death remains uncertain, since no obituary appears in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. But his name is no longer listed in the *American Medical Directory* after 1942. His last known address was 16 Berwin Lane, West Brighton, Staten Island, New York.



## DAVID ALFRED DAVIS

*Matriculated September 1913*

WITHDREW NOVEMBER 1913

DAVID ALFRED DAVIS was born to Henry and Fannie Davis on June 3, 1885, in Galveston, Texas. He graduated with the AB degree from Howard University in 1912 and matriculated at Harvard Medical School on September 24, 1913. According to his records at the School, he “dropped out on November 23, 1913.”

It appears that he did not pursue the MD degree elsewhere in the United States, since his name does not appear in the *American Medical Directory* at any time.



## AARON LAWSON MACGHEE

*Matriculated 1913*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1917

BORN ON MARCH 20, 1884, in Knoxville, Tennessee, MacGhee received his BS degree in 1913 from Colby College in Maine, where he had moved with his family. According to his records at Colby College he was “fitted for college” at Austin High School in Knoxville and at Coburn Classical Institute in Waterville, Maine. While at Colby, he was instrumental in the founding of the Colby Commons Club, an inclusive group formed in response to the exclusion of people of color from most fraternities. He was especially fond of his college *alma mater* and its president, who, he wrote in 1945, “personally directed [sic] me on the most pleasing and profitable four years of my life.”

Aaron MacGhee matriculated at Harvard Medical School in September 1913 and graduated in 1917. While in medical school he lived at 52 Fenwood Road in Roxbury. Following graduation, he interned at Freedmen’s Hospital in Washington, D.C., from March 1918 to July 1919, and went on to practice medicine in Knoxville, Tennessee, for six months—from July 2, 1919, to January 11, 1920. From then until his death on November 29, 1949, he practiced in Harlem, New York City, where he had a successful surgical practice. In 1923 he married Martha E. Cabaniss, RN, who



*Aaron Lawson MacGhee.  
(Photo courtesy of the Harvard  
Medical Library in the Francis A.  
Countway Library of Medicine.)*

at that time was Night Supervisor at Freedmen's Hospital. In his obituary in the *Amsterdam News* of December 3, 1949, he was described as

... a civic-minded physician, serving the community as one of the leaders in the movement to make Harlem business-conscious. He was a past-president of the Association of Trade and Commerce; a past-president of the Central Manhattan Medical Society, and a member of Monarch Lodge of Elks.

Material about Aaron MacGhee is scant at Harvard Medical School, but a paragraph in the *Colby Oracle* of 1913, as he was leaving the College, reads:

"Mac," they say the breezes blow around North College at times but that they change their course when the stately form of the North End proctor comes around. They also say that you have Sherlock Holmes trimmed to a frazzle when it comes to hunting up electric light bulbs. Is that the reason why they have you care for the Ticonic Bank, or is it because of your never-failing honesty? Your quiet ways accompanied by common sense at all times have won for you respect and friendship from everyone, and we will miss you in the years to come.



## FRANKLYN AUGUSTUS MYERS

*Matriculated 1914*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1918

BORN IN GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA, on September 28, 1891, Franklyn Augustus Myers got his AB degree from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania in 1913. In his records at Harvard Medical School only his mother's name, Lavinia Viola, appears; his father is listed as "Deceased." Following his graduation from Lincoln University, Myers first began the study of medicine at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, in October 1913. According to his records there, he left after May 1914. When he applied to Harvard Medical School it was from New York, where he had a close relationship with Dr. F. M. Jacobs, a practicing physician and Minister of the Fleet Street Church in Brooklyn, New York, whom Myers described as his guardian.

In September 1914 he matriculated at Harvard Medical School, graduating in 1918. During World War I, he enlisted as a private in the Medical Enlisted Reserve Corps on October 1917, but was not called to active duty and was discharged in December 1918, the year he graduated with the MD degree.

According to the information in his files at the University of Michigan (University of Michigan Obituary File #20402) Franklyn Myers lived and practiced in Boston, only a short distance from the Longwood Quadrangle. In the reunion reports of his medical class at Harvard his name appears only once, and then in the necrology section. However, in the 1927 *Directory of Harvard University*, his address is listed as 552 Massachusetts Avenue. By 1948, his address had changed to 73 Humboldt Avenue in Roxbury.

He was a practicing physician in Roxbury and a member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists. He died in Boston, on June 30, 1961, of coronary thrombosis. His obituary in the *Boston Herald* of July 1, 1961, described his death:

Dr. F. A. Myers, 72, of Humboldt Avenue, Roxbury, collapsed and died yesterday at the office of Dr. Bernard Lown of 415 Marlboro Street, Back Bay, where he was under treatment for a heart condition . . . he [Dr. Myers] practiced in Boston for many years . . .



## VERNON ALEXANDER AYER

*Matriculated May 1915*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1919

VERNON A. AYER was born in Gainesville, Florida, to Robert and Adriana Ayer on June 1, 1892. He received his SB degree from Clark University in Atlanta in 1914, and worked, according to his records at Harvard Medical School, as "Printer." He matriculated at Harvard Medical School in September 1914 and graduated in June 1919.

Ayer spent 20 years in general practice and in the field of Public Health. After 1941 and until 1963 he devoted himself full time to Public Health Administration and teaching in medical colleges. He acquired his degree of Master of Public Health and was Health Officer at the Central Harlem Health Center. He also served as School Physician in public schools throughout New York, and as a member of the Bureau of School Hygiene.

In the reunion reports to his medical class—40th (1959), 45th (1966), and 50th (1969)—he wrote that his professional career consisted of teaching Preventive Medicine in New York University, Bellevue Medical Center; Senior Public Health Physician (District Health Officer) Lower East Side Dis-



*Vernon Alexander Ayer. (Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)*



trict, City of New York Health Department; Assistant Professor of Medicine, New York University Medical School.

Under "Other Activities" he mentioned: Alumni Trustee, Clark College, Atlanta; member of Health Department group visiting Puerto Rico and other Caribbean Islands in 1954; conducted TB case finding campaign, X-raying 140,000 persons in three months in 1957; Director of Polio Prevention Campaign in 1959, with the goal of vaccinating 20,000 persons with Salk Vaccine in five months. His memberships included the American Medical Association, the New York County Medical Society, New York State Academy of Preventive Medicine, American College of Preventive Medicine, American Public Health Association, and the Public Health Association of New York City.

His non-medical activities included woodworking, printing, travel in the Caribbean ports as well as in the eastern part of the United States and Canada; support and interest in YWCA and Clark College Alumni activities.

His 50th and last report in 1969 read in part:

Retired in 1963 as Senior Health Officer, New York City Health Department. Took a cruise to Europe for a month and visited England, France, Belgium, Germany, Spain, Gibraltar, and North Africa.

He died in 1976, at the age of 84.

*Albert Sidney Beasley Jr. (Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)*



## ALBERT SIDNEY BEASLEY JR.

*Matriculated 1915*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1919



ALBERT SIDNEY BEASLEY was born on October 18, 1894, in Macon, Georgia, to Albert Sidney Beasley Sr. and Mattie (Bryant) Beasley. He graduated from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania with the AB degree *cum honore* (the honor below *cum laude*), in 1915. In September of that year he matriculated at Harvard Medical School, and graduated with the MD degree in 1919. By 1926 he had settled in New York City as a general practitioner.

He died at the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York on February 14, 1939, at the age of 44, of heart disease.





## WILLIS GITTENS PRICE

*Matriculated September 1917*

WITHDREW 1917–1918 ACADEMIC YEAR

WILLIS GITTENS PRICE was born on August 8, 1889, in Christ Church, Barbados, to Jacob and Sarah Price. He received his AB degree from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania in 1917, supporting himself while in college by working as a waiter. He matriculated at Harvard Medical School in September 1917 but withdrew during the same academic year.

While at Harvard Medical School, Price lived at 78 Camden Street in Roxbury. Four years later, in 1922, he graduated from the Boston University School of Medicine and settled in New York. In the “Biographical Information” section he completed for the Alumni Association of the Boston University School of Medicine, he listed his office address as 223 West 113 Street in New York, and his home at 1796 Clinton Avenue, in the Bronx, New York.

He was a member of the New York County Medical Society, the Manhattan Medical Society, and the National Medical Association. He died in July 1985, in New York, at the age of 96.

*James Russell Westheimer.  
(Photo courtesy of Rare and  
Manuscript Collections,  
Kroch Library, Cornell  
University.)*



## JAMES RUSSELL WESTHEIMER

*Matriculated July 1918*

WITHDREW APRIL 1920

JAMES RUSSELL WESTHEIMER, physician and surgeon, was born on November 22, 1895, in Americus, Georgia, to Thomas H. and Susie (Russell) Westheimer. After an education at the Americus Institute in Americus and the Haines Institute in Augusta, both in Georgia, as well as Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, he received his AB from Cornell University in 1917. There he became a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.



When he matriculated at Harvard Medical School in July 1918, he listed his residence as the YMCA in Atlantic City, New Jersey. According to his records at Harvard Medical School he “resigned on April 2, 1920.” He had been the recipient of the Hayden Scholarship for two years.

In 1927, he graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto with the MD degree and interned at Douglass Hospital in Philadelphia. Beginning in 1928, Westheimer worked in the out-patient department of Harlem Hospital in New York City, and was the medical representative on the editorial staff of the *New York News*. He was a member of the Manhattan Medical Society, the Cosmopolitan Medical Society, the NAACP, and Alpha Phi Alpha.

He died on April 15, 1956, in Americus, Georgia. He was 60 years old.



## JOSE ESCABI

*Matriculated 1919*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1921



*Jose Escabi. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1921. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*

JOSE ESCABI WAS BORN in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, on August 27, 1884, to Jose and Flora (Monsanto) Escabi. He earned the BS from the University of Wisconsin and continued to complete two years of medical studies. Before matriculating at Harvard Medical School in September 1919, at the age of 34, he had worked as a teacher. While in medical school, he lived at 14 Greenwich Park, Boston, the same address as his classmate Gonsalvo C. Williams, and may have shared lodgings with him.

Escabi graduated in 1921. According to the legend by his photograph in the 1921 issue of the *Aesculapiad*, he stated that following graduation he intended to “take up General Practice in Puerto Rico.” He died in April 1934 at age 50, at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. In the 50th Reunion Report of his class in 1971, his classmates wrote:

It was Escabi’s ambition to enter general practice in Puerto Rico. Unfortunately we have no record of his years in practice or of his family. We are saddened that his career was so brief. We remember him as a courtly, reserved, gentlemanly person. He died of acute nephritis and uremia.



# TOUSSAINT TOURGEE TILDON

*Matriculated 1919*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1923

T. T. TILDON, physician, psychiatrist, and hospital manager, was born in Waxahachie, Texas, on April 5, 1893, to John Wesley Tildon, a physician, and Margaret (Hilburn) Tildon.

He received his BA at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania in 1912, then began studies in pre-law at Harvard for one year before entering Meharry Medical College. He transferred to Harvard Medical School in 1919 and graduated with the MD degree in 1923. He interned at Kansas City General Hospital in Missouri.

Tildon's professional career evolved in Tuskegee, Alabama, where he was Medical Officer (civilian) US VA Hospital in Tuskegee from 1923 to 1927 and from 1928 to 1930, then Chief of the Reception Service at the VA Hospital from 1930 to 1937, then as Clinical Director in charge of all medical activities from 1937 to 1946, and finally as Manager beginning in 1946. In addition, he served as Chairman of the Board. His long tenure at Tuskegee began with a special training in psychiatry and neurology in the Boston University for Veterans Bureau Hospital in Tuskegee, with three other physicians, at a time when health care for African-Americans was limited. Tildon studied with Solomon C. Fuller, the prominent black neurologist at Boston University. Few black physicians practiced in Alabama, and the establishment of a veteran's hospital at Tuskegee created the need



*Toussaint Tourgee Tildon.  
(Photo courtesy of the  
Harvard Medical Library  
in the Francis A. Countway  
Library of Medicine.)*



*Toussaint T. Tildon (center,  
front row) with colleagues at  
Tuskegee in 1955. (Photo in A  
Century of Black Surgeons: The  
U.S.A. Experience, Vol. I, Claude  
H. Organ Jr., & Margaret M.  
Kosiba [eds.], Transcript Press,  
Norman, OK 1987. Courtesy  
of Dr. Claude Organ.)*

for professional physicians and nurses who could treat the large percentage of psychiatric cases seen in World War I veterans. In racially tense Macon County, local whites protested the hiring of black professionals, but Veteran's Bureau Director Frank T. Hines, who selected the new physicians, insisted that they start work. Tildon began work as a Junior Medical Officer in Psychiatry.

He eventually became Clinical Director of the Department of Neuropsychiatry and in 1946, was named Manager and Director. In January 1946 Congress created a graduate training program in the Veterans Administration, enabling physicians and dentists to complete residencies at veterans' hospitals. The Tuskegee Veterans Administration Hospital cooperated with medical and dental schools at the University of Alabama and Emory University, and with Tildon's support, residents could train in medicine, surgery, and dentistry.

At Tuskegee, Tildon pursued research on encephalitis in African-American veterans. He also conducted experiments with syphilis and heart disease suffered simultaneously with tuberculosis. His research was published in such periodicals as the *US Veterans' Bureau Medical Bulletin* and the *Journal of the National Medical Association*. His memberships and fellowships included: Alabama State Medical Association, Fellow; the American Medical Association, Fellow; the National Medical Association; John A. Andrew Clinical Society; and Alpha Phi Alpha. He retired from the Tuskegee Veterans Administration Hospital in 1958. He died in Tuskegee on July 22, 1964, at the age of 71.







*Twenty-fifth Reunion of the Harvard Medical Class of 1923 on the steps of Building A (Gordon Hall of Medicine), in 1948. Toussaint T. Tildon is fourth from left, front row. (Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Library in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine.)*

## GONSALVO COTOBUS WILLIAMS JR.

*Matriculated September 1919*

WITHDREW 1921

BORN ON NOVEMBER 28, 1896, in Newberry, South Carolina, to Gonsalvo Cobotus Sr. and Alice (Simmons) Williams, Gonsalvo Cotobus Williams Jr. received his AB from Benedict College in South Carolina in 1916. In 1918, he received the BS from Harvard College. He attended Officers' Training Schools at Camp Devens, Massachusetts, and Camp Taylor, Idaho, and received a commission as Second Lieutenant of Field Artillery in August 1918 and served in France from 1918 to 1919.

Williams matriculated at HMS on September 22, 1919, and withdrew in 1921. According to his records at Harvard Medical School, he lived, while in Boston, at 14 Greenwich Park. After leaving Harvard Medical School he went to Yale Medical School and received his MD in 1925. He served as intern and resident at the Grasslands Hospital in Westchester County, New York, from 1925 to 1927, and in 1927 began private practice in Dobbs Ferry, New York. In his 25th Annual Report to his Harvard College Class of 1918 in June 1943, he wrote:



*Gonsalvo Cotobus Williams Jr. (Photo courtesy of Harvard University Archives.)*

Since 1927 I have been in private practice in Dobbs Ferry, and have been pretty well tied down to the practice of medicine in a small town. My travels have been limited to two trips to the Caribbean Islands. Tennis is my favorite sport and recreation and I am number one man on the tennis team.

I am independent in my political convictions and have voted Republican for the last decade. I am a Presbyterian but not very active in church matters.

According to later reports to his Harvard College Class in 1948 (30th), 1963 (45th), and 1968 (50th), he had been Examiner for Selective Service in World War II, had held offices as President of the Dobbs Ferry Hospital Medical Staff, was a member of the Westchester County Medical Society, the New York State Medical Society, the American Medical Association (fellow), the American School Health Association, and the Academy of Medicine of Westchester County in New York. In his 50th and last Report to his Harvard College Class in 1968 he wrote:

I have occupied the same office these forty years. The rewards are those which come to general practitioners, the satisfaction of being of service to people and to the community. Am still in practice, doing less but enjoying it more.

He died in 1986, at the age of 90.



## FARROW ROBERT ALLEN

*Matriculated 1922*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1926

FARROW ROBERT ALLEN was born on February 2, 1898, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, the son of Dr. R. W. Allen of Chattanooga. He studied at Fisk University from 1913 to 1917 and received his BA from Harvard College in 1923. He matriculated at Harvard Medical School that September, and graduated in 1926, having been the recipient of the Hayden Scholarship for two years.

Following graduation, he interned at Harlem Hospital in New York. His career evolved in New York, where he was Attending Physician and then Assistant Director of Surgery at Sydenham Hospital. In 1958 he assisted in the removal of the knife from the chest of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at Harlem Hospital. At his 50th Medical Reunion in 1976, he wrote:

My receiving the notice of the 1926 Class Reunion suddenly and shockingly reminded me that I had actually been out of the Medical School for the long period of 50 years.

If I were able to revert to the stage of choosing a career, my decision would be the same. In spite of the obstacles and strenuousness associated with a medical career, I would follow the same pattern. I have found the practice of medicine (surgery) very satisfying and gratifying.

Last January I discontinued operative surgery. However, I have continued office consultation work... realizing that there does come a time when I must call it quits, I plan to retire this fall.

I continue to attend the Meetings of the American College of Surgeons. There, I enjoy seeing and listening to Harvard Medical School graduates and faculty members.



*Farrow Robert Allen.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad, 1926.  
Courtesy of the Office of  
Alumni Affairs, Harvard  
Medical School.)*

Allen was a member of the National Medical Society Board of Managers, American College of Surgeons, New York Academy of Medicine, American Medical Association, New York State and County Medical Societies, Harvard Medical Society of New York, and the National Medical Association. He also received a Citation from the Medical Society of New York for Fifty Years of Service to the Public in the Practice of Medicine.

He died in February 1985, in the Bronx. He was 87 years old.



## HENRY RUTHERFORD BUTLER JR.

*Matriculated 1922*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1926



*Henry Rutherford Butler Jr.. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1926. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*

HENRY RUTHERFORD BUTLER Jr. was born on November 1, 1899, in Atlanta, Georgia, to Henry Rutherford Butler Sr., a physician, and Selena (Sloan) Butler. He received his AB in 1922 from Atlanta University. His father had done postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School in the late 19th century and was one of the most prominent African-American physicians in Atlanta. His mother was well known nationally for her work in the education of African-American children. Butler Jr. matriculated at HMS in September 1922 and graduated in 1926, having been the recipient of the Hayden Scholarship for one year. In the legend next to his photograph in the *Aesculapiad* of 1926, he described his future plans: To take up study, and possibly residence, in Europe.

Some information about his career following graduation comes from the reunion reports (1961, 1966, and 1971) he completed for his medical class. According to his 35th Reunion Report in 1961, he did his internship at Kansas City General Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri, following which he entered general practice in Atlanta, working with his father, and in service as Physician to the Child Welfare Association of Fulton and DeKalb Counties. He was awarded the Rosenwald Fellowship for advanced studies he conducted in England in internal medicine, diagnosis, and cardiology. Butler continued to



live in London until just before the outbreak of World War II. While there, he studied and worked at the London Hospital and Medical School (University of London), at the National Heart Hospital and at the Postgraduate Hospital and Medical School at Hammersmith. He returned to the United States on one of the last trips of the *Queen Mary* before the onset of war.

In the United States, he practiced internal medicine in Quincy, Massachusetts, and worked in the Outpatient Department of the Boston City Hospital. In 1942 he entered the United States Army Medical Corps as captain. He was in active military service with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel for 49 months, and Assistant Chief of Medicine and Chief of Cardiac Section in a 1,000 bed army regional hospital in Arizona.

At the end of his service in the Army he and his family settled in Los Angeles where he began practice in internal medicine. In 1961 he was on the senior staff in internal medicine at the Hospital of the Good Samaritan in Los Angeles. His office address was listed as 1156 West Jefferson Boulevard in Los Angeles. When he reported to his class in 1966 and 1971, he was still very active in his practice in internal medicine and electrocardiography. He died in 1988 at the age of 89.



## EUCLID PETER GHEE

*Matriculated 1923*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1927

EUCLID PETER GHEE was born on August 28, 1900, in Jersey City, New Jersey, to Peter and Lucy (Bond) Ghee. His father, a highly respected and beloved physician who had graduated from Leonard Medical College in Raleigh, North Carolina, practiced in Jersey City. Euclid Ghee received his AB *cum laude* from Harvard College in 1923 and entered Harvard Medical School in September of the same year. He graduated with the MD degree in 1927, having received the Hayden Scholarship for two years.

While in medical school, he lived at 25 Bickerstaff Street in Boston, and then at 61 Gorham Street in Cambridge. He interned in surgery at Harlem Hospital in New York City.



*Euclid Peter Ghee. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1927. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*

Euclid Ghee was a private practitioner in general surgery for many years. He was Visiting Surgeon at Fairmont Hospital and Assistant Visiting Surgeon at Christ Hospital, both in Jersey City. An active member of the National Medical Association, he brought the predicament of the black physician in America to the attention of the medical profession. In his 45th Medical Reunion Report in 1972, his home is listed at 950 Kennedy Boulevard, Bayonne, New Jersey, and his office at 115 Claremont Avenue, Jersey City, New Jersey. He died on June 3, 1976, in Summit, New Jersey, at age 76.



*James Cling Whitaker. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1927. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*

## JAMES CLING WHITAKER

*Matriculated 1923*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1927

*Cum laude*

JAMES CLING WHITAKER was born on August 26, 1898, in Charleston, South Carolina. He received his AB from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1921, and spent one year at Harvard College from 1922 to 1923, matriculating at Harvard Medical School that September. He graduated *cum laude* in 1927. He had received the Hayden Scholarship for three years.

After graduation, Whitaker interned in surgery at Harlem Hospital in New York City in 1928. He would serve at Harlem Hospital for 42 years and for a while edit the *Harlem Hospital Bulletin*.

In his fortieth Reunion Report to his medical class in 1967, he listed his office address at 1945 Seventh Avenue in New York City. He also stated that 90 percent of his time was engaged in surgery. He belonged to the American Society of Abdominal Surgeons, the New York Academy of Medicine, and the American College of Surgeons.

At his death on September 10, 1970, at the age of 72, he was a Visiting Surgeon at Harlem Hospital and a member of the medical board.



## EDWARD DAVID DUKES

*Matriculated 1925*

WITHDREW 1926

REENTERED 1927

WITHDREW 1928

EDWARD DAVID DUKES was born on August 25, 1898, in Roe, Arkansas. His father's name is listed as E. E. Dukes. He received his AB from Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, in 1923, and entered Harvard Medical School in September 1925. His address while in Boston was 18 Windsor Street.

According to his records at Harvard Medical School, he withdrew in 1926, due to financial difficulties. He returned in September 1927 and entered the second-year class. But he withdrew again in June 1928 and did not return. However, in 1932, he graduated from Meharry Medical College with the MD degree and settled in New York City. The date of his death is uncertain, but his name is no longer listed after the 1994 issue of the *American Medical Directory*. His last known address was 245 W. 139th Street in New York.



*Edward David Dukes.  
(Photo in the Office of  
the Registrar, Harvard  
Medical School.)*



## JAMES THEODORE HEWLETT

*Matriculated September 1925*

WITHDREW JUNE 1926

JAMES THEODORE HEWLETT was born on September 27, 1900, in Roxbury, Massachusetts, and lived at 757 Shawmut Avenue in Roxbury. He graduated from English High School and attended Harvard College, graduating with the SB degree in 1924. In September 1925, Hewlett matriculated at Harvard Medical School, but withdrew in June 1926.

A year later he joined the Postal Service. At the time of his retirement in 1956, he had been associated with the Allston, Massachusetts, branch office for more than 35 years.



*James Theodore Hewlett.  
(Photo in the Office of the  
Registrar, Harvard Medical  
School.)*

In 1949, he described his life in his 25th anniversary report to his Harvard College Class:

While fame and fortune have eluded me, work hasn't. I have completed thirty years of postal service and anticipate retirement upon reaching the minimum age level.

For a number of years I was a reporter, feature writer, and later member of the executive staff of the Associated Negro Press Canada and New England. This line of endeavor, albeit interesting, promised more honor than remuneration so must be included among my hobbies.

I enjoyed immensely prewar trips to Europe and North Africa. I regret exceedingly, however, the visa difficulties that prevented a tour of Eastern Europe and the lack of time that cancelled an invitation to the palace of the Sultan of Tunis.

Stock market activity enabled me to sustain my interest in the capitalistic system and a small peptic ulcer. A multiple compound elbow joint fracture suffered in an M.T.A. bus accident two weeks before induction occasioned a 4F classification but permitted me to contribute to the success of some of my Harvard medical classmates.

James Hewlett died in May 1969 in Montreal, Canada, at the age of 69.

*Robert Shaw Wilkinson Jr. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1927. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*



## ROBERT SHAW WILKINSON JR.

*Matriculated 1925*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1927

ROBERT SHAW WILKINSON was born in Orangeburg, South Carolina, on November 11, 1899, to Robert Shaw and Marion Raven (Birnie) Wilkinson. His father, a Professor of Physics and Chemistry in the State College of Orangeburg, South Carolina, was later its president.

Wilkinson studied at the State Academy in Orangeburg, South Carolina, and at the Wilbraham Academy in Massachusetts. From there, he went to Dartmouth College, from which he graduated *magna cum laude* in 1924 and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He began his medical studies at Dartmouth Medical School in 1923 and transferred to Harvard Medical School in 1925, graduating

with the MD degree in June 1927, and marrying in the same month. He studied with Dr. Blumgart.

He interned in medicine at Harlem Hospital in New York City. After two years of training there, he entered private practice in New York City. Wilkinson served on the surgical staff of Harlem Hospital as Assistant Visiting Surgeon, 1929–1936; as Associate Visiting Surgeon in charge of rectal and colon surgery, 1948–1952, and as full Visiting Surgeon in 1952. At the same time, he was Director of Surgery at Mount Morris Park Hospital, 1948–1952, and Chief of Surgery of the Upper Manhattan Medical Group of the Health Insurance Plan of New York. From 1940 to 1948 he served as Consulting Surgeon to the Harlem Valley State Hospital in Wingdale, New York.

During World War II Wilkinson was Chief of Surgery at the 335th Station Hospital and later, Commander of the 383rd Station Hospital on Okinawa with the rank of Major in the Medical Corps. Following overseas duty, he was a Consulting Surgeon with the New York City Police Department until 1961, when he worked for the Veterans Administration Hospital in Tuskegee, as Acting Chief of Surgery, 1962–1963 and 1964–1966.

Wilkinson later served at the Veterans Facility in Charleston, West Virginia, from which he retired in 1971, returning to his native Orangeburg. There he quickly became involved in medical and community affairs, serving as a consultant with the Minority Affairs Program of the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Orangeburg Mental Health Clinic and the Orangeburg Area Council on Aging.

His memberships and honors included Past President of the Manhattan Central Medical Society, an NMA affiliate; Chairman, Special Committee of the Medical Society of the County of New York on Illegal Practice of Medicine 1950–1960; Fellow of the American College of Surgeons; Fellow, the Harlem Surgical Society; member, the American Medical Association; Fellow, the National Medical Association; National Diplomate, National Board of Medical Examiners; member, National Medical Committee of the NAACP, of the Committee on Alcoholism of the Welfare and Health Council of New York City, and of the Harlem Committee of the New York Tuberculosis and Health Association. In 1971, he received the Commander's Award from Disabled American Veterans.

In his 50th medical class Reunion Report in 1977, he briefly described his activities:

Since 1972: I retired from my latest professional activity as staff surgeon, Veterans Administration Hospital, Huntington, West Virginia, in 1971 and returned to the place of my birth, Orangeburg, South Carolina. My

wife, Ruth, and I have a lovely small home in a plot surrounded by beautiful large azaleas and dogwoods.

My work as Consultant for Minority Affairs, Medical University of South Carolina, has been very interesting because of my contacts with bright young people. The continuing growth of the program has been a rewarding experience. It fell to my lot in 1974 to head up the building committee for the Parish Hall of our St. Paul's Episcopal Church. It was work, but enjoyable. To round out my activities, I hold an appointment on the Board of our Area Mental Health Clinic and am frequently consulted by the staff because of my long medical career. Am also on the Board of the local Council on Aging, a field in which I have personal qualifications. With our church, home, family, community and gardening activities, as well as my work in the minority affairs program, we find life quite interesting, certainly not of the stereotyped retirement existence.

Wilkinson died on September 17, 1984, in Orangeburg, South Carolina. He was 84 years old.



*Pritchett Andrew Klugh.*  
(Photo courtesy of Harvard University Archives.)

## PRITCHETT ANDREW KLUGH

*Matriculated September 1927*  
WITHDREW JUNE 1928

PRITCHETT ANDREW KLUGH was born in 1904 in Princeton, New Jersey, to Reverend David and Mrs. Adella (Plyman) Klugh. He attended Boston Public Latin School and received his AB from Harvard College in 1925. From September 1925 to June 1927 he worked as Instructor in Physics and Chemistry at Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina. In September 1927 he matriculated at Harvard Medical School.

He withdrew in 1928, but went on to receive his AM from Boston University in 1933.

In his 25th report to his Harvard College Class of 1925, he wrote that he held the position of Dean of Instruction at Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina, from September 1934 to July 1941. According to a later report to his College Class in 1955, Klugh moved to Norwood, Massachusetts, and served as Science Instructor at Norwood Senior High School, begin-



ning in January 1944. He was a member of the New England Association of Chemistry Teachers and an Associate of the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society.

In his 50th and final report to his Harvard College Class he wrote:

After nearly forty years in education, I was forced to retire in 1971 by ill health, which unfortunately continues.

Although there is no indication of his death in the Harvard Alumni Directories, the 1995 edition lists his address as "Unknown."



## HILDRUS AUGUSTUS POINDEXTER

*Matriculated 1927*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1929

BORN ON MAY 10, 1901, in Memphis, Tennessee, Hildrus Augustus Poindexter was the sixth of 11 children born to Fred and Luvenia Gilberta (Clarke) Poindexter, tenant farmers. In 1920 he graduated from the teacher training department of Swift Memorial High School in Rogers, Tennessee, a Presbyterian school for blacks, where he excelled in mathematics, Latin, and Greek.

He financed his education by working in nearby coal mines. In the years to come he would continue to support his family and supplement his scholarships with summer jobs in factories and foundries in Detroit, Michigan, and he held jobs as waiter, dishwasher, baby sitter, and tutor of Greek and Latin. His college education was at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, from which he graduated *cum laude* in 1924. For one year following his graduation from Lincoln, he was Instructor in Science and Greek, as well as Director of Athletics, at the Mary Potter High School in Oxford, North Carolina. In 1925 he entered Dartmouth Medical School, transferring to Harvard Medical School in 1927, and graduating with the MD degree in 1929, having received the Hayden Scholarship for both years. In 1930, he would receive his AM in bacteriology, followed by a PhD in bacteriology and parasitology in 1932, and finally his MPH in 1937—all from Columbia University.



*Hildrus Augustus Poindexter.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad, 1927.  
Courtesy of the Office of  
Alumni Affairs, Harvard  
Medical School.)*



In the *Aesculapiad* of 1929 he had written that he hoped to work in the area of Public Health. However, his application for a laboratory post in a United States government laboratory in Manila was declined because of his race. Instead, he served an internship at the John A. Andrew Hospital at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, one of the very few facilities open to African-Americans seeking postgraduate training. While at Tuskegee, he began an epidemiological survey and implemented a health education program in Union Springs, Bullock County, in a poor and predominantly black settlement. Ten weeks later, he accepted a two-year fellowship at Columbia University, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation. This was part of a larger plan instituted by Howard University whereby advanced training was offered to promising young black medical scientists who would assume faculty positions at Howard Medical College after receiving their PhDs and help upgrade the curriculum and research program at Howard.

Poindexter became Assistant Professor of Bacteriology, Preventive Medicine and Public Health at Howard University in 1931. By 1943 he was Professor and Department Head. He also held posts at Freedmen's Hospital, and continued the research he had started in Alabama and Mississippi while an intern at Tuskegee. Based on his research, he identified malnutrition, syphilis, and insect-borne diseases as the most important health problems in rural Southern blacks.

At age 42, he volunteered for the US Army as a Major in the Medical Corps, in the racially segregated hospital at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. He was on the staff of General Douglas MacArthur in the Pacific as an epidemiologist, malariologist, and tropical disease specialist and was awarded four major battle stars for "courage beyond the call of duty." He reached the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Following his role in World War II, he worked for nearly two decades in the federal public health service, beginning in 1947 as Senior Surgeon with the United States Public Health Service. His first post was with the USPHS Mission in Liberia as Chief of Laboratory and Medical Research in West Africa. A year later, he was appointed Medical Director and Chief of Mission for Liberia, and Medical and Health Attaché to the American Embassy in Monrovia. He later served one year as Chief of Health and Sanitation, United States Operation in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. Other Operation Mission appointments followed in Suriname (1956–1958), Iraq (1958–1959), Libya (1959–1961), and Sierra Leone (1962–1964). While in Iraq he was Professor of Preventive Medicine at the Royal Baghdad Medical College.

He retired from the US Public Health Service after 30 years of service, at the age of 65, and returned to Howard University as a part-time Professor of



*USPHS Meritorious Award Ceremony. Left to right: Surgeon General Terry, Mrs. Poindexter, Medical Director Poindexter, Deputy Surgeon General Watt. (Photo in My World of Reality [An Autobiography] by Hildrus A. Poindexter, Balamp Publishers, 1973.)*

Laboratory Diagnosis of Tropical Diseases, Global Epidemiology, and International Health and Travel. He remained active in teaching and research for the next 15 years, training Peace Corps workers, serving as a Special Consultant to the US Department of State and the Agency for International Development, which included a six-month tour of duty in 1965.

The list of his awards are long, and include the Bronze Star, four Battle Stars; National Civil Service League Award Browning Alpha Ward; Distinguished Public Service Award by USAID; and Rockefeller Foundation Traveling Fellow. In 1963, President John F. Kennedy presented him with the National Civil Service League Career Service Award Citation.

Poindexter was the author of more than 50 scientific publications dealing with epidemiology, microbiology, and immunology and a certified specialist of both the American Board of Preventive Medicine and Public Health and the American Board of Microbiology.

In 1949, he became the first African-American member of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and subsequently served as Vice President of the Washington, D.C., chapter and as a Trustee of the national body, which,

in 1934, had denied him admission because of his race. Among his writings, his autobiography entitled *My World of Reality*, published in 1973, holds a special place. In the preface he had described himself as

...one Negro farm boy from the West Tennessee delta who wanted to become a doctor and did...He was born in darkness, saw shadows among the trees, investigated and found the real...

I believe that the 3-score and 11 years of living, the 900,000 miles of official foreign travel and 20 years of services to people in underdeveloped countries when added to the 23 years of professional service here in the U.S. make for a contented demise.

I have given further vindication to the concept that, in the United States at least, limited aptitude and a deprived socio-economic state of birth do not permanently stratify one. Positive motivation and concentration of efforts can overcome them. One can “overcome”!

On September 15, 1986, Poindexter was featured in the Howard University Living Legend Lecture Series. That day, he was described as “Today’s Legend—Tomorrow’s History.” When he died a year later, in April 1987 at his home in Clinton, Maryland, at the age of 86, those who had come to mourn him would say:

*Today he is both legend and history.  
Today, the giant is peacefully at rest.*

*Frederick Douglass Stubbs.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad,  
1927. Courtesy of the  
Office of Alumni Affairs,  
Harvard Medical School.)*



## FREDERICK DOUGLASS STUBBS

*Matriculated 1927*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1931

*Cum Laude*

*Amended by Ms. Rikki Hill and Ms. Patsy Fleming*

MATRICULATING THE SAME YEAR as Poindexter, and another “giant,” was Frederick Douglass Stubbs, whose background differed greatly from Poindexter’s. Stubbs was born on March 16, 1906, to J. B. and Blanch (Williams) Stubbs in Wilmington, Delaware. His father was a physician in Wilmington, and his mother was related to the celebrated Dr. Daniel Hale Williams. He was the youngest child and only son of the Stubbs family. He graduated from Howard High



*Tanner G. Duckvey, PhD (left), Dr. Frederick Stubbs (middle), and Dr. Chauncey Harlee (right), ca. 1941. (Photo in A Century of Black Surgeons: The U.S.A. Experience, Vol. II, Claude H. Organ Jr., & Margaret M. Kosiba [eds.], Transcript Press, Norman, OK 1987. Courtesy of Dr. Organ.)*

School in Wilmington in 1922 and did a year of postgraduate studies at Cushing Academy in Massachusetts in 1922 and 1923.

Frederick Stubbs entered Dartmouth College in 1923 and received his AB *magna cum laude* from Dartmouth in 1927. He was elected a member of Phi Beta Kappa and named the Rufus Choate Scholar for summer study at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. He was reported to have had a photographic memory, a profound scientific curiosity, and an unusual capacity to achieve as both a scholar and an athlete.

At the time of his matriculation at Harvard Medical School he was 21 years old, and would be the first Harvard medical student of African descent to live at Vanderbilt Hall—in room 211. According to his close friend, Dr. Wilbur Strickland, in 1985, no one at Vanderbilt Hall would speak to him. Stubbs himself would discuss, in later years, his race-related problems, and incidents involving discrimination while at Harvard Medical School.

He graduated *cum laude* in 1931 with the MD degree and was ranked 16th in a class of 130 students. In that year he became the first African-American

to be elected to the Harvard chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society and was accepted as an intern at what was then Cleveland City Hospital. Indeed, Stubbs was the first African-American appointed to the house staff of any major teaching hospital in the United States. His selection at Cleveland City Hospital had created considerable resentment among the hospital staff. The hospital administrator explained to James E. Morgan, MD, another African-American and an obstetrician in Cleveland, who would later team up with Stubbs as house officer and become his close friend, that there had never been a Negro house physician or registered nurse at Cleveland City Hospital. Of the 50 house staff physicians, 15 came from medical schools in the Deep South. Political pressure from the black community in Cleveland, however, had forced a change. On the first day of his medical service on July 1, 1931, he was assigned, along with Dr. Morgan, to a ward where the head nurse was from Virginia. "There was no red carpet out to greet us," Dr. Morgan recounted in *A Century of Black Surgeons* (vol. II) in 1984:

The next test came at lunch. The house staff was served at large round tables seating 8 or 10. Stubbs and I sat down at a half empty table and immediately two or three got up abruptly and left . . .

But I never saw him (Stubbs) lose his temper. He didn't expect an immediate solution, but felt hope lay in establishing points of contact. . . .

There was a house staff physician lounge or Common Room with a radio, piano, some easy chairs, and a couple of card tables. When Stubbs and I walked in, two or three usually got up and walked out. We developed self-sufficiency and didn't bother them too much. . . . The last day of June, 1932, Mr. McMillan (hospital administrator) called me to his office. He was jovial and stated . . . that he was proud of the open-minded way the staff had met the problem of integration. He concluded that, "in the entire year there hadn't been one single unpleasant situation reported to me."

After completing his internship at Cleveland City Hospital and despite his superior record as an intern, he did not receive a residency there. However, Dr. Samuel O. Freedlander, Chief of Surgery at Cleveland City Hospital, created a new position and offered Stubbs a fellowship in thoracic surgery. At the end of the year Stubbs went to Douglass Memorial Hospital in Philadelphia to complete his residency in general surgery from 1933 to 1934. This was his first formal experience in an African-American institution. On June 19, 1934, he married Marian C. Turner, daughter of Dr. John P. Turner, Director of Douglass Hospital. At that time he joined his father-in-law in general practice from 1934 to 1937.

He contributed to scientific journals such as the *Pennsylvania Medical Journal*, *Archives of Pathology*, and the *Journal of the National Medical Asso-*

*ciation*. Wanting to expand his surgical training, in 1937 he went to Sea View Hospital in New York City and became the only Board-certified African-American thoracic surgeon in the United States. He returned to Philadelphia and the Mercy Douglass Hospital in 1938 where he became an Associate in General Surgery and Chief of Thoracic Surgery with the responsibility of organizing the thoracic surgery service. The same year he was appointed to the staff of Philadelphia General Hospital by Mayor S. Davis Wilson, an appointment he retained until his death. He later organized the Department of Thoracic Surgery at Mercy Hospital, which had been co-founded by Edwin Howard (HMS 1869), and became the first black surgeon to perform a lobectomy and pneumonectomy in the United States. In the medicine section of *Time* magazine, on April 8, 1940, he was praised for his success in the treatment of tuberculosis among African-Americans:

... the generals have always been white doctors, but local battles are now fought by Negroes ... while tuberculosis has dropped to seventh place among whites, it still holds second among Negroes ... Few Negro doctors know much about tuberculosis, few white doctors dare to operate on their "massively" infected Negro patients. Outstanding Negro thoracic surgeon in the US is young, gentle Frederick Douglass Stubbs of Philadelphia ... Dr. Stubbs spends most of his time at dingy Frederick Douglass Hospital. Here he looks after a ward of some 25 patients with advanced tuberculosis, whose lungs he deflates and drains of pus.

Frederick Douglass welcomes all types of cases, gets along somehow on a State grant of \$4,500 a year, dollar contributions from poor patients and friends. Patients live on frankfurters and beans, nurses go for months without pay. Its hundred general beds, says Dr. Stubbs frankly, could easily be absorbed by other Philadelphia hospitals. But he fights to keep 45-year-old Frederick Douglass Hospital alive, for it is the only hospital in the US where Negro doctors can undertake thoracoplasty (rib surgery for collapsing the lung). Dr. Stubbs chooses his patients carefully, for they are all test cases. Since 1937, when he started thoracoplasty at Frederick Douglass, Dr. Stubbs has operated on 40 patients, almost all of them "poor risks" (some even over 60), and has lost only five.

In 1941, Stubbs was appointed Medical Director of Douglass Hospital. Throughout his career, Stubbs set up standards and criteria and instilled in the young physicians of Philadelphia a spirit of excellence. He was the first African-American Board-certified surgeon in Philadelphia, but when he applied for fellowship in the American College of Surgeons in 1942, his application was not approved. Four years later, and one year before his death, he did gain acceptance to the American College of Surgeons.

Frederick Stubbs received numerous promotions and privileges, culminating in his assignment to head Philadelphia's Jefferson Medical School Hospital, with the privilege of naming his staff. He did not live to fulfill this assignment. He died of a myocardial infarction on February 9, 1947, at the age of 41. After his death, the National Medical Association instituted the Frederick Douglass Stubbs Award for "outstanding contributions to the training of Black surgeons," and the city of Wilmington established the Frederick Douglas Stubbs Elementary School. Six months after his death, Charles R. Drew, the Chairman of the Surgical Section of the National Medical Association, paid homage to Stubbs at the NMA's meeting in Los Angeles in August 1947:

Frederick Douglass Stubbs had the background, the training, the brains, the heart, the understanding, the love of mankind and the will to serve which marked him as a natural leader. He knew our weaknesses and threw his great quiet strength into the struggle to better our poor lot. He saw the promise of our future and, stripped of all illusion, labored unceasingly to bring it to fruition... I know of no one of any race who had accomplished more in so short a period of time. He wrote his own record by the life he lived. It will stand, and in years to come serve as a goal for all and any who hold dear our great heritage of medicine, its nobility, its pathos, its heartache and its loneliness.

At that meeting the Annual Lecture in Surgery was named "The Frederick Douglass Stubbs Surgical Lecture" because, added Dr. Drew:

His name recalled year by year will serve as a bright star in memory to give hope when days are dark and help guide us toward the realization of those ends to which he gave his last full measure of devotion... In honoring his memory, we honor ourselves and hold up for all to see a record which removes forever any doubt of the ability of our men to meet all standards when the doors of opportunity are opened.





## CYRIL JOHNSTONE JONES

*Matriculated 1941*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1944

*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN in 1915, in New York. My mother was born in Grenada, West Indies, where, along with her two sisters, she had been a school teacher. Teaching went back several generations on my mother's side, which, as far as I can track, begins with a slave by the name of Flora who was carried to the West Indies where she lived with her Scottish slave owner. After England freed the slaves around 1825, she left him and married an Indian with whom she had several children. All of their children were educated in the school established by the British government in Grenada, and many became, particularly the women, school teachers. This was about 1890. My mother—Amie Donawa—was a grandchild of Flora. Apparently she was an excellent student. Her name still appears on the bulletin board of the school in the island of St. Lucia, where she is described as an honor student and as having graduated at the top of her class.

It wasn't long before my mother found Grenada somewhat restricting and lacking in opportunities, and moved to New York City. There, in 1914, she met, and married, William Jones, my father, who was on his way from Trinidad to McGill University in Montreal to study medicine. My father's plans to continue to McGill were put on hold when he discovered that my mother was pregnant with twins. Later, in view of the then high mortality rates associated with twins, he was reluctant to take his wife and the newborn twins to Montreal, and decided to stay in New York for one year. He began to work in the war industry and was employed by the American Express as a guard. He stayed there until his retirement.

The twins, my brother and myself, both decided to become doctors. We were graduates of Stuyvesant High School in New York and planned to continue on to college. But by the time of our graduation from high school America had entered the Great Depression. It was impossible for us to go from high school to college. By the early 1930s, my brother and I decided to take the bull by the horns and try to save some money for our college education. We were both amateur ham radio operators, so we prepared, sat for the examination and received a second class commercial operator's license. Initial applications for jobs were denied on account of race but we were later able



*Cyril Johnstone Jones.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad,  
1944. Courtesy of the  
Office of Alumni Affairs,  
Harvard Medical School.)*



*Drs. Cyril Jones and Bernard Robinson on Graduation Day in June 1944. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Cyril J. Jones.)*

to get a job in the emergency effort on the part of the government to deal with the ravages caused by the flooding of the Mississippi River in the mid-1930s.

The money I saved from that job enabled me to enter Tufts College in 1937. As a junior at Tufts College, I had day-dreamed about Harvard, but never got enough nerve to apply. But people I knew in New York suggested that I apply to Harvard Medical School. So I did.

And Harvard accepted me. I remember the day I got the acceptance letter.

It was 10 o'clock in the morning, the sun was shining bright. I was standing on the porch of our house when my aunt, who lived half a block from us (our mail at that time was being delivered at her address because the mail was more apt to be delivered on time there) came up the street with a smile on her face, waving an envelope at me. The letter said I had been accepted to Harvard. I remember that day very vividly. There was just so much excitement in our house.

I reported for my first day at Harvard as a freshman in September 1941. In the beginning, I rented a room in an ordinary rooming house on Massachusetts Avenue. It was the best I could find. Eventually, through the kindness of the lady who worked in Dr. Hale's office, and an assistant of Dorothy Murphy's, I was able to find a room in Vanderbilt Hall—Room 269.

During my first year at HMS the assistant professor who taught Infectious Diseases and Anatomy pulled me aside and said, "Mr. Jones, I have something to say to you. You're the first black man who has been admitted to Harvard Medical School in 10 years. I want you to make the highest marks and just blast them when you leave." And he walked away. He later became the head of Microbiology at New York University. I often regretted not being

able to say to him in my old age, “You’re the one who gave me all that encouragement.” He really went out of his way.

Another supportive and kind teacher was Dr. Levine, a pediatric surgeon at Children’s Hospital. He subtly would take me aside and give me encouragement.

Then there was Dr. Blumgart. After medical school, I had begun my internship in New York City. One night, at the height of the war, the phone rang in my home at 9 p.m.: “Dr. Jones?” “Yes,” I said. “This is Dr. Blumgart.” He said he was in the medical corps and leaving for Burma the next morning. “I got your phone number from the School and wanted to say goodbye and wish you all the luck in your medical career.” Surprised, I asked, “What did you say your name was?” “Blumgart,” he answered, “and I wish you all the luck. Goodnight.” Here was the Chief of Medicine at the Beth Israel Hospital, a full professor, who, 10 hours before catching a plane to Burma called me at home! These were the powerful experiences and kind people that helped me through so many difficulties. If it weren’t for them, I would have lost heart.

During my last year in medical school I was rotated through the Massachusetts General Hospital. At that time Franny Moore was chief resident there and played a central role, partly because much of the surgical staff had been sent out to the base hospital during the war. He and Oliver Cope practically ran the Department of Surgery.

On graduation day on the Quadrangle, I was four feet off the ground! After the main speaker finished, he turned the program over to the US Navy, at which time the Naval commander swore in the cadet officers.

My other black classmate, Bernie Robinson, and I had joined the Navy. Robinson and I graduated in the uniform of a Lieutenant JG, the first two black men commissioned in the Navy since 1918. So on that day I took three oaths. The first two were on the Quadrangle, as I received my MD and was commissioned. The third one was at 73 Brent Street in Boston (the home of my future wife, Rose) where I went after graduation, and got somebody to say “I do.” Then we took a taxi to the airport and flew to New York in a DC 11.

I interned at the Goldwater Memorial Hospital in New York City where I stayed for nine months. Next, I was off to the Naval Training Station in Chi-



*Dr. Cyril J. Jones on Alumni Day, June 6, 2003, at Harvard Medical School. (Photo by Steven Gilbert.)*



*Dr. Cyril and Mrs. Rose Jones on Alumni Day, June 6, 2003, at Harvard Medical School. (Photo by Steven Gilbert.)*

cago since the war was still on. Soon afterward, I was shipped overseas to join the 16th Construction Battalion. After the war, I looked for a surgical residency. I went to see Dr. Blumgart. He referred me to the new chief of the VA hospital in Connecticut, which was under the Yale University Medical School. There was Dr. Blumgart still looking out for me! I went up there, and was accepted. I rotated through the surgical residency program at the Yale New Haven Hospital. Then I became a research fellow at McGill for a year. At the end of the year, I returned to New York and to the Mt. Sinai Hospital as Resident in Surgery.

After training at Mt. Sinai, I was appointed Chief Resident in Surgery at the US Veterans Hospital in Brooklyn for one year. During that time, I prepared for and passed the American Board of Surgery examination. And just as I had begun private practice in Brooklyn, we were mobilized and I entered the US Navy to serve in the South Pacific. Upon my discharge from the Navy, I opened an office for the private practice of surgery in New York. I also secured an appointment on the surgical staff of the New York State University Hospital medical staff. At the time of retirement I had reached the rank of full Clinical Professor of Surgery. I retired in the early 1990s.



## BERNARD WHITFIELD ROBINSON

*Matriculated 1941*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1944

BERNARD WHITFIELD ROBINSON was born on June 6, 1918, in Chicago, Illinois. His school records show only his mother's name—Sadie Gertrude Whitfield. He received his A.B. *cum laude*, from Boston College in 1941, where he was on the Dean's List, a member of the German and Latin Academies, the Chemistry Club, and Premedical Seminar.

Before matriculating at Harvard Medical School in 1941, he worked part time at the Deaconess Hospital. According to his HMS records, in the beginning of his stay he lived at 88 Munro Street in Roxbury. Along with his classmate, Cyril Jones, he would be the first black to win a commission in the US Navy. After graduating with the MD degree in 1944, he did a rotating internship at Freedmen's Hospital in Washington, D.C.

In the next 15 years, as he wrote in his 15th Medical Reunion Report of 1959, he: was in general practice in River Rouge, Michigan, from 1946 to 1947; had completed residency training in Radiology at Provident Hospital in Chicago (1948–49); had served as Radiologist in the VA Hospital at Tuskegee, Alabama (1950–51); had been on active duty, US Naval Reserve, US Naval Hospital, Illinois, and Japan (1953–54); and was Assistant Chief of Radiology at Westside VA Hospital in Chicago in 1955.

By 1969, according to his 25th Reunion Report to his medical class, he was full time in hospital administration, primarily in the Veterans Affairs system, where he became the first black Chief-of-Service in the Chicago area VA Hospitals. He served as Chief-of-Staff and Director of VA Hospitals in several states. His posts in academic medicine included Clinical Instructor in Radiology, Chicago Medical School (1959–62), and Assistant Clinical Professor, Yale School of Medicine (1943–1944; 1964–1967).

Bernard Robinson died in Chicago, on August 23, 1972, at the age of 54.



*Bernard Whitfield Robinson. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1924. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*







*James Louis Sykes. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1950. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*

## JAMES LOUIS SYKES

*Matriculated 1946*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1950

JAMES LOUIS SYKES was born on September 22, 1921, in Youngstown, Ohio. He was educated at Pennsylvania State and Youngstown Colleges. Following his graduation from college in 1941, he served in the US Army Coast Artillery Corps and Infantry from December 1941 to February 1946 and held the rank of 1st Lieutenant in the Infantry. While abroad, he studied at the University Training Command at the University of Florence, Italy.

He matriculated at Harvard Medical School in September 1946. His address at that time was Furnace, Pennsylvania, where his father worked as a coal miner. He graduated in June 1950, having received the Hayden Scholarship for four years, and interned at the Edward Meyer Memorial Hospital in Buffalo, New York.

In the *Aesculapiad* in 1950 he had stated that he planned to enter general practice in Savannah, Georgia. He died in Savannah, Georgia, 10 years after graduation, on June 6, 1960.



## MILDRED FAY JEFFERSON

*Matriculated 1947*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1951

*Autobiography*

ALTHOUGH ACKNOWLEDGING, AT TIMES, graduation from Harvard Medical School in 1951, Dr. Mildred Fay Jefferson declines to be identified with any particular age or generation.

This Texas-born daughter of a Methodist-minister father and a public school-teacher mother attended the public schools of East Texas. As one of the youngest members of the class, she entered HMS with a BA (*summa cum laude*) from Texas College (Tyler, Texas) and an MS from Tufts University (Medford, Massachusetts).

Anticipating a career comprising general surgical practice, research, and teaching, she became part of a Tutorial Program in General Surgery with the late Carl W. Walter, MD, in her second year of medical school. Leading the line of women from Harvard Medical School who went into general surgery, Dr. Jefferson became the first woman to intern in surgery at the former Boston City Hospital, the first woman accepted as a Fellow in Fractures in its Shortell Orthopedic Unit, and eventually the first woman elected to membership in the Boston Surgical Society.

On the way to certification as a Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery, Dr. Jefferson served the equivalent of three complete general surgical residencies, becoming, perhaps, the most qualified surgeon ever trained in the United States—experienced in every aspect of general surgery except laser, cryosurgery, and robotics. Her professional goal was partly satisfied with appointment to the active staff of University Hospital at the former Boston University Medical Center and as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at Boston University School of Medicine. Left unfulfilled was the opportunity to continue basic research, stranding her as a bystander looking on as other investigators over the years unraveled mysteries of physiology of the hypothalamus, her major medical-school scientific interest.

Dr. Jefferson has had a career-long interest in Medical Jurisprudence, Medical Ethics, and problems of the medicine-law interface, especially their impact on public policy and society. Responding to the increasing influence of powerful socio-political forces on the practice of medicine and the role of the physician in this dynamic, she was motivated to support organized medicine and to engage in civic politics as a Republican Party activist. Among other efforts, Dr. Jefferson is a member of the House of Delegates from Suffolk District to the Massachusetts Medical Society and the American Medical Association. She has appeared as an expert witness in key trials and significant congressional, state legislative, and municipal-body hearings. Defending the Hippocratic ethical tradition, she became a founder of the National Right to Life Movement. Among other organizations, she has served as President of the Value of Life Committee of Massachusetts, Chairman of the Board and President of the National Right to Life Committee, President of Right To Life Crusade, and member of the Board of Directors of Americans United for Life Legal Defense and Education Fund, American Life League, Inc., as well as Massachusetts Citizens For Life, Inc.



Dr. Jefferson has been awarded 28 honorary degrees by American colleges and universities. Among other honors, awards and citations, she has received the Signum Fidei Medal (LaSalle College-Philadelphia); the Bicentennial Medal of Mount Mary College (Milwaukee); the Briar Cliff College Medal (Iowa); the Sword of Loyola (Loyola University of Chicago); the Modern Samaritan Award of the Alexian Brothers Medical Center (Chicago); the Cardinal Gibbons Medal (Alumni Association of the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.); the Special Alumni Achievement Award: Alumna of the Decade (Texas College, Tyler, Texas); Distinguished Alumni Citation, National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (Washington, D.C.); and the first Public Health Ethics Award, Public Health Workers for Life (Stafford, VA). Dr. Jefferson is the first physician to be given the Father Flanagan Award of Boys Town (now Boys and Girls Town, Nebraska), which applies also to the aforementioned Sword of Loyola. She is the first woman to receive the Lantern Award for Patriotism of the Massachusetts State Council of the Knights of Columbus.

Dr. Jefferson has served on the boards of trustees of Loyola University of New Orleans, Saint Louis University (Missouri), Anna Maria College (Paxton, Massachusetts), and the former Franciscan Health Systems of the Sisters of Saint Francis (Philadelphia, PA).

An internationally acclaimed public speaker, Dr. Jefferson has spoken throughout the United States as well as in Canada, Germany, and the Netherlands. These appearances include the Cleveland Free Speech Forum (Ohio) and the Special Campus Forum at Brigham Young University (Utah). Her name has been placed in nomination for the office of US Senator at several Massachusetts State Republican Conventions, and she has represented her Massachusetts Eighth Congressional District at National Republican Conventions.

The subject of numerous magazine and newspaper articles, she has appeared on countless television and radio programs on all the national networks and many significant local stations. She hosted "Ocean State Chronicle" as public affairs director of WPXQ-TV (Rhode Island).

Dr. Jefferson has always stepped to a different drummer. Considered a "gifted child," she started school already able to read and to do simple, self-taught algebra. Although she came from an area in Texas influenced by segregationist traditions, she did not encounter people who actually attempted to limit her intellectual and professional aspirations until she moved to Boston as a teenager. Currently on self-assigned sabbatical to finish four books,

she plans never to retire, but recognizes that her resistance to the accelerated drive to force medical practice into techno-socialized utilitarianism will make it difficult for her to find a suitable appointment in a Department of Surgery.

Revisionism notwithstanding, the implementation of Affirmative Action as domestic policy can be traced back to executive orders from Republican President Richard Nixon. Although a Nixon loyalist, Dr. Jefferson is an unyielding opponent of the entire concept of special treatment for the special few and of individual or state control of another individual's life. Dr. Jefferson is the first Negro woman (terminology of Harvard anthropologist Earnest A. Hooton preferred) graduate of Harvard Medical School. In her own words: "The remedy of exclusionary practices is to remove the legal permission that enables the inequities to exist and be enforced; then, allow whoever can qualify to compete judged by a fair and universal standard. 'Affirmative Action' as presently implemented reflects as insufferably condescending and promotes a monstrous arrogance among those 'elected' to manage the fates of the 'privileged minorities.' Worse still, by luring them to accept a crutch they do not need, however well-intended, the 'saviors' are destroying inner competence, the true foundation of self-confidence, and dooming them to unending intellectual bondage. Indentured slavery might have been kinder; they may have resisted it."

*Harold May. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1951. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*



## HAROLD MAY

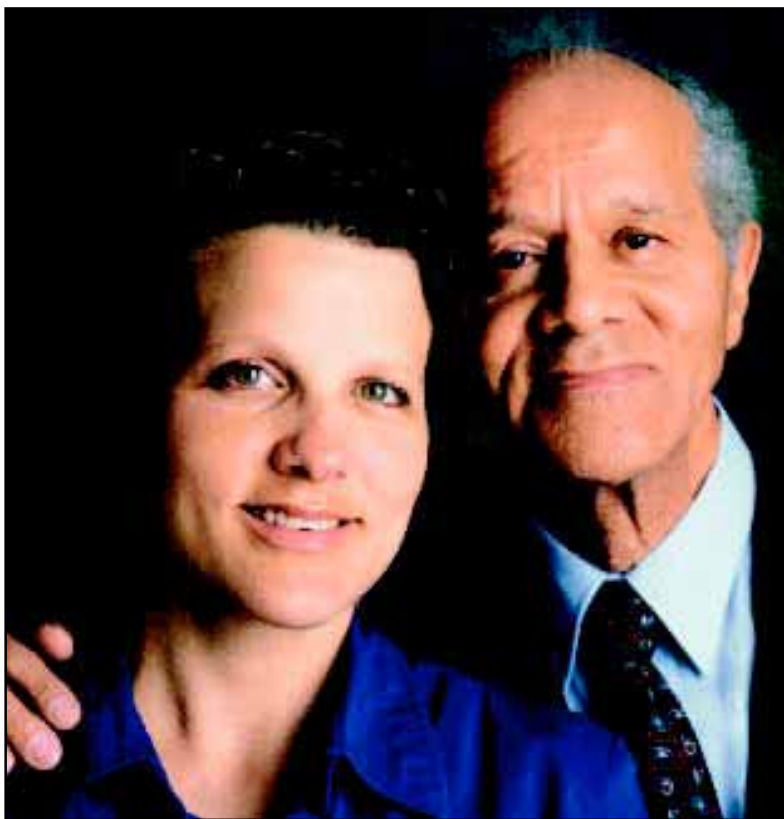
*Matriculated 1947*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1951

*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN in Peekskill, N.Y., in 1926, a few years before the Great Depression. Our family—my father, a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, my mother, a music teacher, my two brothers, my sister, and I—went through the Depression, but it was only in later years that we children realized that we had gone through a special time. We and our neighbors were poor, but we children didn't know it. Our lives





*Dr. Harold May and his daughter  
Dr. Alison May (HMS 1991).  
(Photo courtesy of the Harvard  
Medical Alumni Bulletin.)*

during those years as we moved from Peekskill to Middletown, and later to Poughkeepsie, N.Y., were happy because we felt completely secure, surrounded by a nurturing family and community, most of them poor, hard working people. Our pleasures were simple, but real. As I look back on those years, I'm grateful to my parents and to that community because most of the values that have guided me throughout my life came from them, and from those early days.

When Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7, 1941, leading us into World War II, I was a freshman in high school. Things changed. The high school program was accelerated. The school built a "commando course," an obstacle course to prepare us for what was ahead for most of the

boys. We knew that we would be joining the armed services, sooner or later. I entered Harvard in 1944 (accelerated program) and early in 1945 volunteered for the Air Corps, learning to fly at Tuskegee—a very rich experience for an 18-year-old boy!

After the war ended, late in 1945, I returned to Harvard and in 1947 entered HMS in the class of '51. After medical internship at the University of Minnesota Hospital, I transferred to Boston City Hospital for the first year of medical residency. Since I was preparing for life as a medical missionary and expected to have to do general practice in Africa or India, with no one to provide backup, I applied to the Massachusetts General Hospital, with the intention of having two years of surgical residency, then a year of pediatrics and obstetrics to complete my training. In 1953 I became the first African-American resident at MGH. (Those were the days we were living in!) Dr. Edward Churchill, the Chief of Surgery, and Dr. Scannell, the Head of the residency program, convinced me that I should take advantage of the opportunity presented at MGH and complete the surgical residency.

My surgical residency was interrupted halfway through by eye surgery (corneal graft). While convalescing I traveled to Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, and found the place where I would start my surgical career, the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in rural Haiti. After I finished the residency at MGH, I returned to the Schweitzer Hospital, where from 1960 to 1970 I was the Chief of Surgery and the lay Pastor for the interdenominational church. Aggie and I were married and our three daughters, Jeannette, Alison (HMS '91), and Margie, were born during those years in Haiti. Those were very rich and fulfilling years—not monetarily rich (my salary in 1960 was \$4,000 a year and in 1970 was \$6,000).

In 1970 I returned to Boston to become the Director of the newly established Division of Community Health at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and Assistant Professor of Surgery. It might seem to be a big leap from rural Haiti to urban Boston at a time of social turmoil, but I found that the principles of community development were the same in both places. Dr. Franny Moore, the Chief of Surgery, asked that I focus on the emergency services system as the Brigham's representative. As Chairman of the Emergency Services Committee for Region 6 (Boston, Brookline, Chelsea, Winthrop, and Revere) I learned to think of the *emergency services system* as part of the *health care system*. It was clear that these *systems* had to focus on the well-being of the patients who were served by the system, whether they were separate individuals, or the victims of a disaster, like a plane crash. The goal had to be to get all of the components of the system—whether the emergency services system or the health care system—to work in harmony so that they would respond effectively to meet the needs of *each* patient.

In 1975, while still a member of the Brigham's surgical staff, I became the Medical Director of Wrentham Developmental Center, a residential facility for mentally retarded adults (I'm a missionary). There I learned other lessons: especially, the vital importance of integrating the efforts of a dedicated interdisciplinary team if the goal of enhancing the quality of life of individuals with multiple handicaps is to be achieved.

Concerned about problems in Boston's inner city, I resigned from all clinical responsibilities in 1994 so that I could work full time there. That's when I began to see old things in a new way. Suddenly, I could see that society's systems—health care, education, justice, economic, political, and all the others—are much like the body's. Like the healthy body's systems, they should all be working smoothly together. I often thought back to our first year of medical school, when Dr. Landis patiently introduced us to the physiology of the body. I thought especially about *homeostasis*. I found it exciting in those days as I began to understand how the body works, as I had never under-

stood it before. I have the same excitement now, as I have been coming to a new understanding of how the world works. It's clear that society's systems are *not* in *homeostasis*. Just look at the health care and economic systems, or any of the others. Society's illness is systemic!

Even as medical students, we learned that symptomatic treatment alone will not cure systemic disorders. Systemic illness has to be treated systemically. I believe the same is true for society. If we consider ourselves physicians to an ailing society, the only way that we can help to bring health to our sick patient is to help to bring its systems into *homeostasis*. How can these massive systems be aligned to bring them into harmony with each other? I believe they can be aligned only when they are all tuned to the developing systems of society's most vulnerable members—its babies and children, rich and poor—and the family systems that surround them. This process is not short-term symptomatic therapy, but a long-term realignment of all of society's interconnected systems. Although the special focus is on babies and children, everyone has to be included—young and old, regardless of race, religion, or culture—because *we are all members of one family*.

What does this have to do with Boston's inner city? If the realignment process for society begins by developing a support system for children and families, what better place to start than the Codman Square neighborhood of Dorchester? That's where it actually started in the year 2000. It's called

FAMILY (Fathers And Mothers, Infants, eLders, and Youth). The transforming realignment will take a lifetime to complete, but it has begun.

Albert Douglas Anderson. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1952. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)



## ALBERT DOUGLAS ANDERSON

*Matriculated 1948*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1952

ALBERT DOUGLAS ANDERSON was born in New York, New York, on January 11, 1928, to Albert V. Anderson, a physician in New York, and Birdimone (de Cambre) Anderson. He graduated from the Bronx High School of Science and entered Columbia University, graduating with the BA degree in 1948. He matriculated at

Harvard Medical School in the same year, and graduated with the MD degree in 1952, at the age of 24. He interned at Bellevue Hospital in New York.

Early in medical school, Albert Anderson was diagnosed with a disease that was to determine much of the direction of his life. He told the story in an article in the spring 1983 issue of *The Harvard Medical Alumni Bulletin*, 10 years before his death. The article was entitled "The Race."

Physicians with chronic progressive medical disorders are in a race with time. They seek to reach a goal before they become so disabled that they cannot work.

My own race began at the age of 23, during the summer between my third and fourth years at HMS. Every year from 1949 to 1961 a group of Harvard medical students were invited by Dr. John Olds to spend the summer at Notre Dame Hospital on Twillingate, a small island off the east coast of Newfoundland. The men who had gone in previous years had chosen Howie Rasmussen, Jim Pitman, and me to go in 1951.

The hospital where the students worked operated on a prepaid medical plan supported by the fishermen of the surrounding islands. There were four wards, one of which was for children, mostly with tuberculosis, the second was for men, and the two others for women. He then continues:

The life was rugged. A one-cylinder open boat transported a fisherman, a nurse, and me from one island to another, from one family to another. On reaching an island I would clamber up the dock, black bag under one arm and textbook on pediatrics under the other, looking for the shanty filled with children of the island who were waiting to see *doctor*.

First the children would have to feel my skin and play with my hair because they had never seen a black man. Then we would get to the business at hand. Each mother had one or two children who in her opinion were sick. I would see them, and the nurse would give them medicine according to my prescription. In the evening we returned to the hospital, frequently an hour-long trip over open water.

It was in the evenings that he discovered that something was wrong. But, he wrote,

I was so busy in the clinic seeing patients (sometimes just pulling teeth) that I had no time to worry about my new sensations. I deferred attention to the problem until my return to school in the fall.



*Dr. Albert Douglas Anderson.  
(Photo courtesy of the Harvard  
Medical Alumni Bulletin.)*





*The physical therapy gym of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at Harlem Hospital Center in the new Albert D. Anderson Wing. (Photo courtesy of the Harvard Medical Alumni Bulletin.)*

“On my return to Harvard,” he wrote,

I underwent extensive study on the Neurologic Service at the MGH. Finally I was told that I had intrinsic cord disease, but there was no specific diagnosis. I was permitted to start my surgical internship at Bellevue and spent three years at that hospital, working primarily with trauma.

When my arm pain persisted, a neurologist made the diagnosis of syringomyelia and suggested that I give up a surgical career. Accepting his advice, I spent two years training in internal medicine at Montefiore Hospital.

From then on he directed his work toward rehabilitation and did a residency with Dr. Karl Harpuder. “I was not sure what this business of ‘rehabilitation’ was all about,” he wrote, but in 1966, with his training over, he went to the 1,000-bed municipal hospital in New York that had been his source of inpatients:

My goal was to establish in Harlem a rehabilitation service in a black ghetto of half a million people. My own disability had by this time progressed so that I went to Harlem walking with an ankle brace and a Lofstrand crutch.



There, he established the first treatment area in a deteriorating building one city block from the main building of the hospital:

Every morning my assistant and his troop of therapists went to the old building. Their accomplishments soon impressed other doctors... Ours was not an elegant service. In dark stairways we taught outpatients to climb stairs. They learned their toileting in the broken makeshift toilets that we converted with grab bars and elevated seats....

Finally, a new building for the Harlem Hospital was constructed in 1969 with Anderson as Chairman of the construction committee. Here a rehabilitation medicine inpatient service was established, which included the new service of organized restorative care for the disabled child. One wing of the building was named the Anderson Wing. But by then,

I was wheelchair bound and no longer could examine patients without assistance. The progress of my infirmity forced me to withdraw from the active leadership of the department in 1979, although I continue at the hospital in a teaching role. The race is over.

Despite his medical condition, he had a remarkable career and received many honors, especially for his work at Harlem Hospital. In 1978, Harlem Hospital honored him on "Albert D. Anderson Day" and named a wing for him in the Martin Luther King Pavilion.

His career included many appointments in addition to those he held at Harlem Hospital. He was the A. David Gurewitsch Professor of Clinical Rehabilitation Medicine at Columbia Physicians and Surgeons; Consultant to the Hebrew Home for the Aged, from 1962 to 1970; Consultant, Loeb Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, from 1963 to 1965; Consultant, Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York; Clinical Consultant for the program of New York State Department of Health; and Assistant Attendant, Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia University. And, at Columbia University he was a member of the Admissions Committee; Consultant to the Dean for Medical Education at Harlem Hospital.

In his 40th and last Reunion Report in 1992, he reported that he was involved in social medicine, "happily retired, teaching, and having a jolly time writing poetry." He died the following year, on February 8, 1993, at the age of 65.





*Laurel Eugene Keith. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1952. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*

## LAUREL EUGENE KEITH

*Matriculated 1948*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1952

*Biography by Stephen N. Keith, MD, MSPH*

LAUREL EUGENE KEITH was born December 19, 1920, the second son of Harley Keith (1885–1957) and Louisa Snelling Keith (1901–1991), in Cassopolis, Michigan. He graduated from Cassopolis High School in 1938 as valedictorian of his class. He attended Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana, from 1938 to 1940. In 1941, he joined the US Army and was assigned to the Army Air Corps Program at Tuskegee, Alabama. As a “Tuskegee Airman,” he was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant and piloted bomber airplanes under the command of Daniel “Chappie” James, who later became a four-star general. Without having served in combat, he was honorably discharged from the Army in 1946.

Later in 1946, Dr. Keith entered the University of Michigan. While at Michigan, he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. In 1948 he graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Science degree. Later that year, he entered the Harvard Medical School. In 1952 he graduated from the Harvard Medical School with an MD degree. While at HMS, he was elected to AOA. From 1952 to 1954 he com-



*Dr. Keith with a young patient. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Stephen N. Keith.)*



pleted a medical and pediatric internship in the US Army, serving in hospitals in Michigan, New York, and Texas.

From 1954 to 1956, he returned to Boston to complete a pediatric residency at the Boston Children's Hospital. From 1956 until 1998 Dr. Keith was engaged in the private practice of pediatrics in Chicago and also served on the clinical faculties at the Children's Hospital of Chicago, which is affiliated with the Northwestern University School of Medicine, and the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center. Upon his retirement in 1998, he relocated to Silver Spring, Maryland, and later to Ellicott City, Maryland.

Dr. Keith was a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatrics and a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He was also elected as a member of the Sigma Pi Phi fraternity. Dr. Keith was married to Elizabeth Brown Keith from 1951 until 1983, and had a son, Stephen, and a daughter, Julie. He has four grandchildren.

"During my years in Boston, I remember with great fondness my classmates Chet Pierce, Sam Katz, and Will Cochran, as well as my time spent at Boston Children's Hospital. The dean provided me with a scholarship of \$500 in 1948, a significant amount during those days, and I very much needed and appreciated it. And as the first African-American resident in pediatrics at Children's, Dr. Charles Janeway provided valuable guidance and advice," recalled Dr. Keith.

*Chester Middlebrook Pierce.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad, 1952.  
Courtesy of the Office of Alumni  
Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*



## CHESTER MIDDLEBROOK PIERCE

*Matriculated 1948*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1952

*Autobiography*

CHESTER M. PIERCE is Emeritus Professor of Education and Psychiatry in the Medical School, the Graduate School of Education and the School of Public Health at Harvard University. Dr. Pierce is Senior Psychiatrist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. For nearly 25 years he was also psychiatrist at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a

Past President of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and the American Orthopsychiatric Association.

He was founding president of the Black Psychiatrists of America and was national Chairperson of the Child Development Associate Consortium. He held the rank of Commander in the US Navy and has served on 22 editorial boards. Professor Pierce has been senior consultant to the Peace Corps; national consultant to the Surgeon General of the US Air Force; advisor to the Children's Television Workshop (*Sesame Street*, *Electric Company*); and advisor to the US Arctic Research Commission. He has published over 180 books, articles, and reviews, chiefly on extreme environments, racism, media, and sports medicine. Professional service has included chairing committees for the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Research Council; the National Science Foundation, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Awards include those from the National Medical Association, American Psychiatric Association, Black Psychiatrists of America, and the World Psychiatric Association. In addition he has won national and international awards for film production.

Dr. Pierce has been invited to lecture on all seven continents and has spoken at over 100 colleges and universities in the United States. Honors include Pierce Peak in Antarctica, honorary degrees, honorary fellowship in the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, honorary fellowship in the British Royal College of Psychiatrists. There is a Chester M. Pierce Research Society for Minority Investigators at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. He is a member of both the Institute of Medicine at the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Pierce has been on the board of the World Association of Social Psychiatry as well as on the boards of local and national voluntary organizations concerned with youth, human rights, and conservation. Born in Glen Cove, New York, on March 4, 1927, he received an AB in 1948 and an MD in 1952 from Harvard University.



*Dr. Chester M. Pierce. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Pierce.)*







Granville C. Coggs. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1953. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)

## GRANVILLE C. COGGS

*Matriculated 1949*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1953

*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN July 30, 1925, in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. I graduated from Dunbar High School, an all-black high school in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1942. From 1943 through 1946 I served in the segregated Black United States Army Air Corp. I am an "Original Tuskegee Airman" and earned military badges of aerial gunner, aerial bombardier, and multi-engine pilot. In June 1949 I received the degree of BS, with distinction, from the University of Nebraska. I was in the top three percent of the class, and was elected to honor societies, Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi. I received my MD degree from Harvard Medical School in June 1953. During my years at Harvard Medical School, for the first time I felt that I was treated as a person rather than as a black person. I completed a three-year resi-

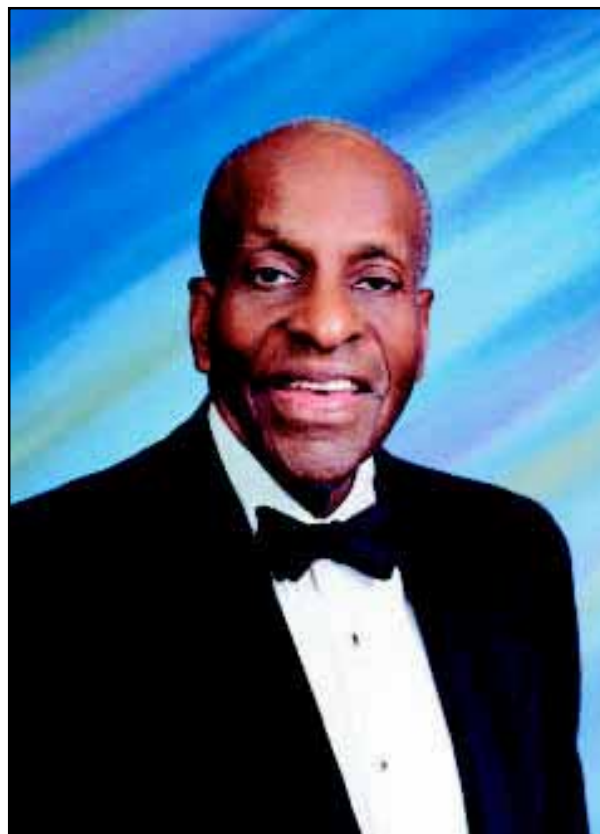
dency in radiology at the University of California, San Francisco, in 1958. I began serving as a member of the clinical faculty of the University of California, San Francisco, in 1958. In 1959 I became the first black physician to be a member of the staff of the Kaiser Foundation Hospital, San Francisco, California. In 1964 I presented a scientific exhibit, "Intravenous Aortic Study," at the seventh International Neuroradiological Symposium, Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City. This was the first occasion of the meeting of this symposium in the United States.

In 1972 I began serving full time as an Associate Clinical Professor of Radiology at the University of California, San Francisco. In 1972 I established, and was the first Head of, the Ultrasound Division, Department of Radiology, University of California, San Francisco. In 1975 I was appointed Professor of Radiology, with tenure, at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, Texas. In 1983 I established the San Antonio Breast Evaluation Center, a Multi-Modality Diagnostic Center, specializing in breast cancer diagnosis. In 1983 I presented a scientific paper and exhibit, "The Efficacy of a Community Based Multi-Modality Breast Diagnostic Center," at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America, November, 1983, in Chicago, Illinois. This Multi-Modality Breast Diagnostic Center was the first of its kind to be established in San Antonio and has served as a role model for such centers in San Antonio and elsewhere in the United States. In 1989

I presented a scientific exhibit, "Precision Breast Lesion Localizer™" at the annual meeting of the RSNA. I am a co-author of the patent: Precision Breast Lesion Localizer, patent number: 5,056,523, issue date: October 15, 1991. In 1993, I presented a scientific exhibit, "How to construct and use a low-cost precision device for percutaneous breast biopsy" at the annual meeting of the RSNA. This device is patent pending. In 1989, I retired, with a disability based on narcolepsy, from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

In 1990, however, I left the disabled ranks and returned to practice as a general radiologist. After 1990, I served for four years as a *locum tenens* radiologist, traveling about Texas and California. From 1994 to 2003, I served as the radiologist at a rural hospital, the Otto Kaiser Memorial Hospital, of Karnes County, Texas. In 2001 this hospital opened the first fixed facility for mammography in Karnes County, and I served as the Lead Mammogram-Interpreting Physician. I traveled 140 miles daily, commuting from my home in San Antonio to the hospital located in Karnes County. In February 2003, I began serving full time as a Radiologist for the Gonzaba Medical Group in San Antonio, specializing in mammography, CT examinations, and ultrasound diagnosis. Between 1982 and 1999, I served for six concert seasons as a member of the first tenor section of the San Antonio Symphony Mastersingers. In 1972 I was awarded the degree of Fellow of the American College of Radiology. In 1999, I received the Legacy Award of the National Dunbar High School Alumni Association. In 2001 I was inducted into the ninth Class of the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame.

*Addendum: I did not participate in track athletics in high school or college. In August, 1994, I began working as a Radiologist at the Otto Kaiser Hospital in Kenedy, Texas, which is 67 miles from our home. I drove this distance daily, Monday thru Friday. But since I have narcolepsy, I needed to stop once or twice on the way to work to take a nap. My wife, Maud, participated as a Varsity track sprinter while in college at Tuskegee Institute, now Tuskegee University. Maud felt that if I improved my physical fitness, that I probably would not need to take naps driving to and from work. She would*



*Photo of Dr. Coggs on display at the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame. (Courtesy of Dr. Granville Coggs.)*



*get up in the early morning and run with me approximately one mile daily. After approximately one year of this fitness regimen, I no longer needed to take naps traveling to and from work.*

*On weekends, we ran at the athletic field at the University of Texas Health Science Center. In June of 1996, I was able to run one mile in under eight minutes. A fellow runner at the track, Anson Smith, observed my running and suggested that I run in the Senior Olympics. I participated in the 1500 meter run of the 1997 San Antonio Senior Olympics, and won the Gold medal for my age group. That was the beginning of my competitive running career. I also won the Gold medal for the 1500 meter run of the 1998 and 1999 San Antonio Senior Olympics. In 1999, I finished in 18th place in the 1500 meter run of the National Senior Games. I realized that I would not be a frontrunner in future 1500 meter runs at the National Senior Games. In 1999, I ran my first 400 meter run at the San Antonio Senior Games, with finishing time of 1:41. In the 2000 San Antonio Senior Games, I ran the 400 meters in 1:20, my personal best, for this distance, finishing in 3rd place behind two competitors with finishing times of 1:18. In 2001, I received an 8th place ribbon for running the 400 meters at the National Senior Games with a finishing time of 1:38. At the Texas State Senior Games, in October 2003, I won the Gold medal for 200 meters with a finishing time of 0:42. Most recently, March 28, 2004, I won the Gold medal for the 400 meters at the San Antonio Senior Games, with finishing time of 1:44. I continue to work full time as a Radiologist. I plan to continue working as a Radiologist and running competitively, until God retires me.*



## OSCAR STANTON DePRIEST III

*Matriculated 1950*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1954

*Biography by classmate John C. Norman, MD, for Oscar Stanton DePriest III*

I AM NOT really certain how best to portray him, or how accurately to reference his and the four generations of his family's impact on our society. To attempt a brief but broad meta-analysis requires a knowledge of some of the great waves of social change, in most instances forced over our communities, classrooms, courtrooms, polling places, social services, voting booths, health-care delivery systems, corporate-industrial complexes, and armed services. And to appreciate more fully this impact requires an awareness of certain societal subtleties not generally familiar to the usual observers. For example, one would have to be conversant with, or at least aware of, the anthem "Lift every voice and sing . . .," written by James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938); the poetry of Langston Hughes (1902–1967); Lillian Smith's 1944 novel entitled "Strange Fruit," immortalized in lyrics the same year by Billie Holiday; the teachings in philosophy of Alain LeRoy Locke (1885–1954) "on the Hill" in Washington, D.C.; the ministries of Adam Clayton Powell Jr. at Abyssinia Baptist Church in New York (and the piano virtuosity of his wife, Hazel Scott), before his tenure in Congress; the political science teachings of Ralph J. Bunche (1903–1971) at Locke's University before his tenure as undersecretariat general at the United Nations; the legal scholarship of Thurgood Marshall (1908–1993) at the same university before his tenure in the US Supreme Court, for 24 years between 1967 and 1991. I cite these random points of reference for several reasons, not the least of which is to nudge the perceptive or curious reader to learn more about some of these names. And also of interest might be the Scottsboro Trial (1931–1937), taken as a theme and embedded in the 1962 film with Gregory Peck, *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Having established this background, or backdrop, we can proceed to set down vignettes on four DePriests, with emphasis on the third.

Oscar Stanton DePriest I was the congressman from the South Side of Chicago elected in 1928. It is most noteworthy that he was the first of his ethnic group elected to the House of Representatives since the days of Reconstruction. Before becoming a US Representative, he was also the first of



*Oscar Stanton DePriest III.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad, 1954.  
Courtesy of the Office of Alumni  
Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*

his ethnic group to serve in the City Council of Chicago, having been elected Alderman of the second ward in 1915. Other political positions he held were those of Cook County commissioner, assistant Illinois commerce commissioner, and delegate (three times) to the Republican National Convention. He served one additional term in the Chicago City Council from 1943 to 1947. He openly opposed Senator Theodore Bilbo on all issues of overt and covert discrimination in Congress, and had memorable, sharp, and direct verbal exchanges with Franklin Delano Roosevelt, thirty-second president of the United States.

Oscar Stanton DePriest II, the son of the “Dean of Chicago’s ‘Southside’ lawyers” and “The Congressman” was, in a sense, to the manor born. Following public service, the father had developed a substantial practice in real estate, and it naturally followed that the son expanded and developed the practice nationally, as did Meyer Zeckendorf in the Kips Bay development in New York; Kenny Schnitzer and the Kickerello Group in Houston; similar to the Charles River Park development in Boston by Jerry Rappaport, our classmate from Dunster House, in Cambridge. Following World War I and prior to World War II, the population and fortunes in the area of Chicago along Lake Michigan, south of what is now McCormick Place and the Trade Center, burgeoned, producing its own governance, commerce, professional cadres, publishing empires such as the Chicago Defender and the Johnson Enterprises, insurance companies such as Supreme Liberty Life, and sports

heroes including Joe Louis Barrow (*n.b.* the second Louis-Schmeling heavyweight contest in 1938). And within this favorable and self-supporting and replicating milieu, the real estate interests of Oscar Stanton DePriest II kept pace with Chicago’s thriving South Side community, comprised of about 400,000–500,000 striving citizens.

Oscar Stanton DePriest III, when viewed from this perspective (*vide supra*), was certainly to the manor born and sent off from Urbana, Illinois, to Philips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, in preparation for admission to Harvard College

in 1946. He was joined at Andover by Frank Jones, son of the then president of the legendary Bennett College in Greensboro, N.C. Oscar Stanton DePriest III was awarded the coveted Yale Bowl for “Proficiency in Scholarship & Athletic Ability” in 1946. After the freshman year in “the Yard,” he moved into a Lowell House suite with Roger Humberger and began an odyssey of academic achievement in the biological sciences and humanities unmatched



*Dr. Oscar S. DePriest III and son Oscar IV. (Photo courtesy of DePriest family.)*

by any before and surpassed by few since. He was elected to the “Junior 16” members of Phi Beta Kappa, graduated with highest honors, *summa cum laude*, and was admitted to Harvard Medical School. This was the post-World War II Harvard College, at the peak of its competitiveness, selectivity, and uncompromising pursuit of academic excellence. This is not at all to discount other aspects of what President James Bryant Conant and Dean Wilbur J. Bender considered a “good” education. Albert Schweitzer had just published *Aus Mein Leben und Denken* and played Bach organ duets with E. Power Biggs in the Adolphus Busch Hall on Quincy Street (June 28–July 22, 1949), three years before receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in Stockholm. Robert Frost, later to become Kennedy’s choice for poet laureate, read some of his 1949 poems, such as “A Boy’s Will,” “North of Boston,” “Mountain Interval,” and “West-Running Brook,” to the undergraduates in the Common Room of DePriest’s Lowell House, beside that weathered Steinway in front of the fireplace on that ancient Isphahan. And with the usual aplomb, DePriest veered away from the most-traveled road to Vanderbilt Hall for Medical undergraduates, married, begat “Butchie” in Holden Green and somewhat effortlessly navigated his way through an uncompromisingly rigorous HMS curriculum that challenged all and defeated some. Class rankings were never known, but in an arena littered with the less capable, most would wager that Jan Koch-Weser, Milt Alper, Norm Levinsky, David Allen, Oscar Starobin, and Oscar Stanton DePriest III probably ranked among the highest. And he was accepted into the highly-coveted Surgical Residency of the Massachusetts General Hospital, under the tutelage of Edward Delos Churchill, the John Homans Professor of Surgery—a selection, to my knowledge, as yet un-repeated to this date.

Oscar Stanton DePriest III went on to a thoughtful and busy clinical career in civilian and military thoracic surgery that reflected well the teachings of his mentors, as he, in turn, ministered to and taught so many others. Oscar Stanton DePriest III is currently “a little under the weather,” hence my setting down some of these Boswellian musings as his surrogate. In so doing, indulge me this précis. In my view, to do justice to an Oscar Stanton DePriest III characterization requires comparisons to the brittle wit and crackling satire of a Jules Pfeiffer cartoon in the *Village Voice*; the biting humor of an Ogden Nash limerick in the *New Yorker*; the clinical acumen in the best of the surgical case records of the Massachusetts General Hospital in the *New England Journal of Medicine*; all played to the themes of Dvorjak’s *New World Symphony*, George and Ira Gershwin’s *Porgy & Bess*, Harburg and Lane’s *Finnians Rainbow*, Leonard Bernstein’s *West Side Story*, anything by Charlie Parker in 1953, Miles Davis in 1960, and Roberta Flack, currently. Of such talents and interests was this gifted twenty to twenty-first century American

tive educational systems and clinical institutions of the country, who carried with him to untold others their combined legacies, while creating his own. One of his sons, Charles V. DePriest, graduated with the Harvard Medical Class of 1982.

*Postscript: Oscar's illness, the progression and severity of which I was well aware, ended quietly, in the early morning of July 4th, 2003. He was able to review early drafts of this note and approved of the content. A memorial service was held in July, an obituary appeared in the Washington Post, and I posted a note on class of '50 website. He was interred at Arlington National in August of this year.*

*Headquarters, Department of the Army, Office of the Surgeon General and the Deputy Surgeon General for Mobilization and Reserve Affairs promoted Oscar V. DePriest IV to the rank of (two-star) Brigadier General on Saturday, the sixth day of December, 2003 at 11 o'clock at Hanscom Air Force Base in Bedford, Lincoln, Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts.*



## JOHN C. NORMAN

*Matriculated 1950*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1954

*Autobiography*

BIRTHPLACE: CHARLESTON, WEST Virginia, May 11, 1929

Parents: John C. Norman Sr., architect and structural engineer who established both of those departments at West Virginia State College, 1919; and Ruth Stephenson Norman, American English educator in the Kanawha Valley 1919–1981, Howard and Columbia Universities, 1919 and 1934.

Godfathers: Mordecai W. Johnson, who became president of Howard University in 1924; and John W. Davis, president of West Virginia State College, who received his honorary degree from Harvard University in 1950.

*John C. Norman. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1954. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*

### *HMS. Retrospective*

Ours was the Harvard of James Bryant Conant as president and William Bender as dean of the college, when approximately one thousand freshmen

were admitted, to live in the Yard their first year, and approximately five hundred elected to pursue pre-medical curricula while living in one of the Houses, along the Charles River, over the next four years. Henry Kissinger was an older, but unknown classmate. Jerry Rappaport, father of a recent Massachusetts gubernatorial hopeful and the future builder of Charles River Park, played touch football with us along the River in front of Dunster House. I called room F16 home and shared F-Entry with Dan Federman, then a gifted social relations major who minored in the pre-med sciences. Gordon Fair was housemaster and Mrs. DiPento saw to our receiving a balanced diet, with chocolate ice cream and éclairs every Wednesday evening. Louis Fieser taught the memorable “Chem 20” course in biochemistry and Alfred Sherwood Romer taught comparative anatomy. Mitch Rabkin, also of F-Entry, will remember our mnemonic for the cranial nerves: “Our old ostracoderm took three about faces and vaguely faced himself.” George Wald held us enthralled every morning with his lectures in biochemistry, which included some of his work on the biochemistry of vision, for which he subsequently received the Nobel Prize. George Kistiakowski, rumored to have been at Alamogorda with Oppenheimer, saying “it probably will . . . go off,” regaled and bewildered graduate and undergraduate students alike regarding the intricacies of physical chemistry. Winston Churchill gave the commencement address the year before, and *The Gathering Storm* and four other volumes of his memoirs were best sellers exhibited in every window of the many bookstores in Harvard Square. Henry Morgenthau Jr. and John Maynard Keynes met at Bretton Woods near Mount Washington to set up the International Monetary Fund and establish the gold standard just six years earlier. As pre-medical hopefuls, academic excellence was established as our priority and medium of exchange. In 1949, from F-entry alone, Federman was accepted to HMS and Arthur Sicular, Robert Hamlish, and Jack Durell went to Yale Medical. The following year, from the same Dunster House entry, I was accepted to HMS, and Mitch Rabkin followed the next year.

Our Harvard Medical School was that of Reginald Fitz Jr. as dean of stu-



*Dr. John C. Norman (left) with Dr. Denton A. Cooley (right), at the Texas Heart Institute Cullen Cardiovascular Surgical Research Laboratories in 1975. (Photo courtesy of the Texas Heart Institute.)*

Our Harvard Medical School was that of Reginald Fitz Jr. as Dean of Students, whose father had first described appendicitis in 1898, differentiating it from theretofore undiagnosed and untreatable “peritiphilitis;” and Miss Dorothy Murphy, who was “really in charge” and to whom we turned and reported essentially everything. I had been elected to Phi Beta Kappa, majoring in biological sciences and graduating with high honors, the same year that William F. Buckley was “tapped” for Skull & Bones at that other institution in New Haven with far different admission criteria. I had been elected president of the Harvard-Radcliffe Biological Society, wrote my honors thesis on “The Effects of Hypophysectomy in *Rattus rattus* and *Rana pipiens*,” and was interviewed for acceptance by Christian B. Anfinsen in his laboratory on the ground floor of what was then Building D in the Quadrangle. For his work relating enzyme form to function, Anfinsen later received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

I spent the summer before entering HMS working in the stacks of the Children’s Hospital for Dr. Robert Gross, retrieving the records of all of the “preemies” under two pounds on which he had operated. This work became part of his seminal volume *The Surgery of Infancy and Childhood*, subsequently published by W.B. Saunders and Co. Off Tugo Circle in hemicentric configuration along Avenue Louis Pasteur and Longwood Avenue, under the aegis of “John,” the ever-present and avuncular watchman at the desk, I set up shop in Room 338 of Vanderbilt Hall, between “Jocko” Roth and Harold Urschel, an All-American linebacker from Princeton. Edward Delos Churchill introduced our class to the vagaries of surgical triage he had learned as the senior surgeon in the ETO during World War II. Frances Daniels Moore, the youngest Mosely Professor of Surgery at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, introduced us to the biochemistry and quantitation of surgical phenomena, initially characterized in his text *The Metabolic Response to Surgery*, written with Miss Margaret Ball. Ours, then, was the Medical School of Joseph Aub in Medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital, along with Fuller Albright and his technician, Sulkowich; of George Thorn and the steroid chemists at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital, the initial renal dialysis unit of John Merrill along with the surgical consultations of J. Englebert Dunphy, Howard Quigley, and Carl Walter. Of equal stature were the cardiology ministries of Hermann Blumgart and Paul Zoll and the psychiatric units of Greta Biebring at the Beth Israel Hospital. The pre-clinical anatomy demonstrations of Donald Fawcett and Edward E. Edwards, the biochemistry lectures of A. Baird Hastings, the physiology series of Clifford Barger, and the pharmacology block of Otto Kraye and Donald Riggs, were rounded out with infectious diseases at BCH with J. Maxwell Finland, and the abnormal



personalities at Boston Psychopathic. As a student with Miles Shore I saw my first patient at the MGH, a Mrs. Ventulo, of whom I asked in nervous seriousness "Are you married?" as Miles partially held back his laughter! Two seasoning years later, we were thrown open to the matching plan and catapulted off to the internships.

#### *An HMS Metaphor*

Unlike Gilbert and Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore*, which provokes and enjoys descriptions 125 years after its first performance in 1878, an HMS Metaphor in 2003 eludes and defies definition, 221 years after its inception in 1782, because it just will not lie still for a thorough physical examination that could pass the scrutiny of any of its senior internists, such as Perry Culver, Roman DeSanctis, *et al.* It conveniently could be likened to a kaleidoscopic prism that reflects the corrected biases of its serial observers and chroniclers, over a quarter of a millennium. And although it has been described as a series of independent and autocratic baronies and fiefdoms, loosely allied about the Quadrangle and other clinical epicenters, it could be likened to an assortment of interrelated intellectual curiosities or properties in a series of major health care consortia with mission statements in research, teaching, and patient care. Its 1000 students and 8000 faculty constitute a gene pool of endless diversity and ever-changing complexity, the DNA-sequencing of which would render the current NIH-sponsored genome project sophomoric. One hopes that its most important products are truth in teaching, learning, diagnosing, investigating, publishing, administering, and managing. And one opines that these laudable outcomes are best achieved and complemented by truth in admissions.

An HMS Metaphor should, then, also include some reference to its considerable and to-be-reckoned-with influence, which is amplified and magnified by its students, faculties, and graduates, and welcomed far beyond its local and regional facilities and presences by national and global sets of eager receptors. The synergies are remarkable, and I offer my apologies for two personal references that follow. Some years ago, our laboratory in the basement of the Sears Building at BCH on Harrison Avenue, during the George Packer Berry Deanship, advanced the possibility of using encapsulated nuclear fuel sources to power implantable artificial organs: hearts, pacemakers, etc. At the time, Michael Crichton was a first year student and came to the laboratory for our course on experimental open-chest cardiac resuscitation. We published our work in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, but Michael expanded and referenced it in his first novel, *The Terminal Man*. Representatives of the AEC read the novel, followed the reference in the *New England Journal of Medicine*

back to us, and expanded the work. That was synergy. Some years later, during the Robert H. Ebert Deanship, Nicholas Lemann, who now writes for *The New Yorker*, visited our laboratories, then in the Texas Heart Institute in Houston, and chronicled our artificial heart research and development activities, begun in Boston, which led to the first federally-supported and approved clinical trials, described in his first documentary report *The Fast Track, Texans and Other Strivers*, published by W.W. Norton & Co. The book was reviewed by *The New York Times*, noted by NHLBI at the National Institutes of Health, and the work on ALVAD accelerated toward a successful clinical outcome. Again, that was synergy. And Michael Crichton, again, amplified this second synergy by revisiting our ALVAD work begun at HMS nearly four decades ago for the story line of an episode of "E.R.," describing its clinical utilization on syndicated national television in the year 2000. Simply put, HMS possibly is best described by, and, probably understood only by its students, graduates, faculty and, importantly, their patients individually or in concert. All would differ in their assessments and evaluations, characteristically, agreeing to disagreeing, but certainly reaffirming and validating support for the continued pursuit of excellence. From such vantage points, then, the HMS Metaphor becomes an allegorical exercise in iconography, sailing on like the *HMS Pinafore*, but continuing to defy definition.

*Addendum: CD-R discs of Dr. Norman's extensive bibliography and selected lectures are on file in the Alumni Office, the Countway Library, the Schomburg in New York City and the Smithsonian's Bionics Project. He served on the faculties of Columbia University, Harvard Medical School and its admission committee, the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston and the Texas Heart Institute, and continues to consult in Boston after chairmanship of the Department of Surgery at Marshall University.*

*Dr. Norman built and directed two laboratories. The first was on the ground floor of the Sears Building at BCH on Harrison Avenue (Judah Folkman's first laboratory was built the following year, on the floor above) and the second, the Cardiovascular Surgical Research Laboratories of the Texas Heart Institute in Houston. Both laboratories persist and continue to flourish in 2004. Dr. Norman was the founding editor of the Texas Heart Institute Journal whose issues under his aegis are currently being scanned for PDF publication at PubMed Central (<http://www.pubmedcentral.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=92>). Of his many national and international awards, the title Markle Scholar in Academic Medicine of the Faculty at HMS is one of the most cherished.*



## EDDIE H. HARRIS

*Matriculated 1952*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1956

A HIGHLY RESPECTED PSYCHIATRIST, Eddie H. Harris was born in Canton, Mississippi, at the start of the Great Depression on July 12, 1929. His father, Edward H. Harris Sr., died when he was six years old. His mother, Ethel Harris Burrage, a preschool and kindergarten teacher, always stressed the importance of education to him, a lesson he remembered for a lifetime. After graduating from high school in Canton in 1947, Harris graduated with a BS with highest distinction in biology from Tennessee State University in 1951. He then matriculated at Harvard Medical School, graduating in 1956. While he was in medical school, he met and married Susan Celeste Frye in July 1954. His wife predeceased him in April 1975.

Eddie Harris completed his medical internship at King's County Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York, in the summer of 1957, then enlisted and served as a Captain in the United States Army at Fort Riley, Kansas. While in the service, he fathered two sons, David Jeffrey Harris in 1957 and Edward Henry Harris in 1959.

Dr. Harris had a distinguished career in public health and mental health. He established a private practice in Columbus, Mississippi, and maintained it until 1963 when he moved to Boston to train in psychiatry. He was first Fellow, then Resident Psychiatrist at the Massachusetts General Hospital from 1963 to 1968. In June 1968 he moved to Auburn, California, and was Staff Psychiatrist at Dewitt Hospital in Auburn until 1971. In 1971 he became Medical Director at the Charles Drew Medical Center in East Palo Alto, while serving as Assistant Professor at Stanford University Medical School from 1971 to 1973. From 1974 until his recent retirement he worked at Folsom Prison, initially as Chief Psychiatrist and toward the end of his career as Chief Medical Officer. In 1978 he took a three-year leave from Folsom Prison to serve as Director of Flight Medicine for NASA, where he performed psychological profiles on potential astronauts.

Some of his hobbies included sailing, flying—once solo across the United States—and running in marathons, including the Boston Marathon.

Edward Harris died in June 2003 at his home in Auburn, California, at the age of 73. During his lifetime he persevered over great odds to become a highly respected psychiatrist.



*Eddie H. Harris. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1956. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*



Okogbue Okezie. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1957. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)

## OKOGBUE OKEZIE

*Matriculated 1953*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1957

*Amended by Dr. Okezie*

OKOGBUE OKEZIE WAS BORN on October 27, 1928, in Uzua-koli, Nigeria. In the US, he attended Iowa Wesleyan College, where he was a member of the Honor Biology Fraternity and president of the Honor Scholastic Fraternity. He graduated with the AB degree, *cum laude*, in 1953. He matriculated at Harvard Medical School in September of the same year, graduating in June 1957, followed by a rotating internship and a year's residency in internal medicine at the Rhode Island Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island.

He then completed a fellowship in nuclear medicine at the Long Island Hospital (1960–61) and a two-year residency in medicine. This was followed by a year of fellowship in cardiology at the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. According to his 15th Reunion Report to his medical class in 1972, at that time he took care of patients 60 percent of his time, and taught interns and residents 40 percent of the time. His hospital appointments were at Queens Hospital Center and the Long Island Jewish Hospital Center. Then he wrote:

We spent 1960–61 in Nigeria working as a medical officer in a Government hospital. A Nigerian government grant brought us back to the states for a fellowship in nuclear medicine and two years of medicine at the Long Island Jewish Hospital. This was followed by a fellowship in cardiology at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York, and I finally finished my training in 1966. The Nigeria-Biafra war broke out and changed our plans. We lost the war. My wife returned from Nigeria a few weeks ago and reports that conditions are slowly returning to normal in the former Biafra. We hope that some day we shall be back to help tackle the unimaginable medical problems...

Five years later, in 1977, he wrote:

We have remained here longer than we anticipated. Arrangements are in progress for us to return to one of the teaching centers in Nigeria...

Then, 15 years later in 1992, he wrote in his last and 35th Reunion Report:

Returned to New York from Nigeria in 1988 after several years spent working and teaching in a hospital in the eastern part of the country. It was indeed a very satisfying experience. The problems of providing health care in a developing country are formidable. The emphasis now is on community health centers as a basis for primary care.

From Dr. Okezie: *My wife died in 1995 while in Nigeria on vacation. We had seven children, Chimere, Nnamdi, Enyinnaya, Ngozi, Tobenna, Nnennaya, and Okogbue, three of whom are in the medical profession. Chimere, the eldest, was born in Boston and is an oral surgeon. Ngozi, my older daughter, is a child psychiatrist, and Tobenna is an orthopedic surgeon. They both graduated from Yale University School of Medicine. Nnamdi attended Clarion State University and works in New York. Enyinnaya graduated cum laude from City University of New York at Queens College and works for the Bank of New York. Nnennaya, my younger daughter, graduated from Sarah Lawrence College and works for a member of Congress. My youngest and namesake, Okogbue Jr., died suddenly while playing soccer in 1998. He was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. I am the proud grandfather of Liam and Aidan Curtis and Chinwe Okezie.*

*I have remained active in internal medicine and cardiovascular diseases at Long Island Jewish Medical Center, Queens Hospital Center and teaching at State University of New York at Stonybrook and I worked for a year at Gracie Square Hospital in New York.*

*I am a member and Fellow of the American College of Physicians, a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada, and a Fellow of the West African College of Physicians.*



## ROBERT JOSEPH RIVERS JR.

*Matriculated 1953*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1957

*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN November 14, 1931, in Princeton, New Jersey. Mother was a domestic and father was a servant for university students. I attended a racially-segregated grammar school in Princeton, and responded to the nurturing support of excellent teachers. Academic success followed in an integrated high school environment. I entered Princeton University shortly after the university began admitting African-Americans in the late 1940s. The academic experience was excellent, but the social environment reflected the times. The sensibilities of a colored student were not a major priority. I graduated in 1953 with an AB degree (biology with honors) and special recognition for a senior thesis (Society of the Sigma Xi).

*Robert Joseph Rivers Jr.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad, 1957.  
Courtesy of the Office of Alumni  
Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*



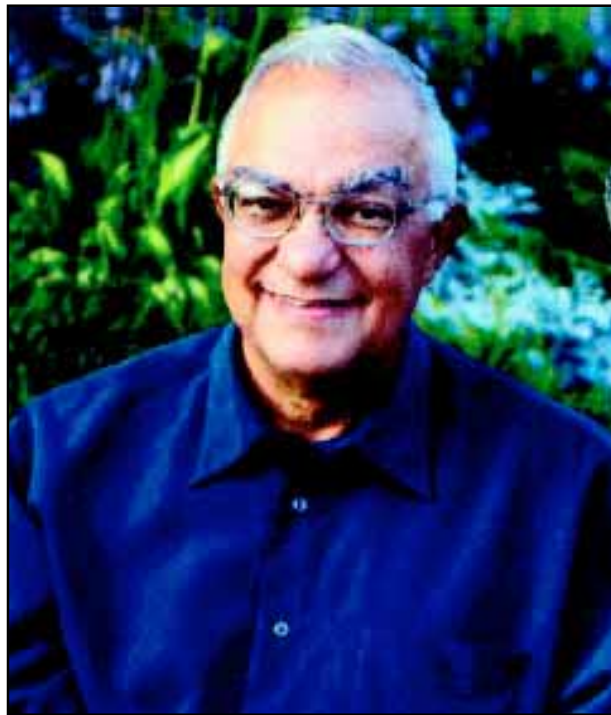
Opportunities for black students to attend white medical schools in 1953 were limited, but my thoughts about the future guided my expectations. I was encouraged by a Princeton graduate, Boston attorney E. Lang Makrauer, to consider Harvard. My first trip in an airplane took me to Boston in the summer of 1953. I recall interviews with Dean Emerson and Professor William Hinton. I was impressed not only by their supportive interest but also by the enthusiasm of HMS students (including Jack Norman, Hal Urschel, Oscar DePriest, and Dave Hickok). I was very pleased with the opportunity to join HMS '57 and an exciting chapter in my life began with an impressive introductory lecture at Beth Israel Hospital.

The city was exciting, the social environment was a pleasant improvement, and the challenges presented by teachers and mentors were invigorating. Generous scholarships supplemented a very tight budget and I was energized by a very good first year, which included my selection to serve as an anatomy prosector. (Perhaps an influence on my decision to become a surgeon). Drs. Erikson, Barger, Amos, Waksman, Gross, Dunphy, Cope, and Welch come to mind when I think of faculty having a major influence on my medical school experience and on my professional expectations. I began to feel like a 'real doctor' during my medical rotation at Boston City Hospital, and the meaning of compassion became clear during the summer I spent caring for iron lung polio patients on the converted floors in White Building at MGH. My professional maturity also grew during the two years I lived at MGH while working in the blood bank. Pleasant memories of people and places include life at Vanderbilt, Sparr's Drug Store, jazz at The Stables near Copley Square, and Sunday Service at Marsh Chapel with Dean Howard Thurman. Most important, however, is the fact that I met my future wife, a Simmons College student nurse, during those very special years. Our family owes much to her loving care, and my professional pleasure and future success began with her support.

I had hoped to remain in Boston but the ball took an unexpected bounce and I moved on to the University of Rochester for my surgical training. This experience led to a long professional relationship with the school and the community. I subsequently served as Chief of Vascular Surgery at two community hospitals, derived enormous pleasure from teaching residents and students, and, together with my wife, established the first certified vascular laboratory in Rochester. In 1984 I became one of the first African-American surgeons recognized by the American Board of Surgery for special qualifications in vascular surgery. Academic interests through the years have included homograft rejection (HMS, Dr. Waksman, advisor), organ preservation and transplantation (Surgical Research Fellow, Lahey Clinic), cardiac revascularization, and a long professional relationship with HMS classmate,

Arthur Moss, implanting and evaluating cardiac pacemakers. My professional publications and presentations have dealt with pacemakers, vascular surgery, and organ preservation, but they have also addressed issues related to African-Americans and other underrepresented groups in the profession. My concern began when I realized how few African-Americans were accepted by white medical schools in 1953. In 1969 my Harvard Medical School dean, Dr. George Packer Berry, invited me to attend a Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation conference to participate in discussions concerning minority enrollment. Over the years I have participated in efforts at the University of Rochester Medical School to increase the enrollment of African-Americans and other underrepresented minorities. Those efforts included recruiting trips, support for students by local physicians and service on the admissions committee. In 1985 I accepted the challenge of a major opportunity when I was appointed Associate Dean for Minority Affairs at the University of Rochester School of Medicine. Results justified the effort. I was also very pleased by the opportunity to participate in the early years of the Society of Black Academic Surgeons before I retired as Professor of Clinical Surgery in 1989. Additional activities included multiple medical organizations, service on boards of hospitals, a bank, the Rochester Urban league, the Rochester YMCA, the Associated Medical School (New York), and the National Association of Medical Minority Educators (NAMME). I have also been a member of the New York State Board of Professional Medical Conduct. I was honored by NAMME with an Exemplary Service Award (1999) and I received a Presidential Citation from the New York State Medical Society for community service (1971).

A major portion of my biography involved Princeton University. Despite the disappointing social aspects of my undergraduate experience it became my privilege to participate in the turbulent process that addressed the challenge presented by racial inequity in higher education. Honor and pleasure came with opportunities to serve the Princeton University community as a Trustee of the university, and as a member of the University Alumni Council. I received the Distinguished Alumni Service Award from the Association of Black Princeton Alumni in 1982.



*Dr. Robert J. Rivers Jr.  
(Photo courtesy of  
Dr. Rivers.)*



My wife and I have been blessed with four children. The three boys have graduated from Princeton University, and a daughter graduated from Brown University and Yale Medical School. Her resident years at Children's Hospital in Boston were followed by an MPH at Harvard. Her husband is an ophthalmologist, trained at Mass Eye and Ear. A son received his training in ophthalmology at Cornell and the University of Iowa after obtaining his MD at Cornell. Another son, an architect, received his graduate degree from Harvard. Our third son, after a career in historic preservation, obtained a law degree from Tulane University.



*Albert Byrd Crum.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad,  
1957. Courtesy of  
the Office of Alumni  
Affairs, Harvard  
Medical School.)*

## ALBERT BYRD CRUM

*Matriculated 1955*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1957

*Autobiography*

FOR A YOUNG African-American, Native American student, the experience of attending HMS before Affirmative Action, was possibly as great a transcultural, transracial, intellectual challenge as any in American life. Without a strong and accessible sense of “self,” and inner equanimity, that experience could have been an isolating or unduly stressful one.

To have enjoyed and maximized the HMS experience, for my part, involved a combination of two preparatory foundations. First, a strong sense of family support was there, which provided a deep sense of security and which embraced more than just the essential intellectual preparation. Second, for lack of more expressive words, there was also a meaningful and functional philosophy of life, which for me was essen-

tial. These can often be overlooked elements, but from my point of view they were a vital part of making the Harvard Medical experience an assimilable and equanimitous one.

To illustrate this, among the many family documents that I have carefully preserved is a poem that my mother dedicated for me when I was a toddler in 1933. Her little poem was a prayer, and it embraced both the strong family support and a philosophy to carry a young person forward. Such carefully drawn up handwritten papers were not only sacred to me, they were—by

virtue of their having been so sincerely presented and committed to paper—Proclamations.

The setting and milieu at HMS: a gathering of possibly the brightest, most privileged, best educated, “high IQ” students, fortified by the preparation received from many of America’s private preparatory schools and most prestigious colleges. In addition, the HMS faculty comprised the leaders and pacesetters in American medicine. Among that combination of distinguished faculty and talented students there were inevitably a few arbitrary personalities who could often be gratuitously uncharitable or discourteous. To thrive in such a setting took more than merely being “up to” the intellectual challenge.

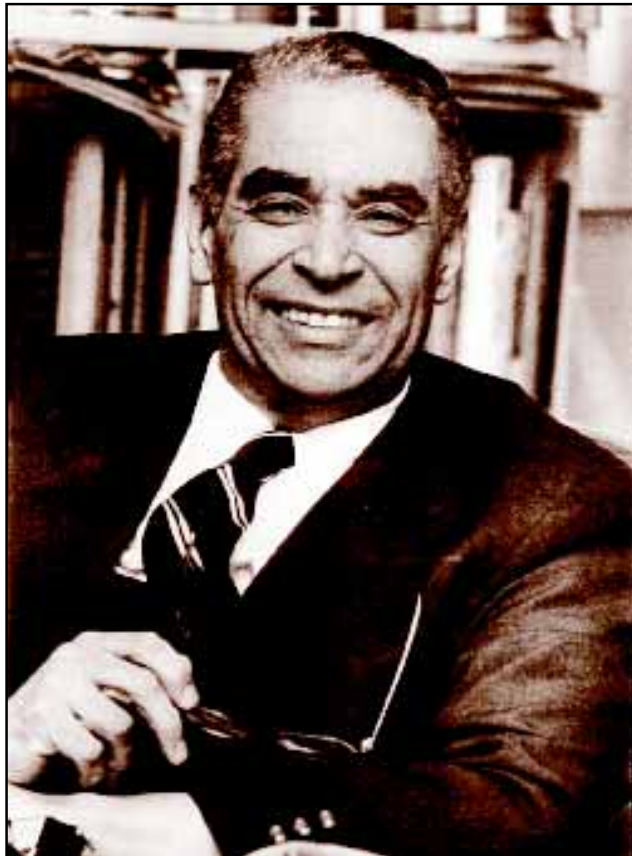
*The Harvard Medical Alumni Bulletin* several years ago contained the information that the first three African-American men who were accepted to the Medical School in 1850 were dismissed owing to student protests against them (*Harvard Medical Alumni Bulletin*, Summer 1990, Vol. 64, No. 1, p. 7, describing the Widener Library exhibition, “The Afro-American Presence in Medicine 1850–1930: The Harvard Connection”):

Daniel Laing, Isaac H. Snowden and Martin Delany were admitted to HMS in 1850, yet were dismissed one semester later, following some students’ letters of protestation . . . to Dean Oliver Wendell Holmes.

I have often wondered what stress *those* men were under, what *they* endured, and how *their* lives unfolded, subsequent to such a dismissal. In addition, what kind of later adjustments were they able to make in life?

There is no doubt that at HMS, an African-American, Native American student encountered the fulfillment of a dream, but at the same time encountered one of the strongest challenges a young person could possibly face. How was it possible for an early minority student to thrive in that highly-charged setting?

Speaking personally, armed with strong family support, where such preparation began to take place early in life, a very wise mother encouraged me to find my “talents” in all possible activities. The poem mentioned above epitomizes



*Dr. Albert B. Crum.  
(Photo courtesy of  
Dr. Crum.)*

mizes her admonitions toward a sense of purpose and motive clarification, examining *why* it was important to commit my energy or attitude or opinion to a subject or project and the importance of such introspection to focus energy and to avoid regret.

Boy's Future

August 17, 1933

You will be rewarded while you live  
according to the gifts you give.  
The gifts which you present will be  
marks of your capability.

Examples set through thoughts and deeds  
Shall be life's tokens and your meeds.  
Your tasks and favors will repay  
you very handsomely some day!

Keep cynicism from your sight  
and practice honesty despite  
your moods depressive when you see  
the dark that never ought to be:

Be strong and of good courage  
Be not affrighted neither be thou dismayed.

Your loving Mother, Alberta.

She backed up her principles with everyday practicalities. Her encouragement never became factors of performance stress, because she watched to see the natural talents and inclinations emerge; then she supported—from hobby exhibitions to accordion lessons. She did not predetermine or pre-select from her own wishes. Once talents emerged, she encouraged exploration, reality-testing, and fulfillment. Her strategy was continued with our three daughters (HMS '85; Harvard Law School '84; Cornell School of Veterinary Medicine '89).

She encouraged many diverse activities which sprang from my interests, from the highly competitive to plain personal best: an expedition to the Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio, to see "the winners" added to my inspiration to become the Soap Box Derby Special Prize Winner for the record-breaking time the following year in Omaha; encouragement to compete as part of my high school wrestling team to capture the Missouri Valley Wrestling Championship in my weight class, with travel through racially isolated farm communities of Iowa and Nebraska, including Olympic Tryout Entrant (1948);

belonging to an outstanding Boy Scout Troop made it possible to become only the second youth in the Midwestern Covered Wagon Council to attain the dual ranks of Eagle Scout and Ranger Scout. All of these helped me to experience and cherish relationships with the widest group of backgrounds. The later Harvard experience could have been an isolating one and a formidable adjustment, without having shared earlier strong and diverse transcultural activities and interactions.

Those early strengths, family-provided moral/morale support and a philosophy of life with a functional belief system to sustain my purpose in life, gave me the capacity to enjoy and assimilate the rigors of Harvard with equanimity, deep appreciation, and profound gratitude. I have returned a measure of that gratitude by being a very successful class agent and writing the *Harvard Class Agent Giving Handbook*, and I plan to return more.



## RUDOLPH ST. CLAIR CUMBERBATCH

*Matriculated 1955*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1959

*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN on November 22, 1931, in Barbados, West Indies. My father was a young schoolteacher starting on his teaching career. His school was located in another parish isolated by the nature of the terrain from the rest of the island. My first three years of life were marred by poliomyelitis from which I almost died and was left with a paralyzed left diaphragm, partly paralyzed left lower extremity and a contracted Achilles tendon. My great-grandmother with her “remedies” and daily dips in the sea about two miles from our home saved my life and reduced my disabilities so that I could walk, albeit with a limp. As a result of these circumstances I spent a major part of my early years growing up with my great-aunt and great-grandmother, the matriarch of the Cumberbatch family. Her ancestry was from somewhere on the Gold Coast of Africa and my great-grandfather was of Scottish ancestry. My great-grandfather’s dad was not very tolerant of interracial marriages and my great-grand-



*Rudolph St. Clair Cumberbatch.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad, 1959.  
Courtesy of the Office of Alumni  
Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*

parents had to start life from scratch without any material or psychological assistance from the paternal side of the family. An early and critical portion of my character was molded by my paternal great-grandmother and great-aunt. My great-grandfather died before I was born, but his character and life were engraved in my memory through the vivid narrative of his wife, my great-grandmother. The influence of an older cousin who was beginning her long career as nurse and my own parents began to play a very important role in my internal debate on future career choices beginning about age 12. My dad was appointed as the headmaster and began the conversion of the Alleyne School, an all-boys secondary school, to a very successful model of a co-educational school, despite the naysayers.

My cousin was now a young Matron and nursing leader in the hospital. My personal internal debate intensified and I was very torn between the careers of teaching and medicine. There were no male role models in nursing. Moreover, after my protracted bout with poliomyelitis I believed that I would be able to contribute more to society as a physician. In my mid-teens, again following in my dad's footsteps, I transferred from the Parry secondary school to Harrison College, an equivalent of a combination of secondary school and junior college primary school. This school, which my dad previously attended, had an abundance of English-born and educated teachers supplemented with locally born teachers educated in England. Mr. Querie, an Englishman of French ancestry from the Channel Islands, was my first mentor who was not a relative. He was "house master" and I was one of the "house boys" he chose to assist in maintaining order and discipline in the "house."

This was an organized and sanctioned body of students fashioned after the English educational system. Essentially I followed his plan for my further education to the letter as far as the choice of Columbia University in New York City for my undergraduate education. My goal was to try to gain entrance also to the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University. My acceptance and my attendance at Harvard Medical School was partly the result of a quirk in the selection process used by the College of Physicians and Surgeons for graduates of colleges and schools of Columbia University. The stronger commitment of financial support for all four years versus the commitment for only the first year at the College of Physicians and Surgeons was a salient factor in my acceptance of Harvard Medical School's offer.

In retrospect, my choosing Harvard Medical School over College of Physicians and Surgeons, Bellevue Medical School, Down State Medical School in Brooklyn, and others was one of the wisest decisions I ever made in my entire life. Both at Columbia University and Harvard Medical School I was for the most part treated as a human being, assessed only on my character

and innate ability and achievement. At Columbia School of General Studies, I attended classes in the afternoon and evenings and then took the subway to the Presbyterian Medical Center to work my midnight shift as an orderly. Even as an orderly with an “unusual accent” and an open aspiration to be a doctor, the majority of the mainly white medical and surgical residents treated me as someone special. During my four years at Harvard Medical School I was privileged to have many good mentors including Franny Moore and J. Engelbert Dunphy. Drs. Dunphy and Thomas Boyd, many years after graduation, continued as mentors and I sought and received their advice on a number of crucial issues in my life. Earlier in my second year a number of us had spent more time on studying our lecture notes than *Goodman and Gilman*. The net result was that we were not prepared for the midterm examination in pharmacology and were at risk of flunking. As probably only would happen at Harvard Medical School we were all invited to the department chairman’s home during the Christmas holidays. We were treated to a very sumptuous five-course dinner. I do not recall any direct discussion about our failing grades but I extensively studied *Goodman and Gilman* after this and passed the final examination in pharmacology comfortably.

John Roach was a laboratory partner in anatomy and close friend. John had been the very first classmate I met on arriving at Vanderbilt Hall. In Fredericton, New Brunswick, I married my wife Joyce, who was a senior at the MGH School of Nursing. John was my best man. In July 1959 I began a two-year senior internship at Montreal General Hospital. The second year was devoted to the surgical specialties and during this period I discovered that my previous draft status of 4F had changed on graduation from medical school. As it was then explained to me, there was a law dating back to the Civil War that stated that any doctor with at least the use of one eye, arm, and leg was fit to serve. There were two choices now available to me. I could take my chances with being drafted during the Berlin crisis or sign up for the Berry program, which would guarantee deferment until I finished my surgical residency. If perchance I was called up I would be assured continuation of my residency if I was in the United States. Since I enjoyed very much the Quebec culture, free of racial bias, and



Dr. Rudolph St. Clair  
Cumberbatch.  
(Photo courtesy of  
Dr. Cumberbatch.)

the proximity of family in-laws, I was very disappointed in having to return to the USA to complete my surgical training. I obtained a position as a second year surgical resident at Einstein Medical Center in the Bronx, where John Roach had also transferred. I completed four years of my five-year general and thoracic surgical residency before I was called to active duty. I was able, however, to obtain a year's deferment to complete my thoracic surgical training at the Boston University Medical complex. I believe that I was the last thoracic surgical resident in the program to have the privilege of having Drs. Tom Boyd and John W. Strieder take personal responsibility for my training.

I joined the USAF in July 1966 as a captain at Wright Patterson Air Force Base hospital and near the end of my two-year stretch I was offered a "below the board" promotion to Major, six months before my scheduled date of separation. This required a commitment to serve another two years, which I was unwilling to do. In the Air Force I completed Board Certification in general surgery and thoracic surgery. I accepted discharge at the end of my two-year stretch and at John's urging moved to the suburbs of Seattle, where he had relocated after completing his two-year stretch in the Air Force one year earlier.

Dr. John Roach and I each started our own private practice after less than three months planning a location, etc. I spent from 1968 to 1985 in solo private practice in the southeast suburbs of Seattle. During this period we raised our family of four and tried for a very brief period to make meeting my parental obligations easier by recruiting for a partner in surgery. This was a disaster, and we dissolved the partnership after two years due to major differences in ethics and level of integrity and commitment. I also sustained a major injury to my non-polio leg during this time period. At my 25th Harvard Medical School reunion I shared my experience with others and became aware that there were only about two other classmates who were still in solo practice. Shortly after this reunion and based on contacts I made I sought practice opportunities, many of them in the Veterans Administration health care system. In August 1985 I joined the Cheyenne VAMC as Chief of Surgery. I spent four of the most exciting challenging years as Chief of Surgery. I also was involved in clinical teaching part time at Colorado University School of Medicine with the blessing of Dr. Harkins, Chairman of the Department of Surgery. As now much frequently occurs in the VHS, there was a shuffle of directors and chiefs of staff after three years and the chemistry changes dramatically. Frankly, the cruel winters of the Cheyenne plains after a period negated even the very positive benefits, the extremely warm, all-inclusive embracing social culture. I had an opportunity to move to an admin-



istrative position as Chief of Staff but was not ready to reduce or give up my surgical activity at that time. I served as Chief of Surgery at Salisbury and Topeka VAMCs before assuming the position as Chief of Surgery at Murfreesboro VAMC, which is affiliated with Meharry Medical College. Shortly before my arrival the medical college lost its accreditation for the general surgical residency. Local politics with a Southern twist, internal cultural and racial intolerance as well as these same intolerances between Meharry Medical College and Vanderbilt Medical School, and ever-changing directors and inadequate and often inept leadership at Murfreesboro VAMC and Meharry College were the catalysts for the continuing deterioration of both institutions.

These last 10 years of my career continue to be extremely rewarding in my interaction with my patients and family. As far as the ability of a few of us to create a professional environment conducive to the delivery of an optimum and acceptable level of health care delivery, this has been extremely disappointing. Corruption, cronyism, and the inability of leadership at most levels to acknowledge failure and regroup and move on remains the hallmark of this professional culture. The legacy of slavery is still unfettered and hampering progress at many crucial levels in these two institutions. I am now forced to admit that this entrenched level of dysfunction is probably not reversible to any extent and use the serenity prayer as my daily guide to fulfillment. In retrospect my attempt to give something unique back to medical education in the form of being a role model for minority healthcare providers is being very much handicapped by the overwhelming lack of integrity and lack of accountability which currently exist in the local professional environment. I continue to ponder if similar moral deterioration is now taking place to any extent at the Harvard institutions. How does one bring back integrity and accountability to these institutions? Is this all part of the bigger picture taking place in our local, state and federal governments and reported in our newspapers and televisions? The ability of a significant number of us to conduct a civil discourse and not use spurious and often prejudicial statements to serve as the anchor of our argument is lacking. Is this a passing phase in our culture or a harbinger of the decay to come in our great country?





Joseph Kindall Hurd Jr. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1964. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)

## JOSEPH KINDALL HURD JR.

*Matriculated 1960*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1964

*Autobiography*

BORN FEBRUARY 12, 1938, in Hoisington, Kansas. Prepared at Pueblo Central High School, Pueblo, Colorado, Class of 1956 and Harvard College, AB (Phi Beta Kappa, *magna cum laude*) 1960. Harvard National Scholarship. Class Marshal. After HMS, MD 1964, internship and JAR in surgery at Boston City Hospital with residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Bronx Municipal Hospital Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, New York. Major, US Army Fort Dix, New Jersey, 1970–1972. Entire working career at Lahey Clinic, Burlington, MA, since 1972, serving as Chairman, Department of Gynecology 1988–2000, and long-term member of Board of Governors and Board of Trustees. Other significant positions

include Chairman, Massachusetts Section of ACOG. Elected Director, Harvard Alumni Association, president-elect, Harvard Medical Alumni Association, 2004.

Growing up in Colorado in the 1940s and 1950s was to be well prepared for life at Harvard before Affirmative Action. There we did not experience the overt racism, or rigidly separate-but-equal educational and public accommodations of the Deep South. However, we did lead the separate and parallel social life, after a day at an integrated school or workplace, that has always characterized race relations in the North. In that environment, one was taught always to be aware of being a minority, to realize you had to be better than your competitors to make the grade, and to be aware that some opportunities would not be available, no matter how good you were.

I came to Harvard College as a class valedictorian with a Harvard National Scholarship. (My father had graduated first in his class in Kansas in 1932, was given his diploma, and was expected not to attend the class dance and the social activities of commencement. No scholarships were available to him.) I was one of the 10 to 15 black students admitted each year to Harvard's class of nearly 1000. We were scattered across the campus, one or two to each of the major residential houses. There were very few black professors, mentors, or role models (a few graduate students served that function) and no thought of black dorms, tables. One did not ever hear that "black is beautiful." The social life that I remember and cherish most occurred off-campus, when minority students from all the area colleges would come to-

gether for fraternity or sorority-sponsored parties. I was, however, happy at Harvard, made friends and was accepted by my classmates, graduating *magna*, Phi Beta Kappa and elected as one of the Class Marshals.

Because I had done well at Harvard College, a group of black physicians, led by Dr. John Moseley of New York, approached me to apply to Johns Hopkins, to be the first to integrate that school. I had never lived in the South or experienced segregation. I felt that someone with prior experience might be better for that task. I knew Boston and had a Harvard National Scholarship good for graduate school as well, so I chose to stay here. I did not know that the last black to attend HMS had graduated four years before I started and that I would be there all by myself for all four years.

To be a graduate student in those days was a difficult and lonely proposition at best for black students. For most schools, they were one of only a few who were enrolled. However, the minority community was especially proud that I was at HMS and there were many intangible but real social rewards as a result of that success. *Ebony Magazine*, for example, ran a full page photograph of me, in an article highlighting and congratulating the nine or 10 black men accepted that year to Northern medical schools with a poor track record, as far as diversity was concerned.

In spite of the isolation, HMS was great! Race was never an issue, so far as I was aware. Vanderbilt Hall was pleasant; the upper classmen made me feel welcome and helped me with studies and advice. I found a comfortable social group in my class; we made home brew, organized paella parties after exams, and sang along with recordings of "Don Giovanni" long into the night (until the police would come to quiet us down). The Second Year Show, Aesculapian Club, and Boylston Society stand out in my memory as pleasant social interludes. I would accompany classmates home for weekends, holidays, and summer outings. I hesitate to try to mention all of those classmates' names for fear of overlooking someone—but I am sure that they know how important they were to my life at HMS. There were also many residents and junior faculty members who were unusually friendly and helpful. I take this opportunity to thank them all.

If the administration had any difficulty assigning me to the clinical rotations at the hospital of my choice, it was kept from my attention. I never heard of any



*Dr. Joseph K. Hurd Jr.  
(Photo courtesy of Dr.  
Hurd.)*



*Dr. and Mrs. Hurd with sons Joseph III (Harvard College '91, Harvard Law School '95) and Jason (Harvard College '94). (Photo courtesy of Mrs. Jean Hurd.)*

patient who refused to be examined or attended by me. As an intern or JAR on the Fifth Surgical Service at the Boston City Hospital, Dr. William McDermott sent me to the Deaconess Hospital where I met the Lahey Clinic surgeons. Dr. Cornelius Sedgwick came looking for me six years later when I had completed my residency and military service and offered me a position on the staff of the Lahey Clinic. The rest, as they say, is history.

Dr. King's assassination in 1968 had prompted the faculty to begin affirmative action efforts to increase the number of underrepresented

minorities at HMS. When I returned to Boston in 1972, I joined the Minority Subcommittee of the Admissions Committee at HMS. I served through the assaults of Dr. Bernard Davis on the results of the admissions process. I also served on the Poussaint/Cox Committee to develop the HMS response to the Bakke Decision. During my term on the Council of the Harvard Medical Alumni Association, the proposal for the formation of the Coleus Society was evaluated and approved.

Whenever I visit the campus of the College and the Medical School now, I remember those days when I was one of 14 black freshmen and then the only black at HMS. Harvard should be proud of the progress it has made; that there are now many groups large enough to enrich the educational environment with their special heritage and to share their culturally derived skills, music, and art. I do not think that the coercive nature of black tables and dorms are particularly helpful or necessary any longer. Students should use these few years to get to meet and know all of their classmates and to be a part of the whole. A chance to learn and to compete on a level playing field, without special advantage or special disadvantage, is what the struggle was all about.



## JOHN EL ROY ARRADONDO

*Matriculated 1963*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1968

*Autobiography*

JOHN ARRADONDO HAS a distinguished, nationally recognized career in medical education, health services, and community service.

He demonstrated the feasibility of the community-based, behaviorally oriented training of family physicians. A Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, he is a Past President of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, the academic arm of family medicine in the United States. He is a past Chair of the Family Practice Section of the National Medical Association (NMA), President of the R. F. Boyd Medical Society (Nashville Affiliate of NMA), and President of the Volunteer State Medical Association (Tennessee affiliate of the NMA). He has published and speaks on a variety of topics including health promotion and disease prevention, care of the aged, managed care, and the epidemics of our time: violence and injury, HIV, substance abuse, heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and stroke. He founded Meharry's Department of Family Medicine and trained its first 50 family practitioners, who continue to make their mark on the nation's health system. Having served as department chair, Provost for External Affairs, Dean of the School of Medicine, and Vice President for Health Services, Dr. Arradondo is currently Professor of Family and Community Medicine in the School of Medicine at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee.

Dr. Arradondo has a long-standing interest in understanding 'health outcomes' and the factors that determine our health status. He has served as health officer at the federal and local levels. He demonstrated the utility of improving community health through the use of coalitions and public-private partnerships. He has led in using these techniques to improve the nutritional status and quality of life for the aged as well as to decrease the incidence of pregnancy among teenagers. In Houston he pioneered programs and procedures to prevent tuberculosis, HIV, sexually transmitted diseases, and vaccine preventable diseases (flu, measles, mumps and more). These programs are now used widely and are advocated by private and federal funding agencies. He is a Past President of the US Conference of Local Health Officials (now the National Association of City and County Health Officials) and is a longtime consultant to many health agencies and corpo-



*John El Roy Arradondo. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1968. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*



rations. He served on the council that accredits public health training in the United States and Canada. He speaks often on issues of policy, profits, and equity in the health system.

Dr. Arradondo has a life history of serving his community through work in the church, civic organizations, voters' councils, voluntary health organizations, and civil rights organizations. He has initiated and secured the passage of laws (for education, civil rights, business development, or health) in each of the five states and in each of the cities in which he has lived. He has served as a director or speaker for the National Kidney Foundation, the American Heart Association, the NAACP National Health Committee, the Intercultural Cancer Council, and the American Cancer Society. He serves as a founding member of the National Dialog on Cancer, now C-Change.



Born in Milfay, Oklahoma, Dr. Arradondo grew up in southwest Oklahoma and has graduated with honors at every level of training. He completed his undergraduate education at Oklahoma City University. He received his Doctor of Medicine (MD) and his Master of Public Health (MPH) degrees from Harvard University. In between these two degrees, he completed his residency training at Washington University Medical Center in St. Louis. He has received many local, state, and national awards for both his professional endeavors and his community service. While in Medical School, Dr. Arradondo contributed significantly to four activities that affected the School's training of African-American and other under-represented minority learners: 1—the recruitment of African-American students (exceeding 10 percent of the class) to matriculate in the fall of 1969. This effort was led by Edgar Milford, HMS '71, and altered the prior stereotype that few African-Americans were "qualified" to matriculate at the School; 2—the development of the School's involvement in the science education of African-American high school students in the Boston area. This effort was led by Noel Solomons, HMS '70;

3—the involvement of the School in attracting African-American trainees at the Residency and Fellowship level, an activity that led to the formation of the Central Recruitment Council of Boston. Noel Solomons, HMS '70, led this effort; and, finally, 4—the establishment of the Harvard Health Careers Summer Program. John Arradondo took the student lead for this activity. He selected the first class of 55 students and served as the first Manager of the program in the Summer of 1969. This program was designed to increase the visibility of disadvantaged students seeking entry into the health professions. It became a prototype for other schools and lasted for a quarter century.

He is married to Jeanne Goodwin. They have two sons. His hobbies include photography, geography, sightseeing, collecting African-American stamps, and studying African-American history.



## OLUWATOPE ABIMBOLA MABOGUNJE

*Matriculated 1963*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1967

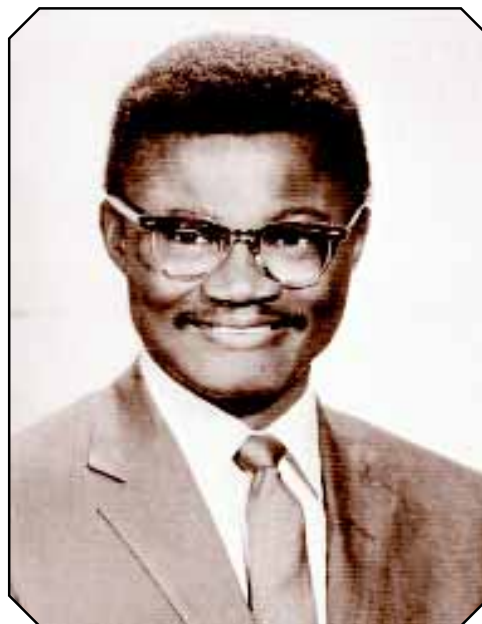
*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN in 1939 in Kano and grew up in Ibadan and Lagos, Nigeria. I came to Brandeis University in 1960 as a Wien International Scholar, graduating in 1963, a member of Phi Beta Kappa and winner of the Biology Prize.

I was admitted to Harvard Medical School with scholarship support from the School and the Nigerian government. After graduation I trained in general surgery under Dr. Frank Spencer at the New York University-Bellevue Hospital Center. I held a fellowship at the Memorial-Sloan Kettering Hospital Center in New York and later at the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.

In 1974, my spouse, Christiana Adesanya (MD '68, Northwestern), and I, with our infant son, Olawale, returned to Nigeria and joined the pioneer faculty of the fledgling medical school at Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria. There I rose to the rank of Professor of Surgery and subsequently, to Head of the department from 1984 to 1989. A succession of repressive military regimes eventually wrecked the Nigerian enterprise and we felt compelled to leave the country.

Thereafter, I served as Chief of Surgery at the King Fahd Specialist Hospital in Buraydah-al-Qassim in Saudi Arabia and as Senior Consultant Surgeon to the Sultan Qaboos University Hospital in Muscat, Oman. We returned to the United States in 1993 via the Pacific island of Guam, where I worked as a Staff Surgeon for the Family Health Plan of California. Since 1999 I have served as an Attending Surgeon at the VA Medical Center in



*Oluwatope Abimbola Mabogunje. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1967. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*



Dayton, Ohio, and Clinical Professor of Surgery at Wright State University School of Medicine.

At Harvard Medical School, all the celebrated professors made a great impression on me both during the years on the Longwood Quadrangle and later during the clinical clerkships at the various teaching hospitals. In particular, Dr. Perry Culver and the Registrar, Miss Noreen Koller, guided me through the procedures of the School. Dr. Thomas Weller of the School of Tropical Public Health, Dr Richard Warren, and Dr. Charles Davidson were especially supportive. I was particularly inspired by the charismatic surgical teachers such as Drs. Francis Moore, Oliver Cope, and Claude Welch. I learned that understanding the science of medicine empowered us to improve on the care of the patient at the bedside. I learned of the secret of the care of the patient from the essay of Dr. Francis Weld Peabody, and, that this exercise must be a life-long endeavor as new findings come to light.

I have fond memories of life in Vanderbilt Hall and of its famed concierge. Dennis Bauman (1966), whose room adjoined mine on the fourth floor, was very pleasant and kind to me. The other Nigerian students who lived in Vanderbilt, Adeyemi Mosadomi (HSDM 1967), Olu Ogunye (1967), and Olu Oredugba (1968) often shared with me news from Nigeria and of their American experience. We became very good friends.

The mid-sixties saw great advances at the School, in US medicine, and in social life at large, all of which touched on our education. To name but a few randomly:

- Dean George P. Berry retired and was succeeded by Dean Robert Ebert.
- One of our Physiology laboratory sessions with Dr. Barger was interrupted by the shocking news of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.
- The Medical Library moved from Building A to the new Countway and we got free photocopies of journal articles for a while.
- The emergence of clinical renal transplantation.
- The widening recognition for Burkitt Lymphoma.
- The raging controversy over the colonic polyp-to-cancer sequence.
- Recognition of the pernicious effects of tobacco smoke and efforts to discourage smoking.
- Appreciation of the rising costs of health care in relation to the GDP of the United States.
- The Great March on Washington organized by the Civil Rights Movement and the historic speech by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the Lincoln Monument, "I have a dream."
- The massive "HEAL-IN" exercise of the house-staff at the Boston City Hospital that led to a review of house-staff compensation, etc.

Our years in Zaria were the most exciting, creative, and fulfilling. We participated with British, international, and Nigerian colleagues in using local resources to develop the curriculum for medical students, and later in establishing residency training programs in appropriate medical and surgical specialties for both Nigeria and the West African Region, embracing Ghana, Sierra Leone, the Gambia, and the Francophone states. The faculty worked most ardently to convert the local district hospital into a teaching institution and to transform the prevalent perception of the hospital from the place where people went to die to a place of healing, hope, and rehabilitation. From 1984 to 1988, my spouse, Dr. Adesanya, served as Dean of the Medical School. More than a thousand young doctors qualified in the years that we taught there.

I also served as lecturer and examiner to the other Nigerian medical schools at Benin, Enugu, Ibadan, Ile-Ife, Jos, and Lagos; and to both the Nigerian Postgraduate Medical College and the West African College of Surgeons. I joined with others to develop professional organizations for mutual education and support. These include the Nigerian Surgical Research Society, of which I was the Secretary (1981–1984) and President (1985); the Nigerian Cancer Society, Secretary (1981–1984); and served on the Executive Committees of the Nigerian Burn Association, the Kaduna State Chapter of the Nigerian Medical Association, and the West African Society of Gastroenterology. I was a member of the National Cancer Registries Project for Nigeria.

I published widely on gastroenterology, oncology, pediatric surgery, and the surgery of trauma, thus contributing to the literature on the emerging surgical problems of the developing world. I became a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the West African College of Surgeons, the Nigerian Medical College, a member of the International Society of Surgery, and for a few years a member of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs.

Our two other children, both boys, were also born in Zaria; Akindeji (1977) and Adeoye (1982).

In 1991, Brandeis University honored me with the D.Sc. (*Honoris causa*) for my efforts to broaden and improve health care in Nigeria, for service in the cause of humanity, and for my contributions to the West African medical community.



*Dr. Oluwatope A.  
Mabogunje.  
(Photo courtesy  
of Dr. Mabogunje.)*





*Olu Medrose Ogunye. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1967. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*

## OLU MEDROSE OGUNYE

*Matriculated 1963*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1967

OLU MEDROSE OGUNYE was born on December 1, 1940, in Ondo, Nigeria. He attended the All Saints' School in Ondo (1945–1952), the Ondo Boys' High School (1953–1957), and Abeokuta Grammar School (1958–1960). Between 1961 and 1963 he attended Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and graduated with the AB degree *cum laude*, in 1963. At Western Reserve he was a member of the Varsity Soccer Team, the International Students' Group, and the Students' Christian Union.

Olu Ogunye arrived at Harvard Medical School in September 1963 and graduated in June 1967. He married Adora Mbomi in 1966 and had four children. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Medical Examiners (1968) and Diplo-

mate, American Specialty Board of Pediatrics (1972).

Following graduation, he was a rotating intern at the Cambridge City Hospital Harvard Service in Cambridge, 1967–1968; Senior House Officer, Department of Pediatrics, University College Hospital in Ibadan, Nigeria, 1968–1970; Junior Resident in Pediatrics, Bronx Lebanon Hospital Medical Center, 1970–1971; Senior Resident in Pediatrics, Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, D.C., 1971–1972; Chief Resident in Pediatrics, Freedmen's Hospital, 1971, and Instructor in Pediatrics at Howard University College of Medicine, July–October 1972; Fellow, Medicine Genetics, Howard University College of Medicine, 1972–1974; Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Child Health, Howard University College of Medicine; Clinical Geneticist, Howard University College of Medicine; Clinical Geneticist, Howard University Hospital, 1974–1976; appointed Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ife, Ile-Ife, 1976. His memberships include District of Columbia Medical Society, American Society of Human Genetics, Southern Society of Pediatric Research, US, Nigerian Medical Association. Hobbies: gardening, tennis. Address: Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ife, Ile-Ife, Oyo State, Nigeria. (Extracted from *Africa Who's Who*, 1990.)



## OLUMUYIWA OREDUGBA

*Matriculated 1964*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1968

*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN in Lagos, Nigeria, on August 4, 1941, and came to America in the summer of 1960. I vividly recollect eating apple pie and playing Connie Francis's *Everybody Is Somebody's Fool* on the jukebox at every stop as I traveled on the Trailways bus from New York City to Greencastle, Indiana, to attend DePauw University.

I graduated in 1964 from DePauw University earning a BA in biological sciences with distinction, and was honored to be elected into Phi Beta Kappa. After graduating from Harvard Medical School in 1968, I migrated to St. Louis, Missouri, for my postgraduate studies, at the Jewish Hospital medicine internship and residency program through 1971. During 1971 and 1972, I was a National Kidney Foundation Fellow in Nephrology at Barnes Hospital, St. Louis. I interrupted my fellowship in 1972–1974 to live in Goeppingen, West Germany, with my first wife, Helaine, and my daughter Olayinka. I served as a civilian physician to the US Army. I returned to Nigeria in 1974–1977 where I served as Senior Registrar in Medicine at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital.

In 1977, I returned to the United States to complete my nephrology fellowship at Jewish Hospital, Washington University.

Since 1979, I have lived in Los Angeles, California, where I am enjoying private practice in Internal Medicine and Nephrology. In these days of HMOs, medical groups, and super mergers, I remain a dying breed—solo practitioner!!

I am active in medical staff leadership at my hospitals—Daniel Freeman Hospitals in Inglewood and Marina Del Rey, California. I am blessed with a family of four children and my wife, Cynthia. We were married in September 1983. We have two daughters, Olayinka Oredugba, an attorney in Providence, Rhode Island; Busola Oredugba presently in the Master of Public Health program at George Washington University, Washington, D.C. Our two sons are Olukayode “Kai” Oredugba, freshman, fall 2003 at UCLA and the cornerback that UCLA's football team has been waiting for! David Oredugba is entering his senior year in high school and is a history buff and athlete, playing on both the basketball and football teams. Sorry to say, none



*Olumuyiwa Oredugba. (Photo in Aesculapiad, 1968. Courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*



*Busola, David, Olayinka, and Kai with Dr. Olu and Mrs. Cynthia Oredugba in 1996.  
(Photo courtesy of Dr. Oredugba.)*

of my children have chosen the medical profession. However, Cynthia after many years as Owner and Director of the Robinson Talent Agency has elected to put her talent to use as Health Educator and Director of Community Services for the American Cancer Society.

I hold fond memories of my days at Harvard Medical School with its outstanding and helpful faculty. My preclinical days were particularly memorable. I will always remember with great fondness Dr. Perry J. Culver and Dr. Joseph Gardella.



## ADETUNJI ADELEKAN

*Matriculated 1965*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1967

### *Autobiography*

Birthdate: April 4, 1939  
High School: Government College, Ibadan, 1935–1960  
Cambridge School Certificate Grade One, 1958  
Cambridge Higher School Certificate, 1960  
College: Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, 1961–1963  
Bachelor of Science, Physiology, 1963  
Medical School: Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, NH, 1963–65  
Bachelor of Medical Science, 1965  
Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, 1965–67  
Internship: Cambridge City Hospital, Harvard Services  
Cambridge, MA, 1967–68  
Residency: Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT, 1968–70, Internal  
Medicine  
Fellowship: University of California, San Francisco, CA  
Nephrology and Cardiovascular Research Inst., 1970–1972  
Elected: Fellow, American College of Physicians, January, 1993

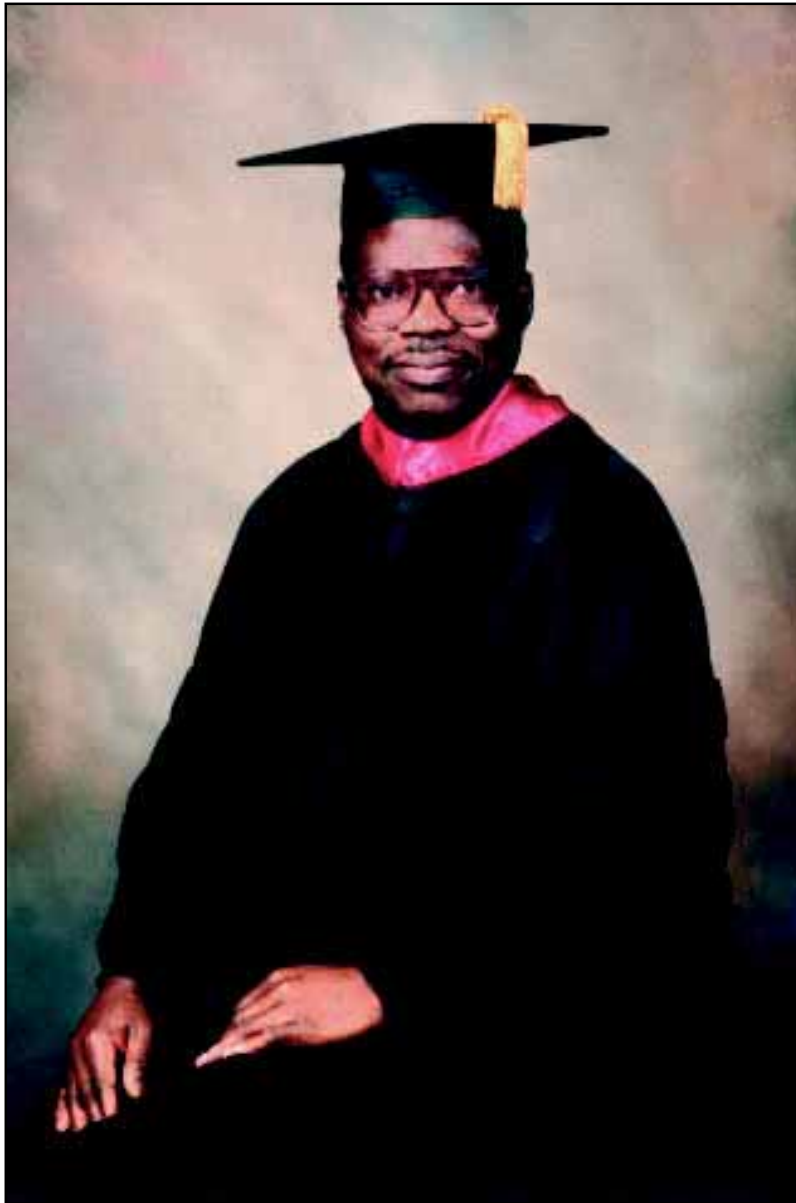


*Adetunji Adelekan.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad,  
1967. Courtesy of the  
Office of Alumni Affairs,  
Harvard Medical  
School.)*

### *Hospital appointments*

Previous: 1. Brookdale Community Hospital,  
Oakland, CA, Director of Emergency Medical Services  
2. Oakland Hospital Medical Staff,  
Internal Medicine and Nephrology  
3. Nigerian Medical Council,  
Senior Consultant, Internal Medicine and Nephrology  
4. Charter Community Hospital, Hawaiian Garden, CA  
Current: 1. St. Francis Medical Center, Lynwood, CA  
2. Charter Suburban Hospital, Paramount, CA





*Dr. Adetunji Adelekan. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Adelekan.)*

## JOHN C. ANANE-SEFAH

*Matriculated 1966*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1970

*Autobiography*

AFTER GRADUATION FROM Harvard Medical School in 1970, I went through my surgical internship and residency training at the University of Colorado Medical Center in Denver, Colorado. I completed my residency training in general and vascular surgery in 1975. I then began practice in general and vascular surgery in Santa Cruz, California, in January 1976. I began my initial practice with a multispecialty group, the Capitola Medical Group in Capitola, California, a suburb of Santa Cruz, California. After eight years of multispecialty group practice, I started my own surgical specialty group, the Mid-County Surgical Group, of which I am the President and Medical Director. We opened our offices in 1983 and continue practice at the same location to date. About 18 years ago, my wife and I opened a charity medical clinic in honor of my mother, Kate A. Gyafo, in Ghana, West Africa, my country of birth.

Every year, I lead medical teams to work at the Kate Gyafo Memorial Clinic, in rural Eastern Ghana, where we provide needed medical and surgical care free of charge. The program has been very well received by the local chief and the community.

### *Family*

I met and married Patricia Lawrence during my third year of surgical residency in Denver, Colorado, in 1973, and we celebrated our thirty-year wedding anniversary on June 2, 2003. At the time we met, Patricia was doing her master's degree in public health nursing at the University and was working part time as a registered nurse on our transplant service. Patricia and I have two sons, Jason and John Christopher, both graduates of Yale College, Classes of 1997 and 1998, respectively. Jason is doing his residency in orthopedic surgery at University Hospital in Washington, D.C. John Christopher is working at Columbia University in New York City. Patricia and I enjoy traveling and have done extensive travels around the world, but our real joy is nourishing and growing the medical missions to Africa, which we continue to do and plan to continue even after I retire from active practice.

Although I had always hoped to become a teacher in my birth country, the



*John C. Anane-Sefah.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad,  
1970. Courtesy of the  
Office of Alumni Affairs,  
Harvard Medical School.)*

*coup d'états* and the unstable political situation in Ghana in the mid-70s into the mid-80s made it impossible for me to pursue my dreams there. I ended up settling here in coastal California and I have not regretted it. Now that stability has returned to Ghana over the past five years or so, I hope to contribute more to the country after I retire from active surgical practice here in the United States.



*Dr. Anane-Sefah with sons Jason and John Christopher. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Anane-Sefah.)*



*The Kate Gyafo Memorial Free Clinic at Bepong, Eastern Ghana. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Anane-Sefah.)*



*From left to right: Patricia Anane-Sefah, founding member and OR supervisor of the Gyafo Clinic, Samuel K. Mawu, father of Dr. Anane-Sefah, and Dr. Anane-Sefah. Samuel K. Mawu celebrated his 102nd birthday on January 11, 2004. (Photo by A. K. Djan Photography, LTD of Mpraeso-Kwahu, Ghana.)*





Noel W. Solomons.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad,  
1970. Courtesy of the  
Office of Alumni Affairs,  
Harvard Medical School.)

## NOEL W. SOLOMONS

*Matriculated 1966*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1970

*Autobiography*

I WAS ONLY three years old when Strom Thurmond and his Dixiecrat candidacy obtained 39 electoral votes in the US presidential election of 1948, but my consciousness about race relations in America was no doubt being forged in my hometown, Cambridge, Massachusetts, even at that age. My father, Gustave, had been the only African-American in the 1928 graduating class of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he received a baccalaureate degree in electrical engineering. My brother, Gus Jr., was the only American black on the platform when he graduated from MIT with a

degree in architecture in 1961. I would have to wait until 1970—and have to cross the Charles River—to keep up this family tradition with my graduation class from the Harvard Medical School.

I write this autobiographical narrative from my home of 29 years in the highlands of Guatemala where, for the last 19 years, I have carried out the mission as co-founder and Scientific Director in creating and guiding a private, nonprofit biomedical research center, CeSSIAM: The Center for Studies of Sensory Impairment, Aging and Metabolism. The bottom line of my professional career story is that I have dedicated my training as a physician and biomedical researcher to the inquiry into the relationships of nutrition, diet, and health in Central America and other nations of the developing world.

I can identify a series of early, pivotal influences that converged to facilitate my eventual life pathway. The first was my older brother's dominance in the arts and artistic expressions, leading me, by default (proactive suppression of sibling rivalry), into the more analytical and scientific pursuits in general, and into natural history and biology in particular. As an expression, I served for many years as the nature counselor at summer camps in New England. My choice of university education was another crossroads. At graduation from Cambridge High and Latin School, the college options were both in my hometown: to go east to MIT and the *alma mater* of my father and brother to pursue a career in architecture, or to go west to Harvard College and study biochemistry? It was the fact that five of the six other high school classmates with the same two options were heading toward Harvard Square that persuaded me to join the crowd.

The choice of Harvard over MIT dictated the election of biochemical sciences over engineering as my undergraduate major, and was a prelude to an interest in medicine. When it then came to a first choice of medical schools, I actually would have chosen Columbia Physicians and Surgeons over any other contender in my application pool. I was, however, not on *their* short-list of candidates for the entering class in 1966, and (most fortunately in retrospect) I stayed at my *alma mater* in Boston for the next four years, as well. The ample elective time at the HMS of the 1960s saw me traveling once to Peru and twice to Colombia to perform exchange-student research projects on human nutrition, and learning to speak Spanish. I also tasted the liberating sensation of the absence of North American racism. Had I opted to study in New York, however, I might have wound up in pediatrics, the specialty to which I had aspired when applying to medical school. A poor evaluation in my pediatrics rotation at the MGH had made my chances of matching at a high-quality children's hospital somewhat remote. Riding on the laurels of my successful effort in the medicine rotation at Beth Israel, I decided on an internal medicine residency. Finally, as an internist training to be a gastroenterologist at the University of Chicago under the mentorship of Irwin Rosenberg (HMS '60), I took advantage of certain of his academic connections to perform a (year-long) overseas training fellowship in Guatemala. This "year-long" activity has now lasted 29 years and counting.

Participation in social movements vied with the educational mandate during the first 30 years of my life; I feel I was able to do justice to both. Late in high school, I found myself carrying a placard on a picket line for open housing on the Lexington Green beneath the sign proclaiming it the "Cradle of Liberty." I would end the first year of Harvard College as a captain of a motor coach carrying a Boston contingent to the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. Civil rights activities with Harvard's Civil Rights Coordinating Committee (CRCC) in Roxbury on the local level and exploring the issues of black identity with Harvard's Association of African and Afro-American students became my political agenda in the early college years. My involvement in the anti-war movement escalated with the troop deployments to Vietnam. Entering medical school, the domestic civil rights movement had merged with overseas issues such as war in Indochina and Apartheid in South Africa; the expressions were the Student Health Organization (SHO) and the Medical Committee for Human Rights (MCHR). At HMS, I formed part of a core group of progressive schoolmates and faculty members who were part of the



*Dr. Noel W. Solomons.  
(Photo courtesy of  
Dr. Solomons.)*



SHO-MCHR. With these colleagues, there would be other trips to Washington for demonstrations to voice our opposition to racial discrimination and the war in Vietnam. In fact, we were en route to a national MCHR convention in Philadelphia on the tragic day in 1968 that Martin Luther King was assassinated in Memphis.

For postgraduate clinical training, I finally left Greater Boston, heading to an internal medicine residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Memorable from that experience is the fact that, since I refused to swear or affirm a Loyalty Oath, I was precluded from performing any of my rotations in the Philadelphia Veterans Hospital. My senior-residency year at the HUP was concentrated entirely in the laboratory of Dr. Richard Root in infectious disease research on white cell metabolism; my first of now 500 scientific publications derived from that experience. For specialty training, I contacted Dr. Irwin Rosenberg, a fellow activist in the Boston MCHR who had gone on to head the Section of Gastroenterology at the University of Chicago. I completed there its first-ever combined fellowship in gastroenterology and clinical nutrition, and this would be the springboard to my international training in Guatemala.

This second half of my life, commencing in 1975, has been the “overseas” or “expatriate” years, based in human biology and biomedicine research pursuits in Guatemala. But it has included the option of traveling throughout the world, including back and forth to my country of birth. In fact, the MIT family legacy finally caught up with me at a faculty level. From 1977 to 1984, I was on the faculty of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science of MIT. It was somewhat of an “ermine and weasel” existence, with my spending five months or so in Cambridge in the teaching and writing mode of an international nutrition appointment, and seven months in Guatemala on the field research mission. My base in Guatemala was the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP), a dependency of the Pan American Health Organization founded in 1949 under Dr. Nevin Scrimshaw. The experience of the *laissez faire* academic freedom of MIT inspired me, contrasted starkly with the overly controlled atmosphere of INCAP.

The origins of CeSSIAM arose from the tension between the need for freedom in scientific research and the inescapable appeal of Guatemala’s people and their struggle to resolve their health problems. The idea was to tailor something that harmonized both of these needs. Hence, the Center arose to create a series of conditions: 1. An environment in which freedom of academic expression and critical judgment on scientific issues could flourish; 2. A situation in which Guatemalans, and especially women (who confront a host of “glass ceilings” within the Latin culture of *machismo*), could aspire to careers in biomedical research; and 3. A generator of world-class biomed-

cal and metabolic research. Over the years, CeSSIAM's inquiry has explored and published on themes of body composition, child growth, health in aging, zinc metabolism, Vitamin A deficiency, and diet and chronic diseases, among others, and has sought to explore public health approaches to improving multiple micronutrient deficiency states, alleviating gastrointestinal intolerance to dairy products and legumes, and reducing diet-related burdens of non-communicable diseases.

As a US expatriate without a real nation-state, the world—and regions of the world—has become my virtual base of identity and operations. Outside of Central America, I have had solid teaching or research collaborations in Brazil, Mexico, Indonesia, Peru, and South Africa. Most heartening has been seeing the evolution of the latter republic from a repressive pariah state to a society open and accessible for my visits. Perhaps the honors which have been most meaningful to me over the years have been those reflecting this international context and contribution: the International Nutrition Prize of the Society for International Nutrition Research (1996); the International Union of Nutritional Science's International Nutrition Award (1997); and the Award of the Asia Pacific Clinical Nutrition Society (2003).



*Collins E. Lewis.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad,  
1971. Courtesy of  
the Office of Alumni  
Affairs, Harvard  
Medical School.)*

## COLLINS E. LEWIS

*Matriculated 1967*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1971

*Autobiography*

*Demographic Information*

Place of Birth: New Brunswick, NJ

Date of Birth: August 17, 1945

*Educational Information*

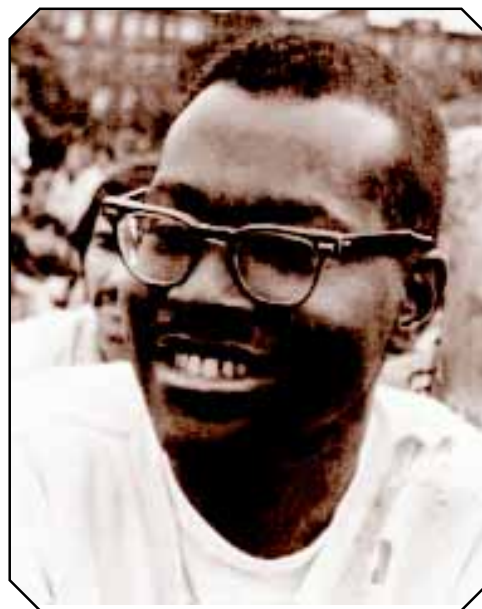
Undergraduate: Rutgers University, BA, 1967

Graduate: Harvard School of Public Health, MPH, 1976

*Postgraduate*

Medical internship: Washington University Medical School;  
The Jewish Hospital of St. Louis, 1971–1972

Psychiatry residency: Washington University Medical School;  
Barnes Hospital, 1972–1975





*Dr. Collins E. Lewis. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Lewis.)*

*Credentials*

American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, 1977

Certification for Added Qualifications in Addiction Psychiatry, 1993–2003

*Employment Information*

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, State University of New York Medical School, Stony Brook, NY, 1977

Instructor in Psychiatry, Washington University Medical School, 1977–1979

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Washington University Medical School, 1979–1988

Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Washington University Medical School,  
1988–2001

Associate Professor of Psychiatry *Emeritus*, Washington University Medical  
School, 2001–present

*Current Washington University Medical School Activities*

Medical School Admissions Committee

Medical School Minority Admissions Subcommittee

*Current Professional Societies*

Research Society on Alcoholism

International Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism

Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry

Mound City Medical Forum

National Medical Association

American Psychiatric Association

Eastern Missouri Psychiatric Society

*Current Community Activities*

Barnes Jewish Hospital Independence Center Board Member

St. Louis African Chorus Board Member

*HMS Years*

I enjoyed my four years at HMS for at least two reasons. The first was that I was out of my hometown, New Brunswick, New Jersey, where I went to college, and I was in Boston, which provided a much more stimulating atmosphere. The second reason has to do with the medical school itself and is more elusive to define. My first reaction to coming to medical school was one of fear and terror. Everyone was so smart. This person was number-one in their college class; that person was number two. The rumors that the brain power of the first-year medical students could move the stones in building A if they all concentrated on them did not help matters much. I worked hard, and by the end of my senior year I felt more comfortable.

The late 1960s were trying times for the country. The assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy were traumatic, and the wars in Vietnam and on the streets took their toll. I am pleased that I was able to work with the faculty, more specifically with Drs. David Potter and Ed Furshpan, and with a group of fellow students to bring about some change in the medical school admissions policies.

I was fortunate to have been chosen to participate in the Harvard School of Public Health Summer Program that sent four students to Colombia and two to Guatemala to work in public health during the summer between their sophomore and junior years. This experience was the highlight of my life up

to that time and gave me a first-hand experience with both the kindness and suffering of people. It opened my eyes to things to which I had been ignorant and changed my life in a positive way.

One does not appreciate one's environment until one leaves. I feel this way about medical school. I did not realize the intellectual and scientific rigor to which I had been exposed until I left. Fortunately, I found a position in the Department of Psychiatry at Washington University that paralleled my HMS training and allowed me to continue the pursuit of knowledge. Eli Robins (HMS 1943B) was chairman of the department when I was a resident, and he served as a model for critical thinking.

After my residency, I returned to Boston and received an MPH at the Harvard School of Public Health. I had returned to Colombia and intended to work in public health; however, my plans were thwarted by a strike of government employees including the physicians. I, thus, returned to the United States, worked temporarily at SUNY in Stony Brook, and later returned to St. Louis to a faculty position in Psychiatry at Washington University.

In the department, I carried out both clinical research and patient care. I have learned the hard way that it is difficult to ride two horses at one time. I have pretty much put the patient-care horse out to pasture so that now I am free to ride the research one. Hopefully, I can pick up where I left off and complete my journey.

Since leaving medical school I have married and divorced. I have a 24-year old son who has a master's degree in social sciences from the University of Chicago. He is a member of the Teach for America Program and teaches second grade on the Navaho Nation Reservation in Mariano Lake, New Mexico. He majored in anthropology and plans to continue working with Native Americans.





*Members of the Harvard Medical Class of 1971 at their 25th Reunion in June 1996, on the steps of the Gordon Hall of Medicine (formerly Building A). Dr. Lewis is third from right, top row. (Photo courtesy of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Harvard Medical School.)*



## EDGAR L. MILFORD JR.

*Matriculated 1967*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1971

*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN in a small town in the Hudson River Valley that had only 2500 inhabitants at the time. My father, who lived to the ripe age of 100, was a Haitian physician, allergist, and immunologist who (I discovered only five years ago) published in one of the first issues of the *Journal of Immunology*. My mom was of African-American and Matinecock Indian heritage, and was an elementary school teacher. Although we were the only non-whites in the hamlet, I didn't experience racial discrimination until coming into contact with "outsiders." With the construction of interstate highways, an influx of "New Yorkers" transformed the town into a suburb along with the social pretensions, class, and racial divisions which go along with suburban life. My elementary school was an eight room schoolhouse with one teacher per grade. Everyone went home to eat lunch. There was no high school in my town at the time, and the regional high school was an hour and a half away. I was told of a special high school in New York which specialized in science, so I just signed up for the test and happily got in. I lived with my uncle in central Harlem for the first several months, but the noise was intolerable for me at night. I also was expelled from school for not being a New York City resident, ratted out by my homeroom teacher. I was reinstated after my parents made the appropriate "payments" to someone, but commuted for the rest of the four years, two-and-a-half hours each way.

New York introduced me to what it meant to be black in America in 1959. It was not a happy picture. I could not eat at many restaurants. When visiting my white high school classmates to do school projects I was forced to enter through the rear "servant's entrance." Grotesque assumptions were made about my ability to think, comprehend, and communicate, and when these assumptions were disproved a grotesque level of surprise and adulation ensued. My start at Harvard College was not too auspicious either. Despite having passed three "advanced placement" exams including English, allowing me to skip my freshman year, I was automatically enrolled in a "remedial reading" class under the assumption that I could not speak the mother tongue. I was isolated in an "annex" single room away from Harvard's freshman quad where most of the other first year students were. There were just

two other individuals of African-American ancestry in my class. I found community by moving off-campus into the Cambridge “Gold Coast” where blacks resided. I was able to meet Malcolm X, Julian Bond, Eldridge Cleaver, and Huey Newton. It was a good experience which gave me perspective and a broader base. When I started Harvard Medical School, I moved in with another black medical student, Noel Solomons, on Fenwood Road, just two blocks from the campus. We had some rather nasty moments when groups of our neighbors would menace us for daring to move into an exclusively white neighborhood. The dean of students happily intervened, and things magically resolved.

Medical school was a gratifyingly supportive environment. The professors were focused on teaching. They expected the best out of us and knew how to extract it in a characteristic low-key Harvard style. The students were a new breed who were demanding, refreshingly aggressive, and willing to teach and support each other. There was another element that had crept into the medical school experience, however, and that was social awareness. Galvanized by the Civil Rights movement, the debacle of the Viet Nam war, the rampant atmosphere of racial violence, and the lack of access to health care for the poor, many of the students found the time to be activists, including myself. We found constructive ways to channel our personal frustrations and moral concerns. I and several other students and faculty at the Medical School worked with the Boston Black Panther Party to establish a thriving free health clinic and lead screening program out of a large trailer on Tremont Street. We worked with faculty to admit more minority students to HMS, by finding resources to expand the class by 25 students, and to make it known that the Medical School welcomed applications from minorities. After leaving HMS, I had a strong appetite for experiencing inner-city medicine. I did my residency at Harlem Hospital Center, Columbia P&S before returning to the Brigham and Women’s Hospital to practice immunogenetics and transplantation. While there I met my beautiful wife, Patricia, who is a native of Harlem and now a rheumatologist at the Brigham. After coming back to Boston in 1975, I have been happily doing a combination of clinical nephrology, basic immunoge-

netics research, and teaching, and am now Associate Professor of Medicine. Much of my research involves the role of heredity of susceptibility to kidney diseases and outcome of kidney transplantation. I have also been involved in the thorny issues of minority access to medical care and factors which influence outcome, particularly solid organ and bone marrow transplantation. There is still much to accomplish to assure that our health-care and medical-academic centers reflect the population which they serve. The goals of our teaching hospitals to train the future leaders in medicine are best met if the institutions have strategic plans to assure that those leaders are representative of our diverse sectors of society. I am happy to be a part of a school and hospital that have evolved to embrace these goals.



*Onesmo K. ole-Moiyoi.  
(Photo in Aesculapiad,  
1972. Courtesy of the  
Office of Alumni Affairs,  
Harvard Medical School.)*

## ONESMO K. ole-MOIYOI

*Matriculated 1968*

GRADUATED HARVARD MEDICAL CLASS OF 1972

*Autobiography*

I HAVE EXPERIENCED a good deal of difficulty in setting myself to write the requested life sketch of my experiences at HMS and those of the post-HMS years. My difficulties arose not only from time constraints, typified by an inability to find an uninterrupted block of time to carry out the task, but also from conceptual considerations; should this narrative emphasize research and contributions to higher education in Africa or should it be a purely autobiographical sketch, which avoids the extreme of scientific reporting? The dilemma can perhaps be viewed as a predicament of navigating between Scylla and Charybdis.

I was born in Loliondo, a small village spread over a lovely valley, with a river running through it, a few miles south of the Kenya-Tanganyika border, not far away from the Serengeti National Park—the wildest and remotest Africa. During weekends and school holidays, I helped my parents to take care of sheep, goats, and cattle. During the rainy season, my brothers and I moved the sheep and goats to graze in uninhabited areas north of the border of the Serengeti; we practised a form of transhumans.

It was during such sheep-raising sojourns that we spent a good deal of time doing rock painting—paintings depicting scenes of life experiences within communities, livestock and wildlife. Such paintings were strictly in three colours—snow white, charcoal black and crimson red. I hope that I will have the occasion to mention these rock paintings in the context of the human genome and Africa.

*Harvard Times*

I entered Harvard College from Old Moshi Secondary School, which is on the slopes of Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. After finishing Cambridge “A Levels,” I was accepted by the medical schools at Makerere University in Uganda, the University of Dunedin in New Zealand, and the University of Oslo. It was difficult to make a choice. This pleasant dilemma was compounded by the uncertainty of whether I wished to pursue a career in science or medicine. I needed time for consideration of these choices. So I took a “gap year” and got a job as an Executive Secretary of the Maasai Federal Council in Monduli, Tanganyika. With the late Edward Moringe Sokoine, who was to become Tanzania’s prime minister, we spent most of our time collecting taxes and pursuing and prosecuting cattle rustlers in Northern Tanganyika. The switch from this fascinating time to undergraduate life in Cambridge, Massachusetts, was thus dramatic, but infinitely challenging and rewarding. Since language was not a barrier, the exception being colloquialisms, and since I had stayed in boarding schools since the age of 11, I experienced no cultural shock in Cambridge. The main challenge was one of quickly finding ways of studying differently from the way we learned in the colonial educational system, which emphasized strategies for passing examinations, rather than understanding the subject matter.

Discussions with roommates, (Dr.) John Straus, (Dr.) Paul Reiss, (Professor) Walter Klemperer, and (Dr.) Alan Schulman in particular, other classmates and my supervisor, Professor Paul Doty, Professors Lingane and McKinney and other members of the faculty were immensely important during those undergraduate years. I am greatly indebted to all of them. After Harvard College and Harvard Medical School, I did internship, residency training, and a post-doctoral fellowship at the then Brigham Hospitals, a sequence of training colloquially dubbed as Preparation H.

I acknowledge this important preparation, which nurtured the development of a way of life and an attitude of mind, which have prepared me for the pursuit of very diverse and challenging tasks during post-HMS years.

Throughout training at HMS and during internship and residency, we were challenged to do our best, which can take a toll, both physically and psychologically, and create a competitive atmosphere that can sometimes

adversely affect social interactions. Throughout all this, I made lifelong friendships and am grateful that I was able to maintain a sense of humor. I think that this perhaps happened because I was always conscious of who I am and where I come from, where I was, and what I wanted to do at any particular time.

I have mostly fond memories of my years at Harvard Medical School. But I was told that might have something to do with selective retention. Memories of classmates in HMS '72 struggling, in different degrees, with the content and relevance of the new Core Curriculum; memories of a pervasive feeling that we were all guinea pigs in experimental medical education; memories of the volume of work, which required mutual cooperation and the birth of the HMS "student camels," which permitted sleeping through an occasional lecture. I have warm memories of being with great people who had the highest respect for intellectual pursuits and who nurtured their students, encouraging them to bring out their best; knowing the Arnie Weinbergs, Don Fawcetts, Susumo Ito, Dan Federman, Joe Gardella, brothers Karnovsky, Elkan Blout, John David, Frank Austen and many others at HMS was a privilege and a most enriching experience.

I joined Frank Austen's laboratory at the Robert Breck Brigham and did a three year post-doctoral stint in molecular immunology. Working with Jocelyn Spragg and others in Frank Austen's Laboratory, it's here that I was introduced to the World of Science, which, to paraphrase Charles Baker of the Philippines,

... is the purest democracy on earth from which ... neither the color of one's skin nor religious belief bar participation. Intelligent devotion to the pursuit of scientific truth, and competent effort, or support of effort, toward this end, automatically enrolls one in the great company of the "Fifth Estate." One may find in this real "League of Nations" some of the most inspiring of human associations. ... Here may be encountered some of life's greatest opportunities for the service to humanity. ... Happy are its devotees!

Charles F. Baker in the *Philippine Agriculturalist*, 14:455 (1926)

Indeed, my experience with the international scientific community bears testimony to this notion!

When the Brigham and Women's Hospital was born, we moved down the hill and I was promoted to Assistant Professor of Medicine and Capps' Scholar, studying glandular kallikreins and the mechanisms of prohormone activation. Shortly thereafter, with the influence of Don Fawcett, who had accepted a position to start an EM Laboratory at the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases (ILRAD), my wife, Linda, and I and our first-born child moved to Kenya.

### *Family Life*

We have had a most magnificent time raising our children in Kenya, all of whom are now young adults pursuing different interests in their lives. Linda and I are now finding ways of coping with the “empty nest” syndrome. Payan graduated from Princeton in June and now lives in the Northwest and is interested in the areas of geology and engineering. Katrina graduated from Brown in May with a degree in environmental science. Kileken is in his sophomore year at Brown and is doing well. With modern communications, we are in touch with all of them through IM on a daily basis, as needed.

We live in Tigoni outside of Nairobi in the midst of tea, coffee, and flower plantations at an altitude of 7000 ft. The gardens are breathtaking. Linda has taught comparative literature at university, worked for UN agencies and for organizations interested in family planning, the control of malaria, HIV/AIDS, and other health problems.

### *Studies on Theileria and Trypanosomes*

After moving to Nairobi, we started studies on *Theileria parva* and African trypanosomes. East Coast fever is caused by *Theileria parva*, a malaria-like, tick-transmitted, intracellular parasite that infects bovid lymphocytes and causes cell death by lymphocytolysis. A peculiar and most fascinating feature of infection by this parasite is that it survives in a subset of lymphocytes in which it induces cellular transformation and clonal expansion. The cells exhibit telltale signs of acute leukemia such as change in surface epitopes, pleiomorphism, short generation times, and tissue invasion. Because the parasite lives freely exposed to the cytosol of lymphocytes, it might induce cellular transformation by secreting molecules that activate signal-transducing pathways or those that modulate apoptosis. We showed that mammalian casein kinase II is dysregulated in this disease and it appears that its phosphatase substrates are also involved. Although CK II appears to function as an oncogene in certain malignancies, in conspiracy with other regulatory factors, the sequencing of the genome of *T. parva*, which is nearing completion at the Institute for Genomic Research (TIGR) in Rockville, Maryland, should provide the opportunity for a definitive characterization of the whole pathway that this parasite activates.

With my colleagues at ILRAD, we developed nucleic acid-based diagnostic methods for trypanosomes that cause disease in both human beings and livestock. One of these turns out to be a retrotransposon, *ingi*, that is poly-dispersed in the genome of *Trypanosoma brucei*—the first such element to be identified in a unicellular organism. Attempts to develop vaccines against trypanosomes have been frustrated by the recognition that the genome of *T. brucei*, as well as those of other trypanosomes, has over a thousand genes encoding its variable surface glycoprotein. These genes are expressed in an



almost stochastic manner during the mammalian infective stage of these parasites. Trypanosomes are thus masters of antigenic variation and kill their hosts by inducing immunodeficiency. Since there is widespread drug resistance in trypanosomes, the hope of controlling this disease, which affects people and livestock in much of sub-Saharan Africa, will rely on the control of the tsetse fly vectors. My colleagues and I at ICIPE are working on this and have made some good progress.



Dr. Onesmo K. ole-MoiYoi.  
(Photo courtesy of  
Dr. ole-MoiYoi.)

*Studies on Malaria: Mouse QTLs and Highland Malaria*

I started an organization called the Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology-Africa (IMCB-A) and have been studying the genetic mechanisms of disease resistance in malaria using inbred mice. These strains of mice are resistant to one or other disease and the list includes many tropical diseases (trypanosomiasis, malaria, TB, schistosomiasis, and others), as well as metabolic diseases, such as diabetes, and others, including atherosclerosis, asthma and several cancers of the lung and colon. So we set up to identify the quantitative trait loci (QTL) for resistance to malaria. With a post-doctoral fellow, we have narrowed down the QTL to about a centi-Morgan, which provides the opportunity to study the loci in the mouse genome using cDNAs to identify genes in the QTL. We hope to translate these studies on the mouse genome into research on disease resistance in human populations. We have found such a population on the shores of Lake Victoria, where ICIPE has a magnificent laboratory. A significant percentage of these individuals are asymptomatic carriers of gametocytes of malaria. The trait was originally identified in school children, but following studies of parents of children who have the trait, it has been possible to establish that the trait is genetic. I have a

strong suspicion that this is an immunological polymorphism, which may be of great interest in strategies to break the cycle of malaria transmission.

This is turning out to be a part of exciting studies on malaria around Lake Victoria, as well as in the highlands of Kenya, where we have had progressively worsening epidemics of “highland malaria” since independence.

I joined ICIPE, as Director of Research and Partnerships, in 2001. Within a few months, we found out that “highland malaria” is not from global warming, as we were given to believe. It is largely due to human activities, principally bricklayers, who have spread brick making as an income generating activity across the highlands of western Kenya. *Anopheles gambiae* has adapted remarkably well to breeding in bricklayers’ pits, where there are relatively few natural enemies. We are setting up a community-based, integrated ma-

laria control program in the highlands of Kenya. With the use of biopesticides, which include *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bti) strains and neem cake, we think we will succeed in controlling such epidemics. I think that “highland malaria” in other parts of the world is probably not from global warming, but is, most likely, due to environmental degradation. This is, indeed, the case in the Pare and Usambara Mountains of Tanzania and in Uganda and, surprisingly, in the coastal regions of Kenya; but we have not yet looked beyond eastern Africa.

#### *University Education*

I have continued my civic position as Chairman of Kenyatta University Council, a post I have held essentially since 1988. This has provided challenges as well as opportunities to introduce educational reforms for university education in Kenya. Universities in Africa have to begin thinking of themselves as “agents of change for development” because politics and the governments have done poorly in fostering economic development. A network of universities and research organizations that have critical masses of professionals, who address continental problems, may be our best hope at this time. Such individuals can influence policies to favor science-driven development in seeking solutions to the generic problems of sub-Saharan Africa. Change was clearly needed and we have had some measure of success, but progress is slow.

My job at ICIPE, Director of Research and Partnerships, allows me to set up such regional activities, in a manner that transcends political constraints. This is a challenging task, but one that is important for Africa, as we continue in our efforts to change our university mandates so that the institutions can move away from the immediate, post-colonial role of only training staff for the civil service.

I oversee a capacity building program called the African Regional Program in Insect Science (ARPPIS), which involves 27 universities across the continent. So far we have trained 167 PhDs and over 120 MSc students. ARPPIS also has a post-doctoral dissertation program. I have been looking for support to increase both the size and scope of ARPPIS to include areas of human health. Many groups seem to like what we are doing, as the government of Kenya honoured me with a medal and the recognition as “Elder of the Burning Spear” in 1994 and a university in Japan conferred on me an honorary doctoral degree in 2002.

*Note: Onesmo ole-MoiYoi was one of the laureates of the Kilby International Awards for 2003, given in recognition of contributions to science and education for development.*





BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF  
POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS  
1873–1968



## HENRY WATSON FURNISS

MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1891

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1893

PHYSICIAN AND DIPLOMAT, Henry Watson Furniss was born in Brooklyn, New York, on February 14, 1868. In 1877 the family moved to Indianapolis where his father became employed in the Postal Service. After graduating from public schools in Indianapolis, Furniss enrolled in the medical department of the University of Indianapolis from 1887 to 1889. In 1890 he transferred to the Howard University College of Medicine and received the MD degree in 1891. He later returned to Howard to receive his PhD in Pharmacy in 1895.

He did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School in 1893 in surgery, following which he left for England, returning to America in 1894. The same year he pursued a course in surgery at the New York Postgraduate School. His first appointment was to a position of Assistant Surgeon at Freedmen's Hospital in Washington in 1894. A year later, his connection with Freedmen's terminated, and he left for Indianapolis to begin the practice of medicine with his brother. He remained there until 1897.

While in medical school, Furniss had financed his education by working as a clerk in the US Census Office from 1890 to 1892, where he gained an understanding of the wealth, debt, and taxation of foreign governments. The experience also provided him with knowledge of commercial relations and consular forms, through correspondence with US consuls abroad. Furniss took the State Department's examination and, in 1897, with endorsements from Indiana's Republican congressmen, churchmen, and other civic leaders, applied for the position of US Consul at Bahia, Brazil. His diplomatic



*Hospital Interns at Freedmen's Hospital in Washington, D.C., 1895–1896: Drs. Shepard, Erwin, West, Warfield, Furniss. (Photo in D. S. Lamb's Howard University Medical Department, Washington, D.C.: A Historical, Biographical and Statistical Souvenir, Washington, DC, 1900.)*



career began in 1898 when he was appointed to this position. In 1905 he was promoted and transferred to Haiti as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary and held that post until 1913, during the crucial years preceding the United States's occupation of Haiti in 1915. In 1911, the National City Bank of New York City tried to force the Haitian government to accept a United States receivership. Furniss repeatedly opposed them and in turn was denounced by the bank as being hostile to American interests. Furniss had handed in his resignation but the President had asked him to stay until the end of his administration. But when Woodrow Wilson became President of the United States, Furniss was replaced by Arthur Bailly-Blanchard of Louisiana, who was more sympathetic to US positions with regard to Haiti.

Furniss won high praise from the State Department for his tenure in the Foreign Service. He took special pride in the fact that, while a loyal Republican, his tenure, touching four presidential administrations, rested more on merit than on political influence. He returned to medical practice first in Brooklyn, then in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1917, where he practiced for 35 years. He retired in 1952 and moved to Bristol, Connecticut, where he died of a cerebral hemorrhage and pulmonary embolism on December 20, 1955. He was 87 years old.

He had been a member of the American Microscopical Society, the American Public Health Association of Indiana Medical Society, and the American Society of International Law. He was fluent in Portuguese, Spanish, and French. After returning to his medical career he repeatedly declined invitations to use his special knowledge for business ventures in Haiti. He had removed himself from public life to such an extent that when he died, he was remembered only as a physician.



## HENRY RUTHERFORD BUTLER

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1890*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMER 1894 AND  
SUMMER 1895

HENRY RUTHERFORD BUTLER was born April 11, 1862, on a farm in Cumberland County, North Carolina, where he received only three months of free schooling. He eventually secured a job as a dishwasher in a restaurant,

and later, as a laborer in a lumber yard. Dr. E. E. Green, a respected physician of Macon, Georgia, and his wife took an interest in Butler, and prepared him for Lincoln University in Pennsylvania.

On January 1, 1882, Butler left for Lincoln University and received his AB in 1887. He entered Meharry Medical College that October, graduating with the MD degree in February 1890. In June of the same year, he received the AM degree from Lincoln University.

At Meharry, he won the H.T. Noel gold medal for proficiency in operative surgery and dissecting. In March 1890 he arrived in Atlanta, Georgia, with \$25, and began the practice of medicine. Soon afterwards, with his classmate, Dr. T. H. Slater, he established a medical practice in Atlanta and together they opened the drug firm of Butler-Slater & Company—the first drug store owned by African-Americans in the state of Georgia. The two men were also the first black physicians to establish practices and stay in Atlanta. In 1891, Governor W. J. Northern of Georgia appointed him sergeant to the second Georgia Battalion of Colored State Militia. Three years later, in the summer of 1894, he arrived at Harvard Medical School for the first of two postgraduate courses. The first was in the area of diseases of children, and the second, when he returned in the summer of 1895, was in surgery. On May 3, 1893, he married Selena Mae Sloan, an activist and leader, especially in the area of education and women's issues. She accompanied him to Boston. They had one child, Henry Rutherford Butler Jr., born in 1899, who would graduate from Harvard Medical School in 1926.

Before attending his first postgraduate course at Harvard Medical School in 1894, Butler had organized the Georgia State Medical Association and become its first president. When he returned for his second postgraduate course in the summer of 1895, he was serving as First Treasurer of the National Medical Association, which had just been organized in Atlanta, and of which he had been Co-founder. In 1899 he was listed as one of the 100 distinguished African-American leaders in the United States. From then until his death in 1931, he took part in community and national activities. He was Founder, Dean, and Principal teacher of the School of Nursing at Morris Brown College, associated with Fair Haven Hospital; Superintendent of the Fair Haven Infirmary in Atlanta, the first hospital run by black physicians for blacks in Atlanta, which he organized; Physician to Spellman Seminary and Morris Brown College; a Trustee of the Carrie Steele Orphans'



*Dr. Henry Rutherford Butler.  
(Photo in One Hundred  
Distinguished Leaders by C.  
Alexander, Atlanta, [1899].  
(Courtesy of Hargrett Rare  
Book & Manuscript Library,  
University of Georgia  
Libraries.)*

Home; organizer and first President of the Association of Physicians, Pharmacists and Dentists of Georgia; Co-Founder and member of the Atlanta Medical Association; Organizer of the Georgia Medical Society for Colored Physicians; and First Chairman of the Executive Board of the National Medical Association, which he helped organize in 1895.

For 10 years, he served as a special correspondent to the *Atlanta Constitution* under the byline, "What Colored People Are Doing." He also contributed many articles to medical journals, especially on pediatrics, which was his specialty. He died on December 17, 1931, in Atlanta, of chronic myocarditis and angina pectoris, at the age of 69. Hundreds viewed the body as it lay in state, and lined the streets along which the cortege passed from the church to the cemetery.



## JAMES RICHELIEU LEVY



*Dr. James Richelieu Levy. (Photo in A.B. Caldwell's History of the American Negro, South Carolina Edition, Vol. III, Atlanta, 1919.)*

*MD, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago, 1894*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1894 AND 1895

BORN IN CAMDEN, SOUTH CAROLINA, July 28, 1861, just after the outbreak of the Civil War, Levy attended South Carolina University for a short time, until it was closed to African-Americans following political changes there in 1876. Between 1886 and 1887 he taught school in South Carolina and Arkansas. In 1887, he entered Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, graduating in 1891 with the BS degree.

In the fall of 1891, Levy entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Chicago, later renamed the Medical Department of the University of Illinois, and graduated with the MD in 1894. A week following his graduation he arrived in Nashville, Tennessee, took the State Board examination and began practice in Florence, South Carolina. The same year, and again in 1895, he did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School in surgery and the diseases of children, respectively. He was a general practitioner in Florence, South Carolina. His biography in *The History of the American Negro*, South Carolina vol. III, 1919, 24 ff., reads:

Dr. James Richelieu Levy of Florence is a versatile man who has made a success not only in his professional work, but along business lines as

well. He has also taken an active part in politics, local and national, and has thus been brought in contact with many of the prominent men of the nation. . . .

In his profession he has not specialized, but has devoted himself to the general practice, at which he has been unusually successful . . .

He believes that the progress of the race depends on the development of the public schools and on an equal opportunity before the law as citizens.

Levy died on January 21, 1936, at the age of 75.



## JOHN WILLIAM CANN

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1897*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1897–1898

BORN AT SOMERSET BRIDGE, BERMUDA, on May 10, 1873, Cann was educated at the St. James Preparatory School in Bermuda and came to the United States in 1893 to study medicine. He graduated from Meharry Medical College in 1897 and did one year of graduate work at Harvard Medical School from 1897 to 1898.

He returned to Bermuda and began medical practice in 1898. In 1905, he was a member of the Bermuda Chamber of Commerce, then a member of the Colonial Legislature in 1911, and became a member of the Joint Committee of the House of Assembly and Legislative Council on Tuberculosis, and Trustee of Wilberforce University in Ohio. The date of his death is unknown, and his name does not appear in the *American Medical Directory*.



## ISAAC LINCOLN ROBERTS

*MD, Leonard Medical College, 1894*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMER 1897 AND 1911–1912

ISAAC LINCOLN ROBERTS was born in 1871, in Epes, Alabama. He received his AM at Selma University in Alabama in 1890. Selma University had been founded in 1878 as the Alabama Baptist Normal and Theological School to train African-Americans as ministers of the church and as teachers. After graduation from Selma University, Roberts attended Leonard Medical College in Raleigh, North Carolina, receiving his MD in 1894.

Roberts did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School, first in 1897, three years after graduating from Leonard. When he returned for the second time during the 1911–12 academic year, he had already established a medical practice in Boston, at 35 Grove Street. A year later he had moved to 104 Revere Street, with the telephone number: Haymarket 121. His hours were: 9–11 a.m., 6–8 p.m.

According to the *American Medical Directory* of 1916, he was on the staff of the Massachusetts General Hospital, where he died of arteriosclerosis and cerebral hemorrhage on January 21, 1926. He was 55 years old.

*Dr. Robert Tecumseh  
Burt. (Photo in Who's  
Who in the General  
Conference by R. R.  
Wright Jr., A.M.E.  
Book Concern  
(Philadelphia) 1924.)*



## ROBERT TECUMSEH BURT

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1897*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL,  
1899–1904

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, Robert T. Burt was born November 25, 1873, in Kosciusko, Mississippi. He received his BS degree from Central Mississippi College in 1893 and his MD from Meharry Medical College in 1897. He began practice at McMinnville, Tennessee, in 1897, where he also served as Principal of McMinnville High School.

In 1899, he began his postgraduate work in surgery at Harvard Medical School and would return for several ses-



*The Home Infirmary in Clarksville, Tennessee. (Photo in the Journal of the National Medical Association, Vol XXII, No. 3, 1935. By permission of the Journal of the National Medical Association, [www.nmanet.org](http://www.nmanet.org).)*

sions until 1904. He continued his postgraduate studies at other institutions as well: Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York, E.A. Printy Laboratory of Surgical Techniques in Chicago, and the Mayo Clinic, in Rochester, Minnesota.

Burt was the founder and owner of the Home Infirmary in Clarksville, Tennessee, where he served as Surgeon-in-Charge. The Home Infirmary was founded in 1900, as a thirty-two-room hospital. In 25 years he performed over 5,000 operations, aided by his wife, a nurse by training and a community activist.

His patients included African-Americans in addition to a large number of white men and women. In recognition of his services and commitment to the community, Burt High School in Clarksville was named in his honor.

He was a member of the Clarksville Board of Health; President of the Mutual Trust and Loan Company; Medical Examiner in World War I; Trustee of Meharry Medical College; member of the Clarksville Tennessee Chamber of Commerce; member of the National Medical Association; President of the Tennessee State Medical Association; and President of the Clarksville Negro Business League.

He died on August 16, 1955, in Clarksville, Tennessee, of acute dilatation of the heart and arteriosclerosis. He was 83 years old.







*Dr. William Henry Harris.  
(Photo courtesy of Meharry  
Medical College Archives.)*

## WILLIAM HENRY HARRIS

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1893*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMER  
1904

WILLIAM HENRY HARRIS was born in Augusta, Georgia, on June 15, 1867, and received his secondary education near Elberton, Georgia. He attended Clark University in Atlanta, graduating with the AB degree. In 1893 he completed his studies at Meharry Medical College in Nashville and graduated as the class valedictorian.

Harris did postgraduate work in medicine at Harvard Medical School and the Massachusetts General Hospital in 1904 and at the New York School of Clinical Medicine (Bellevue Hospital) in 1906. Between 1893 and 1934 he was in private practice in Athens, Georgia, and served Athens's black community with medical care for almost 40 years. His service to the community in Athens was formally recognized in 1913, through the presentation by prominent African-American citizens of a silver cup in appreciation for 20 years of service as "citizen and physician." He

was also owner of the Harris Drug Company, which served the community as early as 1911 and which was the first black-owned and -operated drug store in Athens.

He was a co-founder of the Georgia State Medical Association in 1893 and was involved in local, state, and national Republican Party and black community concerns. He served as Trustee on the Board of Morris Brown College and founded the Improved Order of Samaritans in Athens, Georgia, in 1897. The Order was a fraternal insurance organization and was originally founded to provide for the burial needs of indigent blacks. Harris was the Grand Secretary of the Order from 1897 to 1934, the year of his death. He was a successful businessman and was invited to speak at the 25th annual meeting of the National Negro Business League in Chicago in 1924.

At the 1932 Republican National Convention Harris was honored by being selected as a member of the notification committee to officially inform President Hoover of his nomination as presidential candidate, and attended the ceremonies at the White House in August of 1932.

He died on November 12, 1934, in Athens, Georgia, from injuries received during an automobile accident. He was 67 years old.





## ANDREW JACKSON LOVE

MD, Meharry Medical College, 1890  
POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL,  
SUMMER 1905

ANDREW JACKSON LOVE was born in Mississippi in 1860. He attended Meharry Medical College, graduating in 1890, and was listed in Charles Alexander's *One Hundred Distinguished Leaders*, published in Atlanta in 1899, as "a most successful physician of Chattanooga, Tennessee. . . . While in Chattanooga he has gained the highest esteem and regard of all classes of citizens and is very popular."

Between 1906 and 1909 the *American Medical Directory* lists his address as 730 Market Street in Chattanooga, Tennessee. By 1909, he had evidently relocated to New York, since the *Directory* of 1918 listed him at 3440 Broadway in New York.

Other information about Andrew Jackson Love comes entirely from an article entitled "Passing as White" by Olivia Mancini published in 2001 *Vassar: The Alumnae/I Quarterly*, available online at [http://www.aavc.vassar.edu/vq/winter2001/articles/features/passing\\_as\\_white.html](http://www.aavc.vassar.edu/vq/winter2001/articles/features/passing_as_white.html).

According to the article, in 1903 Andrew Jackson Love had married Anita Florence Hemmings, Vassar's first black graduate, whose African ancestry was disclosed a few weeks before graduation; that although a graduate of Meharry Medical College, Dr. Love listed his *alma mater* as Harvard University Medical School, where he had been a postgraduate student in the summer of 1905; that he practiced in Manhattan.

Also according to the article, they raised their children as whites, sending them to the demanding Horace Mann School in Manhattan and to an exclusive whites-only camp in Cape Cod. And, the only time Hemmings's mother came to visit her daughter in New York, she used the servants' entrance.

He died on March 21, 1948, of coronary sclerosis.



Dr. Andrew Jackson Love.  
(Photo in *One Hundred Distinguished Leaders* by C. Alexander, Atlanta, [1899]).  
(Courtesy of Hargrett Rare Book & Manuscript Library, University of Georgia Libraries.)



## SIDNEY DILLON REDMOND

*MD, Illinois Medical College, 1897*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1905–1906

SIDNEY DILLON REDMOND was born on October 11, 1871, in Holmes County, Mississippi. He graduated from Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi, in 1894 with the BA degree, and became the Principal of the Mississippi State Normal School in Holly Springs, and Instructor of Mathematics at Rust College. He arrived at Harvard Medical School for postgraduate work during the 1905–06 academic year at the age of 34.

In 1897, Redmond began medical studies at Meharry Medical College but transferred to Illinois Medical College, from which he graduated with honors in 1897. Five years later he received his MA degree from Rust College.



*Dr. Sidney Dillon Redmond. (Photo in Beacon Lights of the Race, Memphis, 1911.)*

In Jackson, Mississippi, he had a private practice for over 12 years and organized the Mississippi Medical and Surgical Association, becoming its first President. He then entered and completed law school at the Illinois College of Law, and for much of the remainder of his life he was involved in political affairs and his own successful business activities. By 1904 he was President of the American Trust and Savings Bank, one of the two black banks established in Jackson. He represented an influential voice for black Mississippians and published accounts of racism endured by blacks in Mississippi in *Crisis*, published by W.E.B. DuBois in Boston. Education was the most important issue he championed on behalf of blacks, and he fought for better schools for black youth.

Redmond helped many through medicine, law, and other public services. As a businessman he was a controversial figure. In 1915 he was disbarred from the practice of law in Mississippi upon charges of “deceit, malpractice, and misbehavior.” He also retired from the practice of medicine as a result of a dispute with the State Board of Health. However, at the end, the Mississippi Supreme Court ruled in his favor and permitted him to resume the practice of law.

Redmond became one of the 10 wealthiest blacks in the United States. He began Christmas Cheer Clubs in Jackson to assist indigent families. During

World War II, when a critical shortage of doctors developed, Redmond returned to the practice of medicine. Involved until the very end, he died in a Jackson hospital in February 1948, while talking to friends about a black rally underway in the city. He left to his heirs an estate valued at \$604,801.09—the equivalent of about \$10 million at the end of the 20th century. He owned over 100 houses. He died in Jackson, Mississippi, on February 11, 1948, at age 76, of paralytic ileus.



## WILLIAM WALLACE DERRICK

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1892*  
POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL,  
SUMMER 1906

WILLIAM WALLACE DERRICK was born in Bell Factory, Alabama, on December 4, 1865, and was educated in the local schools. He graduated from the Central Alabama Academy (Rusk Normal Institute) in 1888 and taught school at intervals to earn enough to continue his education.

He next attended Meharry Medical College, graduating in 1892. He then left directly for Knoxville to set up practice. By 1894 he was the only black physician in the city. In Knoxville, he enrolled at Knoxville College, founded in 1875 by the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and received his AB in 1894. He continued his education, in music and the German language, under a private instructor.

Following an unsuccessful attempt on the part of a group of black women to raise funds for the construction of a hospital for blacks in Knoxville, Derrick decided to establish three cottage-type hospitals. Although the City Hospital admitted blacks, the

*Dr. William Wallace Derrick.*  
(Photo in *Two Hundred Years of Black Culture in Knoxville Tennessee, 1791–1991* by Robert J. Booker, Virginia Beach, 1993. (Courtesy of the Donning Company Publishers, Virginia Beach, Virginia.)





*Dr. William W. Derrick was the first African-American in Knoxville to own an automobile. (Photo in Two Hundred Years of Black Culture in Knoxville, Tennessee, 1791–1991, by Robert J. Booker, Virginia Beach, VA, 1993. (Courtesy of the Donning Company Publishers, Virginia Beach, Virginia.)*

wards designated for them were usually overcrowded and inadequate. The facilities built by Derrick were also nurse training centers. In 1895, a medical department was established at Knoxville College for the purpose of training physicians. One year later, Derrick was appointed Professor of Chemistry and Physical Diagnosis, although a year earlier he had been passed over due to his race. He was one of two black faculty members at Knoxville Medical Col-

lege. The medical department was closed in 1900, five years after its opening. The same year, the Knoxville Medical College opened in Mechanicsville. Before it closed down in 1910, following a critical report by the Carnegie Foundation, it had graduated 21 physicians. While in practice in Knoxville—for 44 years—Derrick did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School in the summer of 1906. He died on October 1, 1936.



## JOHN PRESTLY PICKETT

*MD, Leonard Medical College, 1904*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMER 1910

JOHN PRESTLY PICKETT was born in Winnsboro, South Carolina, in 1881 and received his AB degree from Allen University in Columbus, South Carolina. Allen University had been founded in 1870 by the African Methodist Episcopal Church and was the first institution of higher education in South Carolina founded by African-Americans for the express purpose of educating African-Americans.

In 1904, Pickett graduated with the MD degree from Leonard Medi-



cal College at Shaw University, founded in 1865 as an “institution of higher learning for Negroes.” He did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School in the summer of 1910. The *American Medical Directory* lists his address as 918 S. Broad Street in Camden, South Carolina, where he died around 1969.



## HENRY LYTLE HUMMONS

MD, *University of Indianapolis Medical College*, 1902  
POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1911

HENRY LYTLE HUMMONS was born on February 25, 1873, in Lexington, Kentucky, and educated at the Chandler Normal School, from which he graduated in 1889. Five years later, he graduated from Knoxville College. In 1902, he graduated from the University of Indianapolis Medical College, now part of the Indiana School of Medicine in Indianapolis, with the MD degree. Following internship at Shelbyville Hospital he opened his offices in Indianapolis in 1903. In 1911, he did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School. A staunch and devoted churchman, he helped organize the Witherspoon United Presbyterian Church in 1907. He served as Elder and Superintendent of Sunday school for many years. In addition, he established the city's first free tuberculosis clinic at Flanner House in Indianapolis in 1919.

He was a general practitioner specializing in obstetrics, and clinic physician in the Tuberculosis Clinic, Flanner House. Among his activities and memberships were Medical Inspector of Public Schools; Director of Lincoln Hospital; Vice President, YMCA, and founder of its Indianapolis branch; Clinician, City Clinic for Lung Diseases; member of: the National Medical Association and the American Medical Association; State Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association; Omega Psi Phi; Tri-State Medical Society of Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio; and Aesculapian Medical Society of Indianapolis. The *American Medical Directory* listed his address in 1918 as 754 Indiana Avenue in Indianapolis.

He died on April 5, 1956, at the age of 83, of cerebral thrombosis and arteriosclerosis.



*Dr. Henry Lytle Hummons.  
(Photo courtesy of Special  
Collections, Ruth Lilly  
Medical Library, Indiana  
University School of  
Medicine Libraries.)*



## WILLIAM HENRY MANSIFEE

*MD, Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, 1889*

*MD, College of Medicine, University of Illinois, Chicago, 1893*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1911

WILLIAM HENRY MANSIFEE was born in Jefferson City, Missouri, on July 4, 1868, and educated at Lincoln University in Jefferson City. He received his MD degrees from the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College in 1889, and from the College of Medicine, University of Illinois, in Chicago in 1893.

When Mansiffee arrived for postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School in 1911, he had been an organizer and then on the staff of Provident Hospital (later renamed People's Hospital) and Hospital Number Two in St. Louis, Missouri, both of which cared for the black population of St. Louis. In addition to Harvard Medical School, he conducted postgraduate work at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and the College of Medicine at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

Mansiffee remained in Missouri for most of his life and was a member of several professional societies, including the National Medical Association, Mound City Medical Forum, the Pan-Missouri Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He was also briefly Hygiene Inspector of the public schools in St. Louis. He died on February 7, 1958, at the age of 93.



## JOHN JAY HAMILTON SMITH

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1908*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1911–1912

JOHN JAY HAMILTON SMITH was born in 1887 and received his MD from Howard University College of Medicine in 1908. He did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School during the 1911–12 academic year. A urologist, his name appears in the 1913–1914 *Medical Directory of Greater Boston*, where he is listed as being in practice at 89 Inman Street in Cambridge. His hours were listed as 8–9 a.m. and 6–8 p.m. He was a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society and of the Boston Library Association. He died on October 27, 1955, at the age of

68, at Mount Auburn Hospital, due to injuries sustained in a car accident. At the time of his death his address was listed as 12 Lee Street in Cambridge.



## DENNIS ANDERSON BETHEA

*MD, Jenner Medical College, Chicago, 1907*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1913

DENNIS ANDERSON BETHEA was born on October 16, 1880, in Dillon, South Carolina, and educated at the Princess Anne Academy in Maryland, from which he graduated in 1899. His college education took place in part at Allegheny College, in Meadville, Pennsylvania, where he was the only African-American student. While a student at Allegheny, he won the Philomeathean essay contest in 1903. The same year he entered the Chicago Medical College and received his MD in 1907. During his years at the Chicago Medical College, he compiled and published a *Colored Peoples' Directory of Chicago*. Four years later he arrived at Harvard Medical School for postgraduate work.

Upon receiving his MD degree he began practice in Terre Haute, Indiana. There he became a member of the Chamber of Commerce and served as Vice President of the Tuberculosis Association and as a City Officer in the Parent Teachers Association.

In 1923 he moved to Muncie, Indiana. While there, he was a member of the Muncie Academy of Medicine, the Indiana State Medical Association, and Physician-in-Charge of the *Colored Baby's Clinic*. He moved to Gary, Indiana, in 1926 and was a member of the Terre Haute Medical Society. He was the Health Editor on the *Christian Recorder* published in Philadelphia, and a writer on health subjects in various publications. He was also the Health Editor of the *Gary American*. He remained an active member of the National Medical Association and the NAACP.

He died of a stroke in Hammond, Indiana, on March 12, 1974, at the age of 79.



*Dr. Dennis Anderson Bethea. (Photo in Who's Who in Colored America [1927] vol. I, Boris, Joseph J., editor.)*





## JAMES MONROE ALLISON

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1915*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1915

JAMES ALLISON WAS BORN in Dayton, Alabama on August 6, 1889, and was educated at Payne University. He received his MD from Meharry Medical College in 1915. He did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School in 1915 in surgery and surgical technique.

His professional activities included Associate Attending Gynecologist, Dailey Hospital Sanitarium; and Associate Attending Surgeon, Provident Hospital in Chicago. He was a member of the American Medical Association, the National Medical Association, and the Illinois Medical Association. He served as President of the Cook County Physicians' Association. During World War II he served as First Lieutenant in the Medical Reserve Corps, US. Community service included membership in the Urban League, YMCA.

He died in Chicago on September 10, 1968, at the age of 79.



*Dr. Lylburn Clinton Downing. (Photo in Who's Who in Colored America 1938–40, Thomas Yenser, editor, Thomas Yenser, Brooklyn, New York, 1940; 5th edition.)*



## LYLBURN CLINTON DOWNING

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1912*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL,  
1919, 1930, AND 1938

LYLBURN CLINTON DOWNING, physician and surgeon, was born on March 18, 1889, in Danville, Virginia. After graduating from Biddle Normal and Preparatory School in 1903, he attended Biddle University (now Johnson C. Smith University) in Charlotte, North Carolina, and graduated in 1907 with the AB degree. In 1912 he received his MD from Howard University College of Medicine and interned at Freedman's Hospital from 1912 to 1913.

Downing began the practice of medicine in 1913 and first came to Harvard Medical School for postgraduate work in 1919. He returned to Harvard Medical School for postgraduate work

in 1930, and again in 1938, when he is listed in the “Fracture Course” at the Massachusetts General Hospital from October 24 to October 29, 1938. In addition to Harvard Medical School, he continued his postgraduate education at the University of Pennsylvania (1929), Marquette University (1927), Dillard University (1936), and the University of Chicago (1938).

A prominent figure in medical circles, his professional activities and memberships included Medical Director and Superintendent of Burrell Memorial Hospital in Roanoke, Virginia; member of the National Medical Association; member of the National Hospital Association; President of the Old Dominion State Medical Society; President of the Magic City Medical Society; President of the Former Internes of Freedmen’s Hospital; member of the Philadelphia County Medical Society.

He remained an active member of the National Medical Association and published several articles on the necessity of establishing small hospitals for the treatment of African-Americans. Downing explained in an article published in the *Journal of the National Medical Association* in 1919:

... The only place that I know of where a physician becomes a layman is when a colored doctor enters a white hospital in the south. And further, do we believe that with basement accommodations and with southern white nurses, that negro patients are as a rule accorded the kind and sympathetic nursing that the patient is assured of in a colored hospital? The attitude of the white nurse toward the colored M.D. is far from professional and pleasing. What then must be the lot of the patient in an isolated section of a white institution, especially in the case if it be of a tedious or repulsive nature?

Racial segregation prevents our qualified young graduates from securing internship in practically all of the hospitals and later on from serving on the visiting staffs of the hospitals of their locality, thus forcing us either to abandon the practice of the hospital medicine and surgery or to conduct institutions of our own.

He died in 1965.





Dr. William Samuel Quinland.  
(Photo courtesy of Meharry  
Medical College Archives.)

## WILLIAM SAMUEL QUINLAND

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1919*

POSTGRADUATE AND ROSENWALD FELLOW, HARVARD  
MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1919–1920

WILLIAM S. QUINLAND, pathologist and bacteriologist, was born in Antigua on October 12, 1885. Before leaving Antigua, he began his higher education with a teacher's training course. In the United States, he secured his pre-medical education at Howard University (1914) and received his BS from Oskaloosa College in Iowa in 1918. In 1919 he graduated with the MD degree from Meharry Medical College.

Quinland spent the three years following his graduation from Meharry in Boston as the first recipient of the Rosenwald Fellowship in Pathology and Bacteriology at Harvard Medical School and as Assistant in Pathology at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital (1920–1922). The Rosenwald Fellowship for advanced study, announced in the *Journal of the National Medical Association*,

was established

... to enable qualified graduates in medicine to pursue under favorable conditions advanced studies in the fundamental medical sciences—pathology, bacteriology, physiology, physiological chemistry and pharmacology—Mr. Julius Rosenwald is offering six fellowships to Negro graduates in medicine.

According to the announcement, the committee in charge of the fellowships consisted of Dr. William H. Welch, Director of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Chairman; Dr. David L. Edsall, Dean of the Harvard Medical School; and Dr. Victor C. Vaughan, Dean of the Medical Department of the University of Michigan. Abraham Flexner of New York City, was secretary of the committee. The announcement read in part:

The fellowship stipend will be \$1,200, or as much thereof as may be needed to pay for transportation from the appointee's home to the institution in which he studies and back, laboratory and tuition fees, books, and living expenses.

In addition to the fellowships in medicine, Julius Rosenwald of Chicago had provided significant assistance to black schools and hospitals across the nation, especially in the South, where he established 5,295 schools in rural districts for African-American children, and gave support to 11 hospitals for African-Americans.

According to tuition receipts, while at Harvard Medical School Quinland worked with Dr. Wolbach, and upon completion of his courses in Bacteriology and Pathology, received the Harvard Medical School Graduate Certifi-

cate in Pathology and Bacteriology. Before he left Boston, Harvard Medical School offered Quinland a Professorship, but Quinland refused, saying that Meharry Medical College needed him more. At Meharry Medical College he began his service as Professor and Chairman of the Department of Pathology in 1922 and continued until 1947, with the exception of 1941–1942, which he spent in further graduate study at the University of Chicago. In addition, he was pathologist at the George W. Hubbard Hospital, and its Associate Medical Director from 1931 to 1937. From 1947 until his death in 1953, he was Chief of Laboratory Services at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama.

Quinland's research appeared regularly in the *Journal of the National Medical Association*, *The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, and *The Journal of Urology*. Between 1921 and 1940 he had published more than 19 papers in national and international journals. Widely recognized in the field of pathology, he was the first African-American to be admitted to the American Association of Pathologists and Bacteriologists, in 1920. By 1934 he had been elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 1947, he became the first black Fellow of the College of American Pathologists, one year after he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. He was also a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of the National Medical Association* and the *Punjab Medical Journal*, published in Banga, Punjab, India.

Quinland died in Tuskegee, Alabama, on April 6, 1953, of myocardial infarction and arteriosclerosis at the age of 67.

*Dr. George William Adams, Jr. (Photo in A. B. Caldwell's History of the American Negro, Washington, D.C. Edition, Vol. VI, Atlanta, 1922.)*



## GEORGE WILLIAM ADAMS JR.

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1918*

POSTGRADUATE AND ROSENWALD FELLOW, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1920–1921

GEORGE W. ADAMS JR. was born on March 9, 1894, in Washington, D.C. He received his BS from Dartmouth College, *cum laude*, in 1915, and his MD from Howard University College of Medicine in 1918, followed by an internship at Freedmen's Hospital. He began practice in Washington, D.C., in the summer of 1919 and a year later received the Rosenwald Fellowship for postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School.



Upon the completion of his fellowship in 1921, Adams was made Instructor at his *alma mater*, the youngest man on the faculty of Howard Medical School, and a member of the visiting staff of Freedmen's Hospital.

His professional activities and memberships included: Assistant Professor of Physiology and Physiologic Chemistry at Howard University; Pathologist at Freedmen's Hospital, member of the Kappa Alpha Psi; member of the Medico Chirurgical Society of the District of Columbia; and a member of the NAACP. One of his favorite authors, outside of the field of medicine, was Kipling.

He died on January 29, 1969, of congestive heart failure. He was 74 years old.



Dr. William Arthur Method. (Photo courtesy of Medical Heritage Center, Prior Health Sciences Library, The Ohio State University.)

## WILLIAM ARTHUR METHOD

MD, Ohio Medical University, Columbus, Ohio, 1906

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1920



WILLIAM ARTHUR METHOD was born on February 18, 1881, in Bainbridge, Ohio. Following high school in Frankfort, Ohio, he attended Wilberforce University in Wilberforce, Ohio, and received his AM degree in 1900. In 1906, he graduated from the Ohio Medical University in Columbus with the MD degree. He did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School in 1920.

His professional activities and memberships included Founder and Surgeon-in-Chief of the Alpha Hospital in Columbus, Ohio; Director, Chief Medical Director, and Medical Examiner, Supreme Liberty Life Insurance Company, Chicago, Illinois; Director and Treasurer, Adelphi Building and Loan Association; member, National Medical Association; member, Ohio State Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical Association; member, Columbus Academy of Medicine; member, Ohio State Medical Association.

The *Columbus Illustrated Record* in 1920 described him in the following way:

... He is one of the most prominent Negro physicians in the city of Columbus, Ohio, has a large practice all over the city, and is busily engaged

every hour of the day in his profession. He is a Christian, connected with the Y.M.C.A. and a member of Fraternal Organizations. He owns several beautiful homes.

He died of pneumonia in Columbus, Ohio, on January 16, 1936, at the age of 55.



## EDWARD MAYFIELD BOYLE

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1902*  
POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMER,  
1921 AND 1922

EDWARD MAYFIELD BOYLE was born on June 21, 1874, in Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa, where he attended public school. He then studied at the Alabama A&M College in Normal, Alabama, a historically black college, from 1896 to 1898. He entered Howard University in 1898 and stayed until 1902.

During the first two years he studied Theology, but changed to Medicine and graduated with the MD degree in 1902. In 1903 he passed his Board of Registration in Maryland, as well as in Pennsylvania in 1906, and in the District of Columbia in 1909.

Following graduation from medical school, Boyle continued his education in a number of postgraduate programs. He first attended lectures in clinical medicine at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in 1904 and studied under Drs. Osler and Thayer. In the summer of 1921 he arrived at Harvard Medical School for postgraduate work, focusing on diseases of the heart and clinical laboratory diagnostic methods. He would return in 1922 for additional postgraduate work in anaphylaxis under Dr. Chandler Walker. In 1923 and 1924 he continued his studies with Dr. Joseph C. Bloodgood at Johns Hopkins.

In 1923, Boyle was Visiting Roentgenologist at the X-Ray Department at Bellevue Hospital in New York City. While at Bellevue Hospital, he completed courses in X-ray under Dr. Charles Gottlieb, who was the X-ray specialist at Beth Israel and Lincoln Hospitals. In the fall of 1927 he completed



*Dr. Edward Mayfield Boyle. (Photo in Who's Who in Colored America, 1928–1929, Joseph Boris, Jr., Ed., Who's Who in Colored America Corporation, New York, 1929, 2nd Edition.)*



courses in X-ray and X-ray apparatus under Professor Alexander Marcus of the College of the City of New York.

He contributed numerous papers on X-ray to the *Journal of the National Medical Association*. He died in Baltimore, Maryland, on Nov. 21, 1936, age 58, of cardiovascular renal disease.



## CHARLES MARTIN REID

*MD, Leonard Medical School, 1908*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1925

CHARLES MARTIN REID was born in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on April 1, 1882, and received his preparatory education at Port Limon, Costa Rica. He arrived in the United States in 1903 and studied at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina, from 1903 to 1904. In 1908, he received his MD from Leonard Medical College. In 1911 he completed postgraduate work at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, and was listed on the resident staff of the Royal Victoria Hospital from 1910 to 1911. He did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School in 1925. Reid began to practice medicine in Exmore, Virginia, in 1912 but moved to Jamaica, Long Island, in 1926. There, he was the organizer of the NAACP Jamaica Branch.

Reid won several honors and prizes in the United States and Canada. His memberships and professional activities included the South Jamaican Property Owners Association; Examining Physician, Victory Life Insurance Company; member, Life Extension Institute of New York; Trustee of the Tidewater Institute, Cape Charles, Virginia; member, the National Medical Association; member, North Harlem Medical Society, and member, Queens County Medical Society, which was composed of African-American physicians practicing in Queens County, Long Island, New York; he was subsequently its President in 1935. In addition, he was a member of the New York State Medical Society and a Fellow of the American Medical Association. He was fluent in French and Spanish. He lived and worked in Jamaica, Long Island, New York.

He died on May 21, 1962, of carcinoma of the cecum with metastasis at Jamaica Hospital, where he was a member of the honorary staff.



## WILLIAM ANDREW GOODLOE

MD, *Howard University College of Medicine*, 1924

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1925–1926

WILLIAM ANDREW GOODLOE was born on February 16, 1896, in St. Louis, Missouri, and educated in St. Louis and Washington, D.C. He received his BS from Howard University in 1919 and his MD degree in 1924. He did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School during 1925 and 1926.

He specialized in venereal diseases, and was based in Washington, D.C., beginning in 1931, if not earlier. The *American Medical Directory* does not list him, however, after 1949. The date of his death remains vague, as no obituary is available.



## DAVID WELLINGTON BYRD

MD, *Meharry Medical College*, 1900

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1928

DAVID WELLINGTON BYRD, physician and pharmacist, was born on November 1, 1868, in Ashland, Ohio. He attended Baldwin University in Berea, Ohio, and received his MD degree and PhD in Pharmacy from Meharry Medical College.

Before he studied medicine Byrd was Professor of Latin and Greek at Rust University in Holly Springs, Mississippi, and later Professor of Greek at Walden University in Nashville, where he became Dean of the Literary Department. He then taught medical chemistry at Meharry Medical College.

He was one of the founders and Past President of the National Medical Association and on the staff of the Norfolk Community Hospital in Norfolk, Virginia. He is credited with establishing the first venereal disease clinic in the nation, in 1933. The clinic was approved by the US Marine Hospital at Norfolk. He would later serve as a consultant to the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service.

A highly respected colleague, Byrd died at his home in Norfolk, Virginia, on July 6, 1945, at the age of 76, of coronary occlusion. At the tribute given to him during his Honor Service of the National Medical Association, it was said:



*Dr. David Wellington Byrd.  
(Photo in One Hundred  
Distinguished Leaders by  
C. Alexander, Atlanta,  
1899. (Courtesy of Hargrett  
Rare Book & Manuscript  
Library, University of  
Georgia Libraries.)*

Of him we can say that which is rarely true of any man, never from his lips have we heard unkind or derogatory remarks concerning anyone, nor have his thoughts been clothed with words of anger or invective, but always has he given freely of his counsel, comfort and conciliation . . .

As an internist he brings to the bedside a magnetic personality, an irreproachable demeanor, a profound knowledge ripened by experience, a sympathetic understanding and assurance, and a confidence justified by skill.

... To you, Dr. Bryd, as a scholar, teacher, statesman and philosopher, as a physician whose exemplary life has inspired and enriched your fellow men, the National Medical Association in special session here assembled, in public recognition of your sterling character, professional attainments and humanitarian service, pays homage and honors you as "*Our Osler in Bronze.*"



*Dr. A. Wilberforce Williams.  
(Photo in The National  
Cyclopedia of the Colored Race,  
C. Richardson, Editor-in-Chief,  
Montgomery, Alabama, 1919,  
Vol. I. (Courtesy of Firestone  
Library, Princeton University.)*

## A. WILBERFORCE WILLIAMS

*MD, Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, 1894*  
POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL BETWEEN 1913  
AND 1937

BORN ON A COTTON PLANTATION in 1864 in Monroe, Louisiana of slave parents, A. Wilberforce Williams worked in the cotton and sugar cane fields until the age of 14 and learned his ABCs for the first time as a teenager. He was educated at the Lincoln Institute in Jefferson City, Missouri, and the summer Normal at Northwestern University in Chicago. He received his MD degree from Northwestern University Medical School.

His career evolved for the most part at Provident Hospital in Chicago where he was on staff. Williams was also Attending Physician at the South Side Tuberculosis Dispensary and Health Editor of the *Chicago Defender*. He was a member of the Illinois State Medical Society and, during World War I, a member of the Advisory Board of the Chicago Local Exemption Board. As Chairman of the Committee of Physicians of the Red Cross Home Service Medical Section, he served five months as Second Lieutenant lecturing on hygiene, tuberculosis, and venereal diseases. When he did postgraduate work in internal medicine at Harvard Medical School, Williams was an established practicing physician in Chicago.

For much of his life he was an active and visible member of the National Medical Association (NMA). In 1927, he organized a European tour for the members and their friends, to offer continued medical education through attendance at European clinics, arranged especially for the NMA. The tour included visits to clinics and hospitals at Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Leeds, London, Paris, and Brussels, and to hospitals in Switzerland and Italy. A special feature was the daily clinics by noted physicians during the steamer voyage. The educational tour was endorsed by the NMA and found useful, as one of the editorials suggested in the *Journal's* January-March 1926 issue, page 27, because of the

...general educational value to be obtained by travel and contact with other peoples of the world, and in gaining knowledge of other countries. It is a criticism without censure that our professional group as a whole is rather narrow and self-centered. It is true that economic and sociologic conditions in America are largely responsible for this condition; yet the condition is unquestionably harmful. Such a trip will do much to remedy it.

A. Wilberforce Williams died on February 26, 1940, of coronary thrombosis, at the age of 78.



## ISRAEL E. WILLIAMS

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1913*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMER 1937

BORN IN 1884 in Trinidad, Israel Williams arrived in the United States in 1909 and received his MD degree from Meharry Medical College in 1913. He practiced in Bradenton, Florida, for a while then moved to Jacksonville, Florida. He had a varied professional experience, working at the Prince of Wales General Hospital in London, the City of London Hospital, and the Royal Infirmary and Hospital in Edinburgh. When he arrived at Harvard Medical School he was 53 years old. In the summer of 1937 he attended the course in internal medicine, diagnosis, and treatment with Dr. F. Dennette Adams at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Israel Williams was the first African-American member on the staff of the Methodist Hospital. He also developed the formula for Kramer Cough Syrup and a formula for a tablet for heart patients. He also established the



*Dr. Israel E. Williams.  
(Photo courtesy of Meharry  
Medical College Archives.)*

Velveteen Chemical Company, which developed formulas for hair preparations.

At his death in February 1970 his address was listed as 102 E. Union Street in Jacksonville, Florida. He was the Chief of the Medical Section of Brewster Hospital and on the consulting staff at the Methodist Hospital in Jacksonville. He died in Jacksonville, Florida, at the age of 85 of hypertensive and arteriosclerotic heart disease.



## HAROLD E. FARMER

*MD, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, 1932*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMERS 1938 AND 1939

HAROLD FARMER WAS BORN in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on February 19, 1904. He received his AB from the University of Pennsylvania in 1928 and his MD in 1932, also from the University of Pennsylvania. He interned at Mercy Hospital, 1932–1933, and was Chief Resident there from 1933 to 1934. At Harvard Medical School he was a postgraduate student during the summers of 1938 and 1939, and studied internal medicine, diagnosis and treatment with Dr. F. Dennette Adams at the Massachusetts General Hospital. From 1951 to 1952 he did postgraduate work at the University of Pennsylvania, followed by residencies at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital from 1952 to 1955, and at the Massachusetts General Hospital, in internal medicine.

His professional activities and positions included staff appointments at Mercy Hospital; Instructor, University of Pennsylvania, Bryn Mawr Hospital; Instructor in Internal Medicine, Pennsylvania Hospital; Attending Physician *emeritus*, Bryn Mawr Hospital. Among his memberships were: Secretary, Board of Directors, Main Line School Night Association; Board of Directors, Family Service Main Line Neighborhood and Vice-President, Board of Health; member, American Medical Association. At his death on May 10, 1990, his address was listed as 1103 W. Valley Road in Wayne, Pennsylvania. He was 86 years old.



## BUSH ALEXANDER HUNTER

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1925*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMER 1938

BUSH ALEXANDER HUNTER was born in 1894 and graduated with the MD degree from Howard University College of Medicine in 1925. A specialist in pulmonary diseases practicing in Lexington, Kentucky, he did postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School in internal medicine, diagnosis, and treatment, with Dr. F. Dennette Adams at the Massachusetts General Hospital in the summer of 1938.

At his death on November 30, 1983, at the age of 89, his address was listed as 439 North Upper Street in Lexington, Kentucky.



## PAUL L. BRYANT

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1919*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1944

PAUL BRYANT, BORN in 1889, was a 1919 graduate of Meharry Medical College. He was licensed in 1919.

He attended the course in pediatrics at Harvard Medical School in the summer of 1944 and worked with Dr. Allan M. Butler at the Massachusetts General Hospital. At that time he was a practicing physician in Knoxville, Tennessee, and was on the Board of Trustees of Morristown College in Tennessee.

He practiced in Knoxville, Tennessee, for 41 years and was the Vice-President of the Knoxville Medical and Surgical Society in 1924. He died in the University Hospital in Knoxville on November 3, 1969, of arteriosclerotic heart disease.



*Dr. Paul L. Bryant. (Photo in Two Hundred Years of Black Culture in Knoxville Tennessee, 1791–1991 by Robert J. Booker, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 1993. (Courtesy of Donning Company Publishers, Virginia Beach, Virginia.)*



## JAMES L. LOWRY JR.

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1942*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMER 1951

A GENERAL PRACTITIONER, James Lowry was born in 1915 and received his education at Alcorn A & M College, Alcorn, Mississippi. He then attended Meharry Medical College, graduated with the MD degree in 1942, and was licensed in 1946. He was affiliated with the Mound Bayou Community Hospital in Mississippi. In the summer of 1951 he attended the course in clinical heart disease at Harvard Medical School. At that time he was a practicing physician in Alcorn, Mississippi.

He died on August 1, 1972, in Mound Bayou, Mississippi, of hypertension, coronary arteriosclerosis, myocardial infarction, and cardiac arrest. He was 57 years old.



## ERIC LEOPOLD O'NEAL

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1930*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMER 1952

ERIC O'NEAL WAS BORN in 1906 in St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands. He attended the Howard University College of Medicine and graduated with the MD degree in 1930. He practiced pediatrics in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands.

At Harvard Medical School he studied clinical heart disease in the summer of 1952. At that time he worked at the District Health Department in Charlotte Amalie. He died on December 27, 1987, at the age of 81. He was a member of the American Medical Association.



## ANDRÉ STERLIN

*MD, École Nationale de Médecine et de Pharmacie, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, 1936*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1952

ANDRÉ STERLIN WAS BORN in 1911 and graduated from the École Nationale de Médecine et de Pharmacie in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, in 1936. He at-

tended Harvard Medical School as a postgraduate in 1952, and was licensed in 1954. He was a general practitioner and orthopedist. He also served as courtesy staff member of Lowell General Hospital, and at St. Joseph's Hospital in Lowell, Massachusetts.

He died on March 22, 1964, in Westford, Massachusetts, of cerebral hemorrhage. He was a member of the American Medical Association. At the time of his death, at the age of 52, he was listed as a resident of Nabnasset, Massachusetts.



## E. EDUARDO A. de WHARTON

*MD (Medical School Unknown)*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMER 1953

THE ONLY INFORMATION available for Dr. de Wharton is his address, indicated in the list of enrolled students of the June 16, 1953, *Courses for Graduates*, which states that he came from St. James, Port of Spain, Trinidad, West Indies. He studied with Dr. Denette Adams of the Massachusetts General Hospital.



## MELVIN H. EVANS

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1944*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SUMMERS 1953 AND 1954

PHYSICIAN, AMBASSADOR AND GOVERNOR, Melvin Evans was born in Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, on August 7, 1917. He was educated at the Christiansted Public Grammar and Junior High Schools, Charlotte Amalie High School in St. Thomas where he graduated valedictorian of his class. He then received his BS *magna cum laude* from Howard University in 1940 and his MD from Howard University College of Medicine in 1944.

Before receiving his MPH from the University of California at Berkeley in 1967, he attended Harvard Medical School as a postgraduate student during the summers of 1953 and 1954, followed by a fellowship in cardiology at Johns Hopkins in 1956.



*Dr. Melvin H. Evans. (Photo in Black Americans in Congress, 1870–1989, by Bruce A. Ragsdale and Joel D. Treese, 1990. Washington, D.C. US House of Representatives, Raymond W. Smock, Historian and Director.)*

Evans's career included private practice, public health, and government. He served as Ambassador, US Government, Trinidad, 1981–1984; Congressman, US Virgin Islands 96th Congress, 1979–1981; Governor, US Virgin Islands, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, 1969–1975; Past Vice-chairman, Southern Governors Association, 1972–1973 and Chairman, 1973–1974. In the areas of medicine and public health, he was Physician-in-Charge of Frederksted Municipal Hospital, followed by two years in private practice 1967–1969; Commissioner of Health, Virgin Islands 1959–1967; USPHS, Senior Assistant Surgeon 1948–1950; Chief Municipal Physician 1951–1959. His memberships and professional activities included: Charter member, Association of American Public Health Physicians; Past President, Virgin Islands Medical Society; Past Chairman, US Virgin Islands Board of Medical Examiners; Fellow, American College of Physicians; member, American Medical Association; member, National Medical Association; Member, Pan American Medical

Association; member, American Medical Association Council on Environmental, Occupational and Public Health; Chairman, Board of Trustees, College of Virgin Islands 1962–1969; and Charter Member, Rotary Club of St. Croix. His honors and achievements: First elected Governor, US Virgin Islands, 1971–1975; Mason Hon DHL, Morgan State College; Hon LLD, Howard University 1972; and trustee's award, Fairleigh Dickinson University, 1972. Military Service: AUS 2nd lieutenant reserve, 1942–1943.

He died at St. Croix, US Virgin Islands, on November 27, 1984, at the age of 67.



## ROBERT WYATT DOCKERY

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1940*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SEPTEMBER 1954 TO  
JANUARY 1955

ROBERT W. DOCKERY was born on December 11, 1909, in Charlotte, North Carolina. He received his BS in 1931 from Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte and his MD from Meharry Medical College in 1940.

His residency was at the Flint Goodridge Hospital in New Orleans. As a postgraduate student at Harvard Medical School and the Boston City Hospital, he studied basic sciences in ophthalmology as well as clinical ophthalmology and ocular pathology. At that time he was at the Tuskegee Institute. He continued his postgraduate studies in Ophthalmology at the University of Louisville in Kentucky.

Robert Dockery's professional career included Clinical Instructor, University of Louisville, Kentucky, for 29 years; Assistant Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology in 1980; Ophthalmology Consultant, VA Hospital, in Louisville beginning in 1957. He was a member of the Louisville Academy of Ophthalmology and its President from 1969 to 1970 (the first African-American in that position); Falls City Medical Society; Jefferson County Medical Society; Kentucky State Ophthalmology Society; American Medical Association; National Medical Association; and the NAACP. In 1993 he was commissioned by the Governor of Kentucky as a member of the Advisory Council for the Blind in Kentucky.

For his dedication, the University of Louisville presented him with a plaque celebrating 25 years of service.

In March, 1990, under the heading "most memorable experiences" in the Alumni Information Questionnaire for Meharry Medical College, he listed

1. Major, Air Force—World War Two—Flight Surgeon—322nd Fighter Squadron (1943–46)
2. Desegregated all Hospitals for BLACK doctors in Kentucky in 1955
3. First Black Physician on Univ. of Louisville Faculty—1958
4. Helped organize "Pre-school vision Screening" 1955.

And he added under Hospital Relationship: "Since Desegregation in 1955 all BLACK doctors with Board Eligible training can operate without problems (Or admit patients)." Robert Dockery died on December 2, 2001, in Louisville, Kentucky, at the age of 92.



*Dr. Robert Wyatt Dockery.  
(Photo courtesy of Meharry  
Medical College Archives.)*



## MORICE HALL

*MD, Faculté de Médecine et de Pharmacie, Port-au-Prince, Haiti*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, OCTOBER 1955 TO MAY 1956

THE ONLY INFORMATION for Dr. Hall is from the list of attending students in the *Courses for Graduates* on September 28, 1955, which indicates that Dr. Hall attended a course in cardiovascular disease, that Dr. Bland of the Massachusetts General Hospital was his instructor, and his address was Turgeau, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.



## CHARLES MACGHEE CABANISS

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1952*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, FALL 1958

*Biography by Ms. Caryn Ward*

*Dr. Charles MacGhee Cabaniss. (Photo courtesy of Ms. Caryn Ward.)*



CHARLES CABANISS WAS BORN in 1927 in Columbus, Ohio. His college education was at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, where he continued to distinguish himself in the classroom, and on the field. In 1948 he entered Howard University Medical School and finished second in his class in 1952. His residency in obstetrics and gynecology was at Freedman's Hospital of Washington. Formally engaged in the practice of medicine, Cabaniss was Senior Assistant Surgeon, Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service, US Department of Health, Education & Welfare for four years at a public health clinic in New York City, beginning in 1955.

Following his service, he practiced medicine (obstetrics and gynecology and gynecologic surgery) on staff at Freedman's Hospital. In 1959, he was among the first group of African-American physicians to earn acceptance into oncology fellowship programs at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital, in New York. In the fall of 1958, he attended a postgraduate class in gynecology at Harvard Medical School. He was Board Certified at the University of Chicago, and later elected Fellow of the American So-

ciety of Abdominal Surgeons, and Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in 1961 and 1962 respectively.

In 1962, Cabaniss, together with a colleague, established a private practice in northwest Washington, D.C., and accepted the position of Clinical Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Howard Medical School. By the late 1960s Dr. Cabaniss earned privileges at the Washington Hospital Center, one of the first African-Americans to have a practice based there. He made several guest appearances on *Panorama*, a local daytime television talk show hosted by WTTG Anchor, Maurey Povich, providing expert opinion on women's health. He was referenced to in newspaper articles, and his work on fertility studies and gyn surgery was published in medical texts and journals.

In 1975, Dr. Cabaniss was elected Senior Surgeon in Charge of Residents by his colleagues at the Hospital Center, with the responsibility of training Ob/Gyn residents—the first African-American in such a position in any department at the Hospital Center. He also continued teaching and training residents at Howard Medical School and Howard Hospital. Considered one of the top specialists in his field, Charles Cabaniss served to unite the Washington community of medical professionals still bifurcated well into the 1970s. He continued teaching and practicing medicine until his sudden death, on September 17, 1979.



## CECIL C. GLOSTER

*MD, New York University School of Medicine, 1942*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SPRING 1960, SPRING 1961, AND FALL 1962

CECIL C. GLOSTER was born on April 16, 1916, in Wheeling, West Virginia. He received his BS degree from the Long Island University and his MD degree from the New York School of Medicine in 1942. He continued his medical studies as a postgraduate student at the University of Wisconsin Medical Center, University of California in Los Angeles, University of California in San Francisco, University of Michigan Medical Center, Johns Hopkins Medical Center, University of Chicago Medical Center, and University of Miami Medical Center. During his postgraduate work at Harvard Medical School he attended courses in gynecology from March 28 to April 1, 1960, obstet-



rics and gynecology from March 20 through March 31, 1961, and gynecology from September 10 through 21, 1962.

His career in obstetrics and gynecology evolved for the most part in New York, where he served in various capacities at the Brooklyn-Cumberland Medical Center and the Bushwide Center, St. John's Episcopal Hospital, and St. Mary's Hospital. His memberships included Board Member, the Lyndon B. Johnson Health Complex, Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, Sigma Pi Phi fraternity, among others.

Cecil Gloster was a Major in the U.S. Army Medical Corps (1943–1946) and received the Bronze Star for meritorious service against the enemy in the Po Valley in Italy.

He died on February 8, 1976, in Brooklyn, New York, of myocardial infarction, at the age of 59.



## HACKLEY ELBRIDGE WOODFORD

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1940*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1961, 1962

*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN on July 2, 1914, in Kalamazoo, Michigan, to two of the most wonderful people I have ever known. My mother was Bessie Agnes (Hackley) Woodford and my father was Thomas Elbridge Woodford. I was the seventh child, there being three girls and three boys before me. I finished high school and college in Kalamazoo. The college is now known as Western Michigan University and will be 100 years old this year. Several years ago they honored me as a Distinguished Alumnus.

I was accepted by five medical schools after I finished college. Harvard was one and they wrote that I should “deposit \$1000.00 with the Bursar.” That was in 1936. They lost me. I decided to go to Howard University in Washington, D.C., since many of the other medical schools had racial restrictions of one kind or another. I found that I had made the right decision, since I met a wonderful young lady in 1938 who would later become my wife. Her name was Mary Imogene Steele, from Cochituate, Massachusetts. On June 7, 1940, she received her BA degree with honors, and I received the MD degree. We were married that morning in the chapel on the campus by

the noted theologian, the reverend doctor Howard Thurman. After a honeymoon, we went to Chicago where Mary enrolled at the University of Chicago for her master's degree and I entered the hospital for my training.

On December 7, 1941, I was a resident in urology and was in the operating room when Pearl Harbor was attacked, changing our lives forever. During the early years of WWII, while I was at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, and a member of the Tuskegee Air Corps, I met Dr. Paul Dudley White. It was a custom for years for the John Andrew Hospital in Tuskegee Institute to present a symposium during which many famous doctors came to Tuskegee Institute to help the doctors with their problem cases and other matters. Somehow, Dr. White and I developed a friendship and he invited me to come to Harvard. I did that in the late forties or early fifties. I was, of course, the envy of many of the other doctors in the class because of my friendship with Dr. White. During that period he rode his bicycle to the university and was President Eisenhower's personal physician. I returned to Harvard on other occasions for other studies. I also knew Dr. Vawter during his time there. I remember our "brown bagging sessions." I always brought back something new and interesting from these sessions to our hospital staffs. My intention was to return and complete my residency in urology, but I became caught up with so many families, even delivering babies from babies I had deliv-



*Dr. and Mrs. Woodford at their 60th Anniversary. (Photo courtesy of Peggy Woodford Forbes.)*

ered, attending weddings, funerals, making house calls, and being interested in the welfare of the communities, that I could never find the right time to leave. Obstetrics, medicine, and surgery kept me busy and I was on call for 24 hours a day for over 25 years in Benton Harbor and St. Joseph, Michigan. I was relieved now and then by calling in a *locum tenens* from the University of Michigan. All in all it was an exhilarating experience, and a fine place to bring up one's children. I was a member of the North Shore School Board, and other social organizations for the improvement of citizens' welfare. For a short while I played violin with the Twin Cities Symphony.

When Kaiser Permanente offered me a partnership in Pasadena, California, I accepted. I was the first doctor to be Board Certified in family practice in the Kaiser Southern California Permanent Medical Group. While in Pasadena, I was a member of the executive board of the Urban League. I founded a subordinate branch of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity—'the Boule'—in that city. I retired about 19 years ago and moved to San Diego, where I am active with the Tuskegee Airmen, the Boule, the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, and I attend a host of medical meetings, including the National Medical Association. I keep my licenses current in California and Michigan.

While in Benton Harbor, Michigan, I taught pharmacology to the nurses at Mercy Hospital. Later on I was Chief of Medicine and Chief of Staff at Memorial Hospital in St. Joseph, Michigan, the twin city of Benton Harbor. My wife taught school in Michigan and California, having received her MA degree in English at the University of Chicago. She remains active with her sorority and the AAUW. She has been with me all of the way, having attended innumerable medical meetings, conferences, and symposia where she has taken notes.

Our first child is Peggy Woodford Forbes, who is CEO of Woodford Capital Management in Los Altos, California. She has an MBA from Columbia, but did take a course in business at Harvard. Her ex-husband, D. Cameron Forbes—now deceased—was one of the Class of 1961 at Harvard. Their daughters finished Harvard: Maya Forbes, in the class of 1990 and China Forbes in the class of 1992. Peggy's present husband, Harry Bremond, is a senior law partner in the Palo Alto California firm of Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich and Rosati. John Woodford, our son, is a twin to Peggy and holds two degrees from Harvard, class of 1963, AB, *magna cum laude* and an MA in English. He is the executive editor of *Michigan Today* at the University of Michigan. He has had an extensive career in journalism, having been with *The New York Times*, *The Chicago Sun Times* and with other magazines and a newspaper for which he was Managing and Executive Editor. Well traveled and versatile, he is a lover of books and is the one person I know who knows so much about so many different subjects which he can clarify for anyone.

His wife, the former Elizabeth Duffy, also graduated Harvard-Radcliffe class of 1963. Our daughter Joan Woodford Abu Bakir has a master's degree from the University of Southern California and is a math coach for teachers in the Los Angeles School System. Her husband, Muhammad Abu Bakir, is a licensed building contractor. Barbara Woodford Powell, our youngest, just became Mrs. Powell two days ago at a beautiful wedding ceremony held at our home here in Rancho Bernardo, California. After finishing Evanston Township high school in Evanston, Illinois, she attended UCLA. She and her husband, Calvin Champagne Powell, are with the Department of Children's Services in Los Angeles. It is the second marriage for each of them.

We have 18 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Although we love the San Diego climate and have many good friends here, we feel that the frequent commuting we do is not safe for persons of our age nor for our children and grandchildren who often come down to visit us and to check on our health and welfare. Therefore we hope to return to live in the Pasadena area in the near future. We love Pasadena, too.



## WALTER H. MORRIS

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1952*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, 1962–1963

### *Autobiography*

#### *Education*

Boston Latin High School; Boston, MA, 1937–1941

Tuskegee Institute; Tuskegee, Alabama, 1941–1943

University of Washington; Seattle, Washington, BS, 1946–1948

Howard University; Washington, D.C., M.D. 1948–1952

#### *Postgraduate Professional Training*

District of Columbia General Hospital—Internship; Washington, D.C.,  
1952–1953

Howard University Medical Center (Formerly Freedman's Hospital)

Residency—General and Orthopedic Surgery; Washington, D.C.,  
1953–1957

University of Pennsylvania—Orthopedic Surgery; Philadelphia, PA,  
1957–1958



*Dr. Walter H. Morris. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Morris.)*

Harvard University—Children's Hospital—Children's Orthopedics; Boston, MA, 1962–1963  
Continuing Education Courses—American Orthopedic Academy; Trauma, Hip; Pediatrics, Pathology, Biomechanics, and Adult Orthopedics

*Professional Work Experience*

US Army, Letterman Hospital; Presidio of San Francisco, CA, 1958–1961

Consultant and Treatment in Outpatient Services for Military and Dependents

Private Medical Practice; Oakland, CA, 1958–1989

Orthopedic Surgery and Trauma—Children and Adults

Herrick Memorial Hospital; Berkeley, CA, 1959–1963; Emergency Room Services, Staff Physician providing services in active urban hospital designated as primary emergency facility for the City of Berkeley

University of California Berkeley; Berkeley, CA, 1967–1991, Cowell Hospital Student Health Services; Staff Physician in Orthopedic Clinic

US Armed Forces Examining and Entrance

Station; Oakland, CA 1976–present; Civilian Orthopedic Consultant: Responsible for examining and making evaluation of all orthopedic problems for determination of ability to perform in the military.

West Oakland Health Center; Oakland, CA Drop-in Services 1989–present

*Professional Affiliations*

National Medical Association (NMA)

Golden State Medical Association (GSMA); President (1993–1994)

Sinkler-Miller Medical Association; Affiliate of GSMA and NMA

Northern California Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association

American Medical Association (AMA); Postgraduate Clinical Convention Instructor; Orthopedic Fractures

California Medical Association (CMA); Secretary of Ethnic Medical Organization Section (EMOS); past member of Hospital Survey Team—responsibilities included hospital evaluation and state accreditation

Alameda-Contra Costa Association (ACCMA)—Medical Services and Arbitration Committees

California Orthopedic Association

State of California Department of Health Services; Advisory Committee on Sickle Cell Anemia; Responsible for advising the State Department of Health Services on genetic diseases

Alameda-Contra Costa Health Systems Agency (HAS), Past Governing Body Member

Herrick Hospital and Health Care Center, Berkeley, CA; Member of Hospital Board of Trustees and Past Chief of Orthopedic Services

Alta Bates Hospital, Berkeley, CA

Children's Hospital Medical Center of Northern California, Oakland, CA

Brookside General Hospital, San Pablo, CA

Alameda County Highland Hospital, Oakland, CA

#### *Civic Affiliations*

Bay Area Consortium for Quality Health Care Inc.— Co-Founder and Chairman, Board of Directors

Boy Scouts of America, San Francisco Bay Area Council—Past Vice President, Past District Chairman, Executive Board Member

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, Governor Appointee Board Member (1981–1984)

Commonwealth Club of California

Downs Memorial Methodist Church—Expansion and Development Committee, Past Chairman Finance Committee

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Golden Heritage Life Member and Past Area Health Chairman

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity

Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity (Civic Honorary)

The St. Luke Society of Physicians and Ministers, Past President

Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) and Hospice Foundation, Community Advisory Board

#### *Honors and Awards*

Alameda Contra Costa Medical Association—Delivery of Quality Health Care

Bay Area Black United Fund—Community Service

Bay Area Consortium for Quality Health Care Inc.—Humanitarian Award

California Black Health Network—Recognition of Service and Outstanding Contributions

Golden State Medical Association —President's Lifetime Service

Herrick Hospital Board of Trustees—Outstanding Dedication and Service



National Medical Association Region VI—Lifetime Dedication and Commitment

Oakland Cancer Control Program—Leadership and Service

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity—Fifty Years of Service

St. Luke Society—Outstanding Service and Leadership

J. Robert Gladden Society—Pathfinder's Award

*Military Service*

World War II—United States Army; 555th Paratroop Battalion

*Personal*

Born in Mobile, Alabama

Married 53 years to Lela Duffel Morris; father of four and grandfather of eight



## HARRIS GIBSON JR.

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1961*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SPRING 1963

*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN in Mobile, Alabama, the sixth of seven children, to Harris and Maude Gibson. My parents were married in a section of Mobile called Africa Town. Africa Town was within a few hundred yards of the site where the last slave ship *Clothilde*, arrived in 1859, several years after the importation of slaves was declared illegal.

Neither of my parents attended high school, but they instilled in us the love of education and music, and they were extremely proud of the fact that all seven of their children did.

My own early interest in science began in preschool years when my parents took me to visit the George Washington Carver Laboratory at Tuskegee Institute while visiting a friend who lived nearby. Later, I was encouraged by my teachers—in the segregated school system I attended—who tutored and inspired me after school, on weekends, and during the summers, in their homes.

I eventually attended high school in Africa Town. The school was built

on land provided by the slaves who arrived on the *Clothilde*, as well as other members in the community. The school was founded following Emancipation, but before the state supported “separate and equal” schools. The bell which was once on the *Clothilde* was used on the campus to summon children to school; later, it was used for pep rallies, and to notify the community that our sports team had been victorious.

Teachers at that school were continually attempting to open doors for me. For example, the chairmen of the English Department obtained for me a job as a reporter on Black High School sports for the white daily newspaper. With the help of the band director, I received a music scholarship to attend Alabama State College, one of the historically Black colleges in Montgomery. I entered college at the age of 15. While in college, I occasionally attended the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church where Martin Luther King was a pastor. He was to lead the Montgomery bus boycott in 1955, following the arrest of Rosa Parks. This, too, was inspiring.

My interest in science was rekindled when I met Edward L. Maxwell, PhD, Chairman of the Biology Department at Alabama State. He was to become my mentor and remain so until his death in the late 1970s.

Subsequent to graduation, I went to Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, with the assistance and encouragement of Dr. Maxwell. One reason I chose Northwestern was that I had close relatives in Chicago. I received a master’s degree in Biology in 11 months. I applied to Meharry Medical College and was accepted there. By this time, Dr. Maxwell had become the Chairman of the Biology Department at Fisk University which meant that I was able to see him almost on a daily basis. He continued to counsel me on my career. At the end of my second year at Meharry, I was accepted in the United States Public Health Externship Training Program and went to Washington, DC. I was working part time at Health, Education and Welfare (Air Pollution Control) and the National Institutes of Health. After completing my third year at medical school, I spent two months at Meharry and the remainder of my fourth year at Memorial-Sloane-Kettering Hospital in New York City in the surgical oncology program.

At the end of medical school, my internship placed me with the United



*Dr. Harris Gibson Jr. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Gibson.)*

States Public Health Service in New York. General surgical training followed in Boston in an affiliated program, again under the United States Public Health Service. During the first year of that program I took a postgraduate course in surgical anatomy at Harvard Medical School. Other Harvard programs included working under Dr. James Bougas of the New England Deaconess Hospital, Dr. Clement Darling of the Massachusetts General, and Dr. James Austin at the Boston Lying-In. At the completion of the surgical training, I went to the Boston City Hospital in 1966 as a Fellow in thoracic surgery. The program was under the direction of Boston University, Tufts University, and Harvard Medical School. Upon completing the residency program, I joined the professional corporation of Cardio-Thoracic Associates which included colleagues who were part of the faculty at Harvard Medical School. Later, I was an associate of Dr. Dwight E. Harkens who was credited with the successful performance of some of the earlier heart operations. I have been with the group for 34 years and now serve as President of the corporation.

*Dr. Theodore H. Bullard Jr.  
(Photo courtesy of Meharry  
Medical College Archives.)*



## THEODORE H. BULLARD JR.

*MD, Meharry Medical College, 1946*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, FALL 1964

THEODORE BULLARD WAS born in Nashville, Tennessee, on November 7, 1918. He attended Morehouse College from 1937 to 1939 and received his AB degree, and his BBA from Atlanta University, 1939–1940. He then attended Fisk University (1942–1943) and Meharry Medical College 1943–1946 for his MD degree. He interned at Harlem Hospital from 1946 to 1947. Bullard's practice was based in New York, where he was Instructor at the Metropolitan Hospital and on the staff at the Flower and Fifth Avenue Hospital, as well as at Harlem Hospital.

He is listed as a postgraduate student at Harvard Medical School in the fall of 1964, attending a course in gynecology.

His professional activities included: Clinical Instructor, New York Medical College; Assistant Director, Harlem Community Project for Detection of Cancer of the Cervix; Director, Intra-

uterine Device Clinic; Director, Upper Harlem Medical Association; Gynecology and Obstetrics; private practice, 1948–1955. He was a member of the NAACP; member, 100 Black Men, Inc.; Community Democratic Club of Harlem, and Consultant to the US Congress Committee on Education and Labor, 1963–1964. His articles covered the areas of cytologic and histopathologic studies of normal and diseased cervixes and birth control programs in municipal hospitals. He was a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Diplomate of the American Board of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

He died on February 20, 1979, of carcinoma of the lung. He was 60 years old.



## ZADIE OZELLA WEBB

*MD, Howard University College of Medicine, 1958*

POSTGRADUATE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, SPRING 1965

*Autobiography*

I WAS BORN and raised in Washington, D.C. My immediate family included my mother, father, two brothers, and a sister. The public school system at the time of my schooling was segregated. I received an excellent education in that system, attending Dunbar High School, which had as its faculty African-Americans (at that time, Negroes) of high educational training, many of whom had master's degrees and a few of whom had PhDs.

The faculty was both qualified and caring of its students. In the 12th grade, I entered a citywide essay contest for high school seniors and won. I was congratulated along with the two seniors from Caucasian schools in second and third places by the Board of Commissioners in a City Hall ceremony and given our awards. The title of the essay was "Hire the Handicapped. It's Good Business."

Subsequently I attended Howard University for both my undergraduate (BS) and College of Medicine (MD) education and training. Financial requirements were met through parental aid, academic and work-study scholarships and fellowships. On graduation from medical school I entered internships and residency training to become a pediatrician, preceded by a one-year fellowship in Psychiatry. Concurrently, I married before graduation. My husband is a veteran of the Korean War who, at the time of our mar-

riage, was a student in dental school. He graduated from the Howard University College of Dentistry in 1960.

For a brief period after completing pediatric training I worked with an established Pediatrician, in her office. Beginning my own family (my first child was born after internship, my second at the end of my residency), I made a decision to seek employment which offered regular hours and joined

the D.C. Health Department. I was able to take advantage of some opportunities for continued medical education through the health department. Attendance at Harvard was one such opportunity in 1965. My third child was born in 1966. During this period I worked as a pediatrician in clinical and public school settings. I served also as a Head Start consultant under the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

My administrative career began as Medical Director of Children in foster care (1969–1973). I was responsible for: 1. Programs for health services offered to approximately 2,500 children in foster care in Washington, D.C.; 2. Supervision of professional staff of physicians under contract, nurses, and support staff; 3. Drafting and publishing a brochure describing the program of services.

During this period I began a study program at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, leading to the Master of Public Health Degree, which I received in 1974.

From 1973 to 1976, I served as Chief of the Medical Assistance Unit, a newly established office responsible for the Medicaid Program in the

District of Columbia. As Chief, I had responsibility for developing the District's program in keeping with federal statutes and laws and responsibility for establishing, teaching and serving as consultant to the Medical Care Advisory Committee.

From 1976 to 1980, I served as Chief of the Maternal and Child Health Division, supervising directly a staff of 12 and indirectly a staff of 400 professional and support staff. The Maternal and Child Health Division included four major units: Maternal Health, Infant and Preschool Health, School Health, and a Crippled Children's Division.

There was also a Child Development Center and special programs and ef-



*Dr. Zadie Ozella Webb. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Webb.)*

forts through proposals and grants, i.e., Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, Improved Pregnancy Outcome, and Improved Child Health.

Following my tenure in the D.C. Health Department I offered medical services in the Howard County Maryland area where I lived. I worked in clinical settings and with the Social Security Administration in Baltimore. With SSA, I acted as a Pediatric Consultant determining levels of impairment in children and adolescents under federal legislation for disability programs. Work with SSA continued until full retirement in 1994.

For me, medicine has been a childhood dream fulfilled, and has brightened my life and that of my family through living service and passion in the ethics of serving and caring for others. We have been blessed.



