

Treasures of the Medical Society of the County of Kings

The oldest scientific organization in Brooklyn

Bicentennial Stated Meeting

Exhibition

May 25, 2022

Patrons

President Lawrence A. Melniker, M.D.

President Elect Jagdish Gupta, M.D.

Donald E. Moore, M.D., M.P.H.

Directing Librarian and Curator

Bicentennial Stated Meeting

May 25, 2011

Dr. Lawrence A. Melniker



Dr. Jagdish K. Gupta

• Minutes of the First Meeting

March 2, 1822

President- Cornelius Low

Vice President- Matthew Wendell

Secretary- Adrian Vanderveer

Treasurer- John Carpenter

Censors- Charles Ball,
Joseph G.T. Hunt and
Thomas W. Henry

Delegate to the State
Medical Society- Matthew
Wendell

Minutes of the Kings County Medical Society organised March 2nd 1822.

A number of the Physicians of the County of Kings, met in the village of Flatbush, on Monday the 25th of February, 1822 pursuant to previous notice present, Drs. Charles Ball, Matthew Wendell, John Carpenter, William D. Cross, Francis H. Dubois & Adrian Vanderveer.

Dr. Ball was called to the Chair, & Adrian Vanderveer chosen Secretary.

On Motion,

Committee
to draft
By-Laws.

Resolved; That a Committee be appointed to draft By-Laws, for the Regulations of a Medical Society; that they report at the next meeting of the Physicians; of which due notice will be given.

On Motion,

Resolved, That Drs. Wendell, Dubois & Vanderveer constitute this Committee.

On Motion,

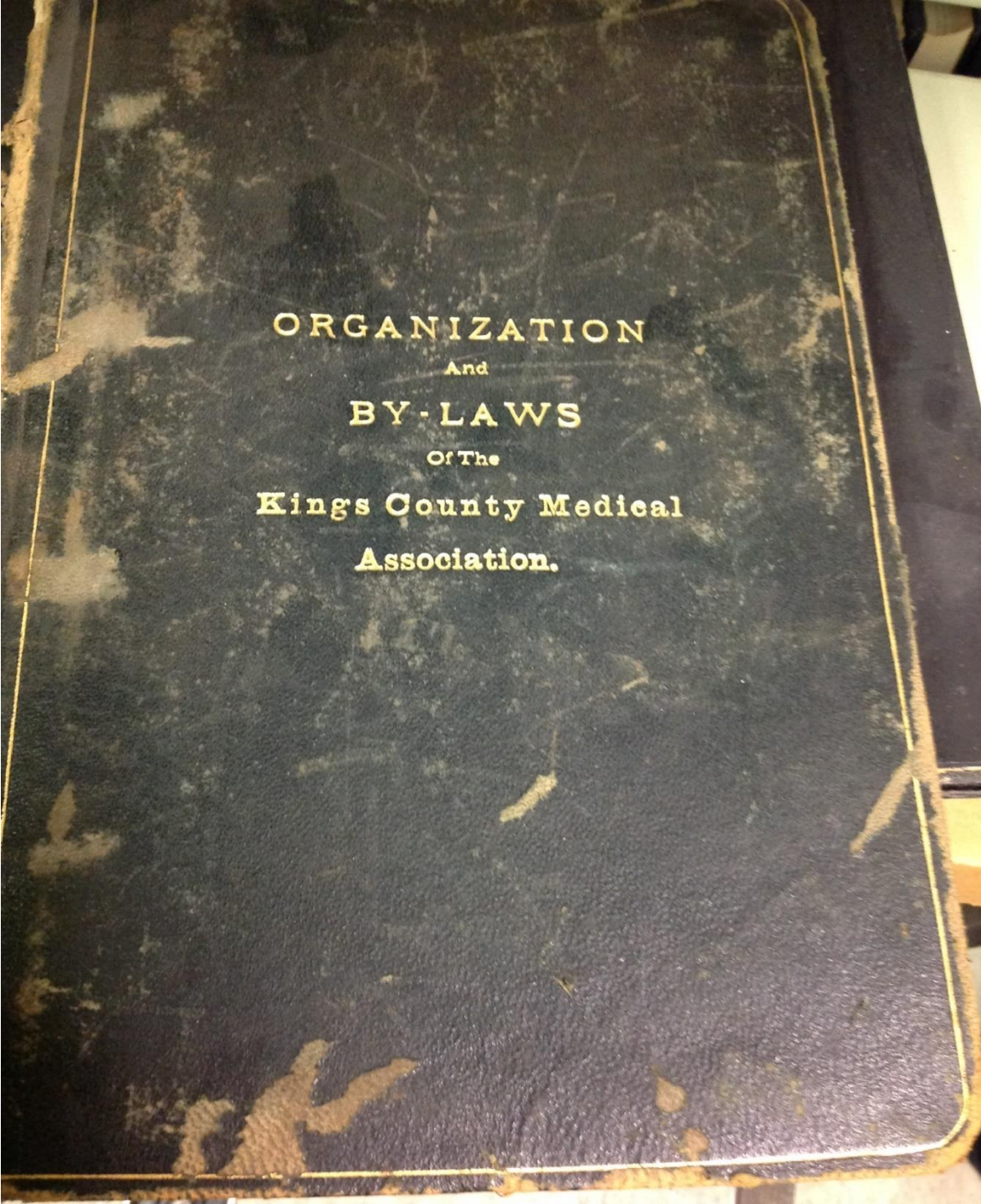
Adjourns
to
March 2nd

Resolved, That an adjourned meeting be held, at the house of William Stephenson, in Brooklyn, on Saturday, March 2nd at 2 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of organising a Society & electing officers.

On Motion,

Resolved, That this Meeting adjourn, to meet again, at the same place next about sunset.

Charles Ball Secy
Adrian Vanderveer, Secy



Kings County Medical Society

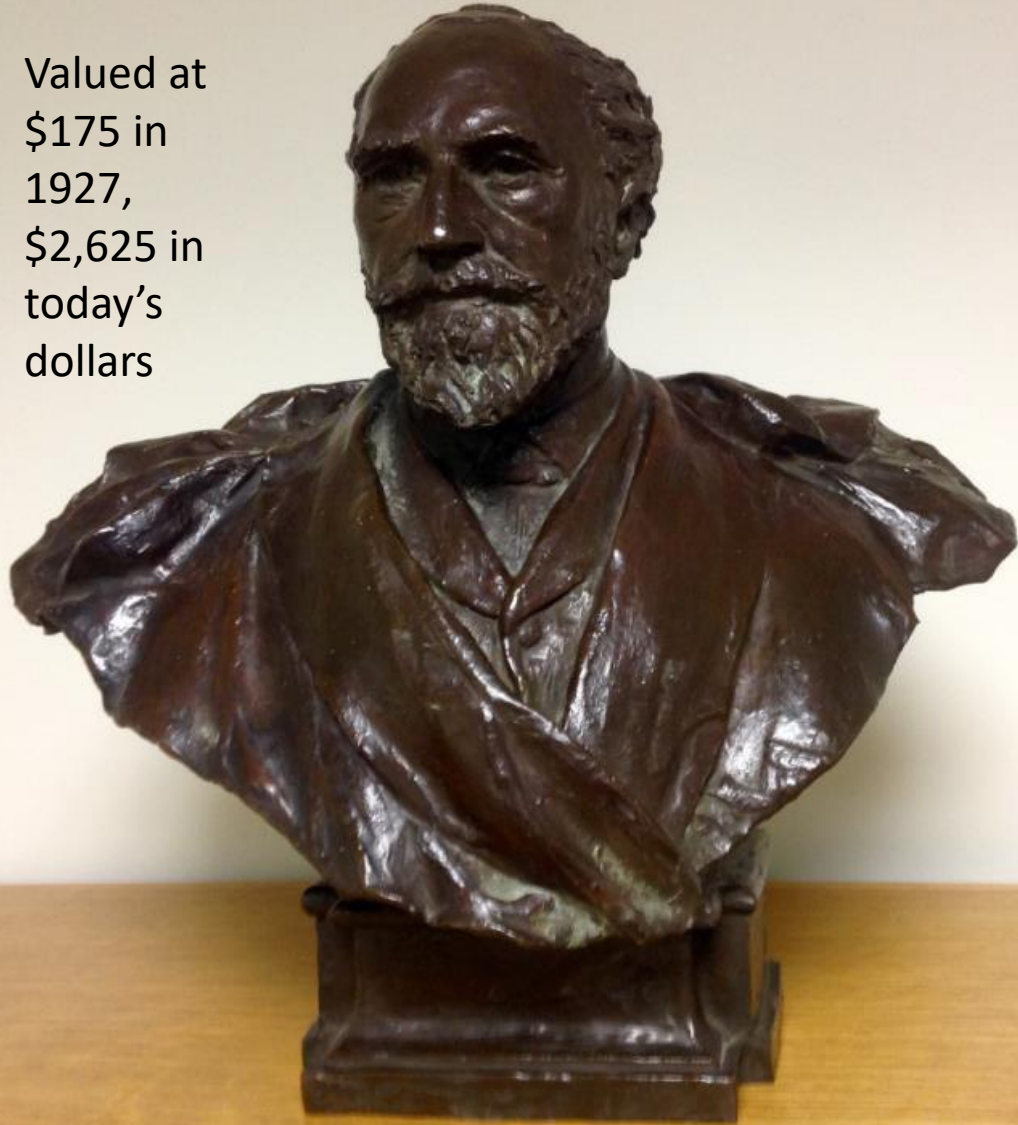
In 1806 the New York State Legislature passed **“An Act to Incorporate Medical Societies for the Purpose of Regulating Physic and Surgery in the State”**. The first license granted by Kings County Medical Society was to Dr. John Carpenter in 1822. The first physician proposed for membership in 1823 was Dr. Nelson L. Hurd, a graduate of Yale Medical College

Alexander Johnson Chalmers Skene, MD, President MSCK 1874 and 1875



Dr. Alexander J. C. Skene 1837-1900

Valued at
\$175 in
1927,
\$2,625 in
today's
dollars



Born in Scotland, he graduated from LICH (Downstate) in 1863. He is remembered for his description of Skene's glands but he also performed the first successful gastrolytrotomy and craniotomy using Sim's speculum. He published over 100 articles and several textbooks

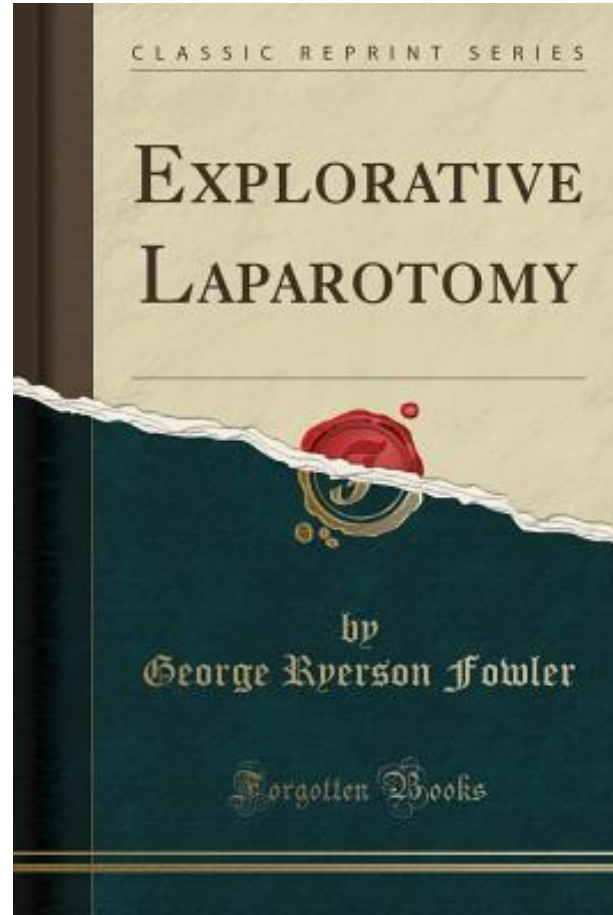
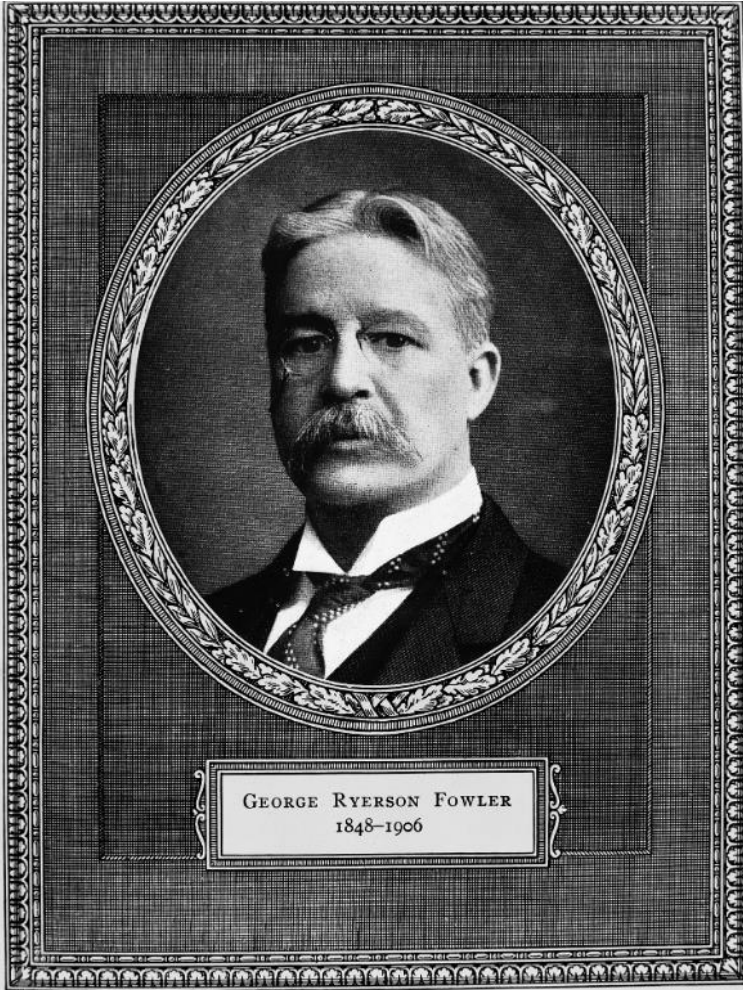
Dr. Fowler graduated Bellevue Hospital
Medical College in 1871
He was surgeon in chief
at St Mary's Hospital.
He was head of the
medical Staff at the
Seney (Methodist)
Hospital

George Ryerson Fowler, M.D.

President MSCK 1886



George Ryerson Fowler, M.D. 1848-1906



A TREATISE
ON
APPENDICITIS
BY
GEORGE RYERSON FOWLER, M.D.

DR. FOWLER APPOINTED
LEE'S CHIEF SURGEON.

Goes to the Front With the Rank
of Major.

HE WILL START AT ONCE.

The Distinguished Brooklyn Surgeon
Received His Commission From the
President Two Weeks Ago and Will
Report to General Fitzhugh Lee for
Duty—Has Had Experience in the
Field With the Turks and Greeks
and Does Not Fear the Heat of the
South—A Sketch of His Career as a
Surgeon.

Dr. George Ryerson Fowler of Brooklyn, at
the head of the medical staff in Sney Hos-
pital and one of the distinguished surgeons
of the country, has been appointed chief sur-
geon in the United States Volunteer Army.

John Byrne, M.D., M.R.C.S.E., L.L.D. 1825-1902



Dr. Byrne was a founder of Saint Mary's Hospital (closed 2005) and Co-Founder of LICH in 1857 (closed 2014). He was the first president of the Brooklyn Gynecological Society and was Vice-President of MSCK. He, as well as his other Brooklyn contemporaries like Skene, collaborated and revered J. Marion Sims.

James Marion Sims

1813-1883



Known as the “father of gynecology”, he invented the **Sims’ speculum**, the **Sims’s sigmoid catheter** and the **Sims’ position**. He established, in New York, the **first women’s hospital**

Marble bust gifted to the Medical Society by the family of Alexander J. C. Skene

Illustration of Dr. James Marion Sims with Anarcha by Robert Thom. Anarcha (on the exam table) was subjected to 30 experimental surgeries without anesthesia to perfect the closure of vesico-vaginal fistula



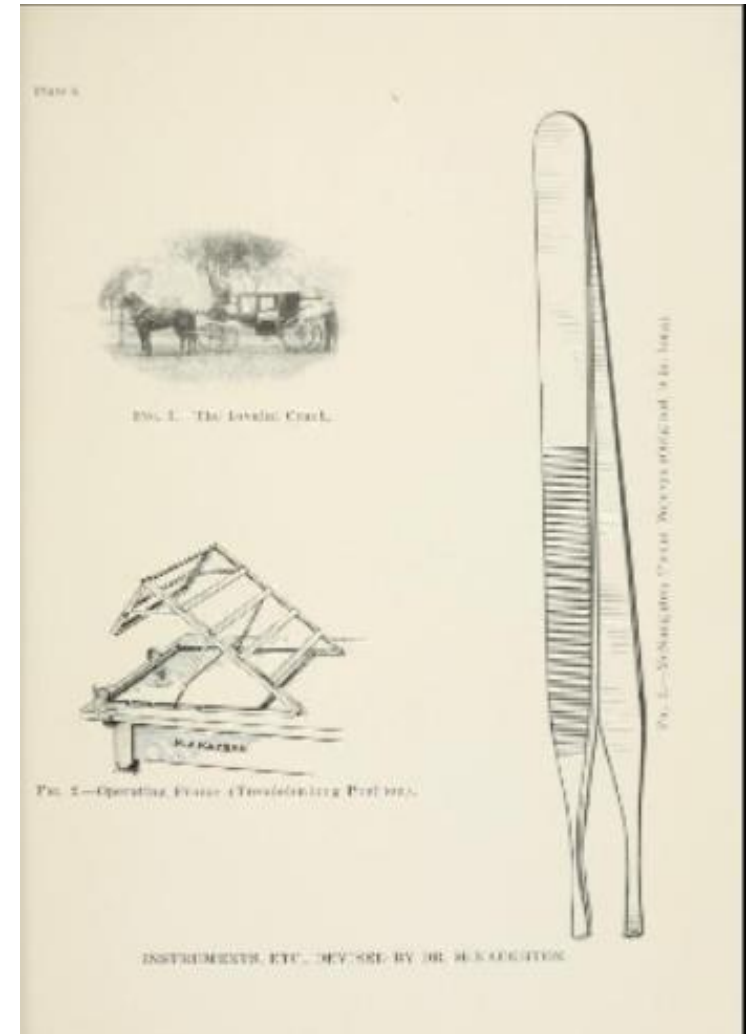
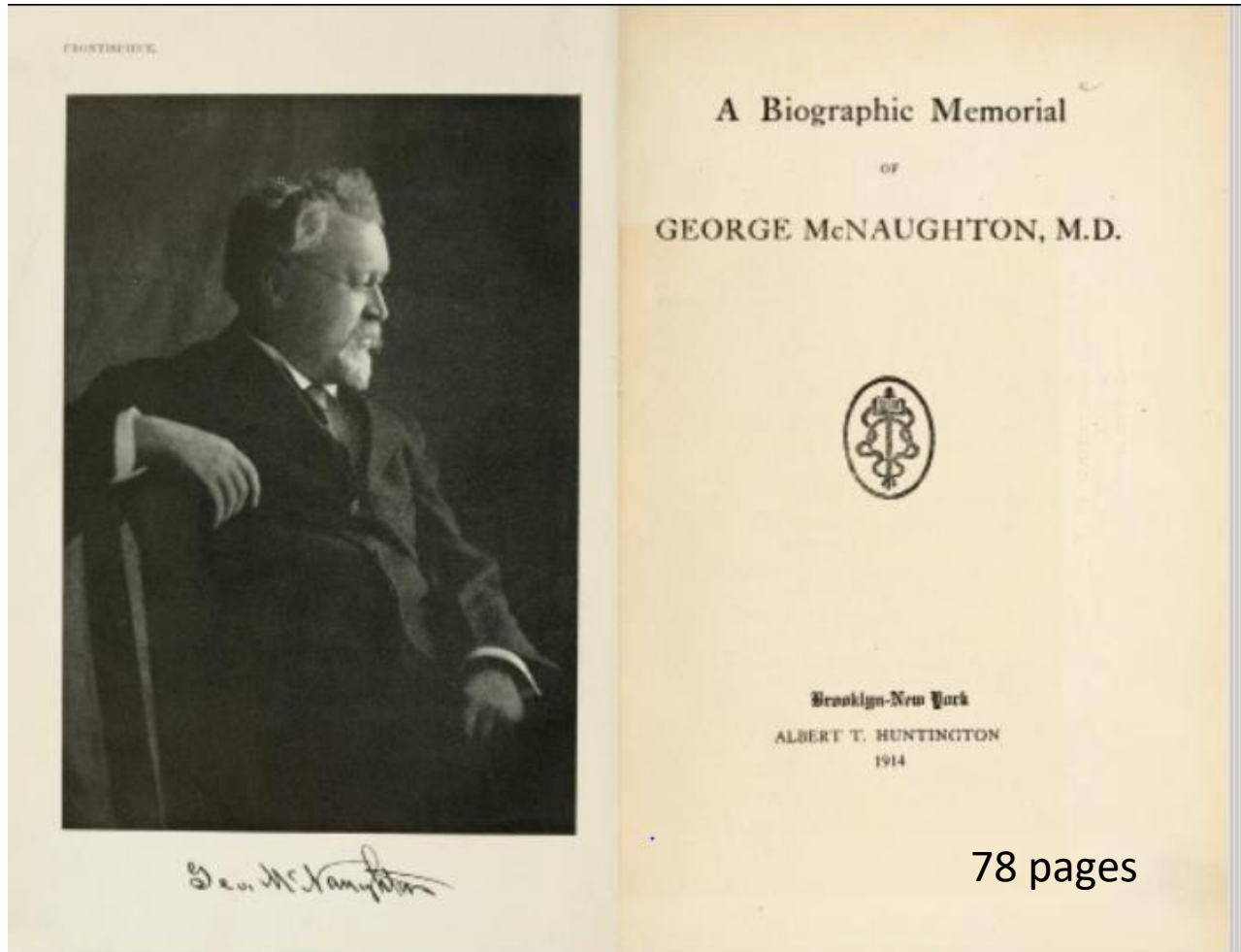
George McNaughton, M.D.

President MSCK 1894-1897

Graduated Bellevue Hospital Medical College in 1878 and was president of MSCK for 5 terms from 1894-1897. He was visiting gynecologist to LICH, Kings County Hospital and consultant at Brooklyn Jewish and Long Island State Hospitals



George McNaughton, M.D. 1856-1914



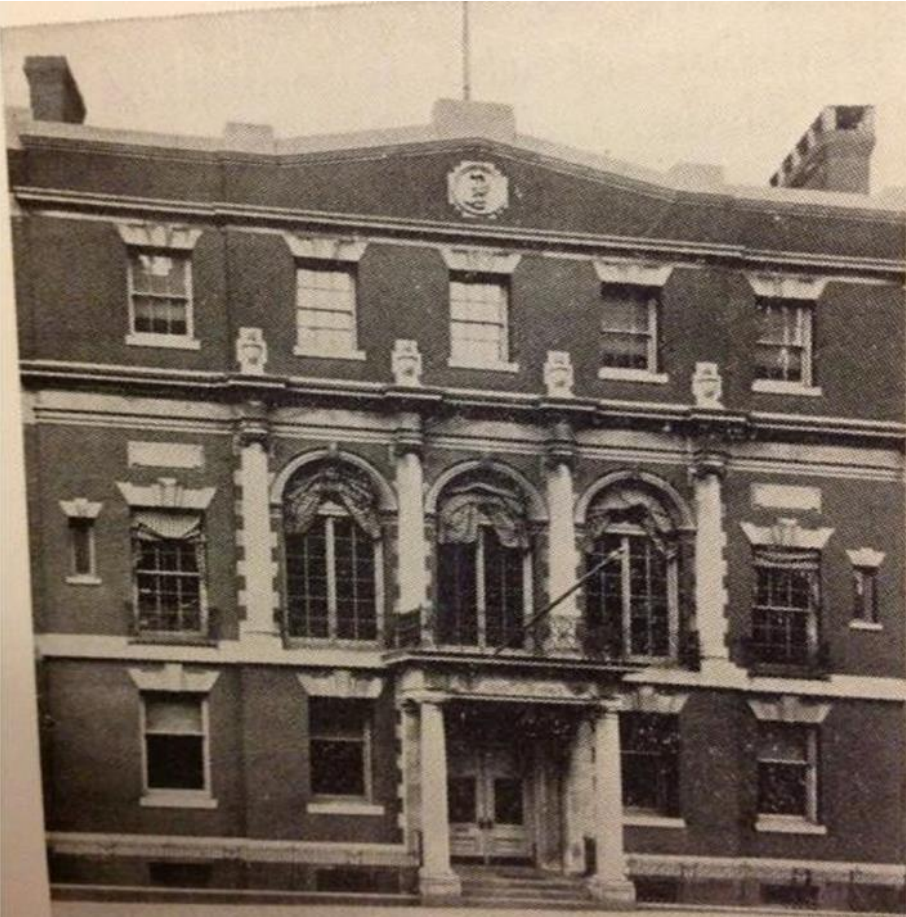
<https://archive.org/details/biographicmemori00broo/page/n5/mode/2up>

Framed Photograph of MSCK Building Committee (Executive) 1894- 1900



William Maddren, MD
William Bowning, MD (Secretary)
Frank E West, MD (Chairman)
Charles Jewett, MD
George McNaughton, MD

1313 Bedford Avenue

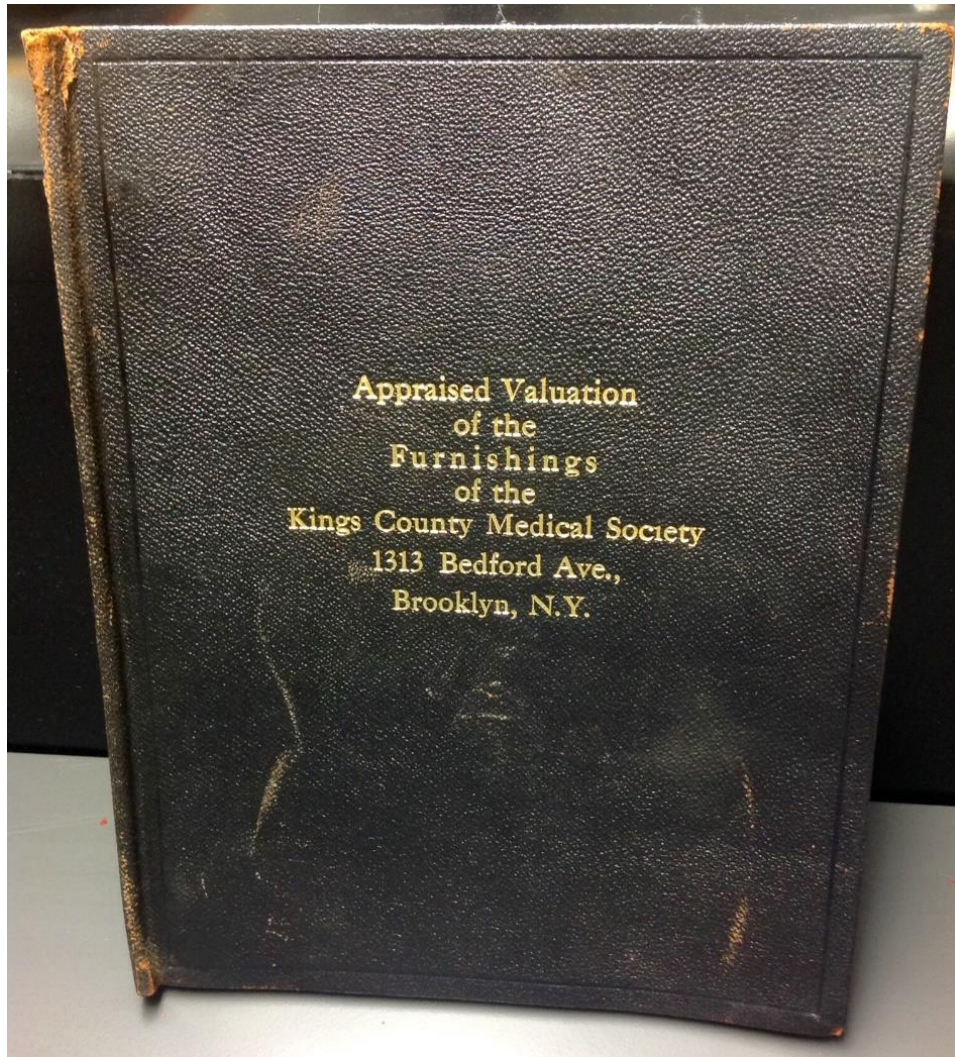


The geographical center of Brooklyn, the cornerstone was laid in on 11/10/1898 and was opened to the membership on 5/19/1900. It cost \$87,000 (2.6M today's dollars) : \$17,500 for land, \$50,000 for construction of the building and \$20,000 for furnishings.

The first stated meeting held in the new building at the McNaughton Auditorium on January 16, 1900

Appraisal 1927

Executed by the Continental Appraisal Company March 31, 1927



**Total
furnishings
\$18,934
worth
\$284,000
in today's
dollars**

SUMMARY

	Pages	Rep. Value	Ins. Value
Basement	1	491 50	440 50
First Floor			
Entrance Hall	2	1866 50	1760 50
Reception Room	5	2968 50	2851 00
Society Office	8	1713 50	1577 00
Auditorium	10	1156 25	897 25
Store Room	12	202 50	195 50
Ladies' Room	12	19 50	12 50
Stairs to Second Floor and Hall	13	54 00	54 00
Second Floor			
Store Room Off Hall	13	10 00	8 00
Library Reading Room	14	4219 50	4015 00
Smoking Room	19	518 50	447 00
Librarian's Office	20	1217 70	1001 70
Foreign Periodicals	23	882 00	716 00
Third Floor			
Office of Secretary and Treasurer	25	617 75	583 75
Large Section Room	26	1491 00	1152 00
Addressograph Depart- ment	28	1051 00	922 00
Store Room	30	155 00	119 00
Total		18934 70	16752 70

Note:-Rep. Value means Reproduc-
tive Value or what it would cost
to reproduce the object today, new.

Ins. Value means Insurable Value
or the actual value in its present
condition.

Board Meeting



Abraham Jacobi, M.D., L.L.D., 1830-1919.



Wood inlay carving



Dr. Jacob earned his MD from the University of Bonn in 1851. He was conferred LLD by Columbia University. A pioneer in the diseases of children, he was president of the NY State Medical Society in 1882, president of the NY Academy of Medicine 1885-1888 and president of the NY County Medical Society 1870-1872



William Browning MD, President 1901

He was Directing Librarian from 1891-1901 and again from 1917-1927



The medical library of Kings County Medical Society was formed in 1844. In 1905, to avoid competition, the Society's ***Brooklyn Medical Journal*** was allowed to go out of existence in deference to the ***Long Island Medical Journal*** the State Society's ***New York State Journal of Medicine***. By the early 20th century Kings County Medical Society had the 5th largest medical library in the country, including a rare book section.

Merging of the Medical Libraries of the Academy of Medicine of Brooklyn and the Downstate Medical Center in 1962



The Reading Room of the Library of the Medical Society of the County of Kings as it looked in the 1920's. The Massive Carved Table in the Foreground is One of the Two Tables Moved to the Rare Book Room at Downstate.

A Book Stack Room in Our Library Now Located at the Downstate Medical School.



Merging of the Medical Libraries of the Academy of Medicine of Brooklyn and the Downstate Medical Center occurred in 1962 during the term of Dr. Leslie H. Tisdall. Dr. Robert A. Moore was Past President of MSCK and Dean of the Downstate Medical Center. The Society's library became part of the Medical Research Library of Brooklyn under the control of a Joint Commission.

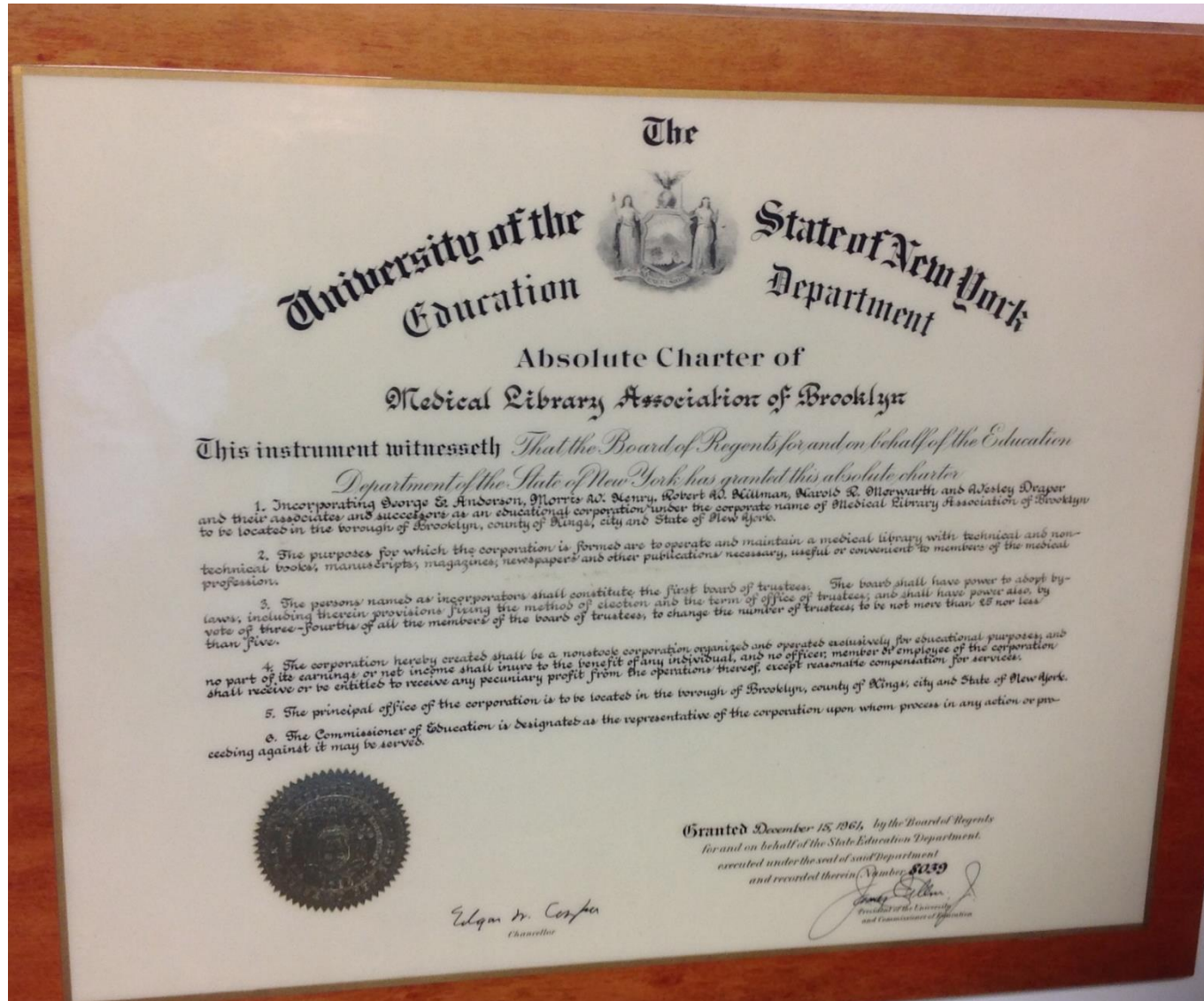
JOURNAL
PSYCHO
ASTHENIA
LIBRARY
M.D. 5000
JUNE
1906
ASSOCIATION MEDICAL OF
AMERICAN INSTITUTION
FOR
IDIOTIC AND FEEBLE-MINDED
PERSONS

(This volume contains index for Vols 5, 6, 7)
VOL. 5. No. 1. JULY, 1899.
THE AMERICAN
X-RAY
JOURNAL
A MONTHLY
DEVOTED
TO THE
PRACTICAL
APPLICATION
OF THE
NEW SCIENCE
TO THE
PHYSICAL
IMPROVEMENT
OF MAN.
HEBER ROBERTS M.D. M.E. EDITOR

SUGGESTION
(VOLS. 12-13)
A MAGAZINE of THE NEW
PSYCHOLOGY for HEALTH
HAPPINESS and SUCCESS
HERBERT A. PARKYN, M. D.
Editor
ELMER ELLSWORTH CAREY
Associate
January
1904
10 Cents
DO IT NOW

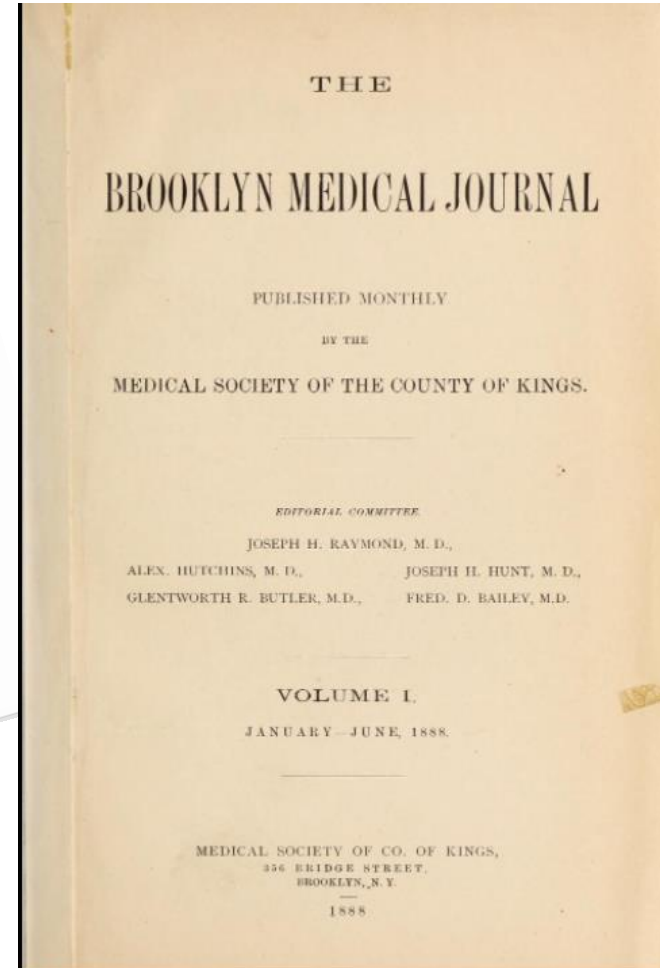
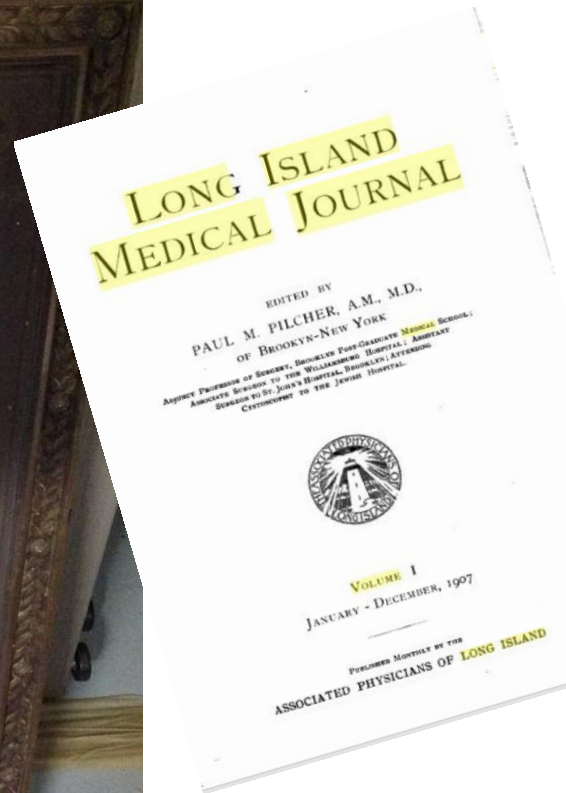
Periodicals from MSCK Library

MSCK and Downstate Merged Libraries' Charter



The Medical Library Association of Brooklyn was chartered by the University of the State of New York in 1961.

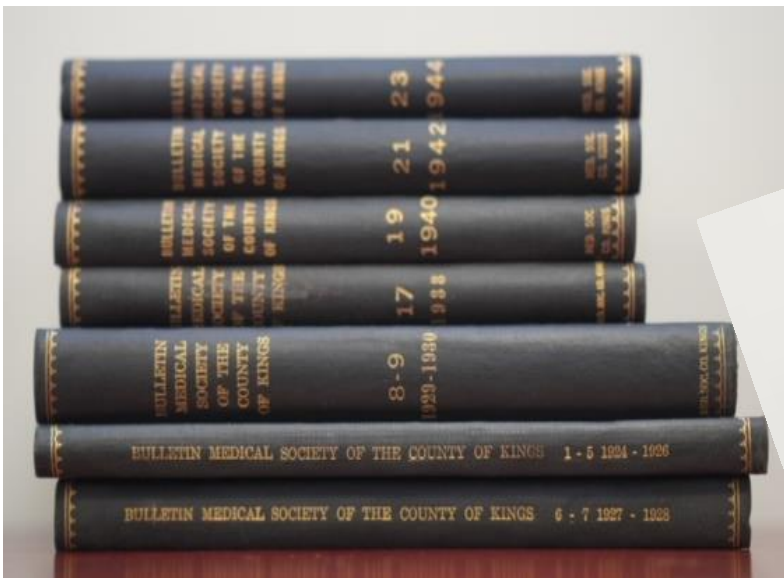
The Associated Physicians of Long Island



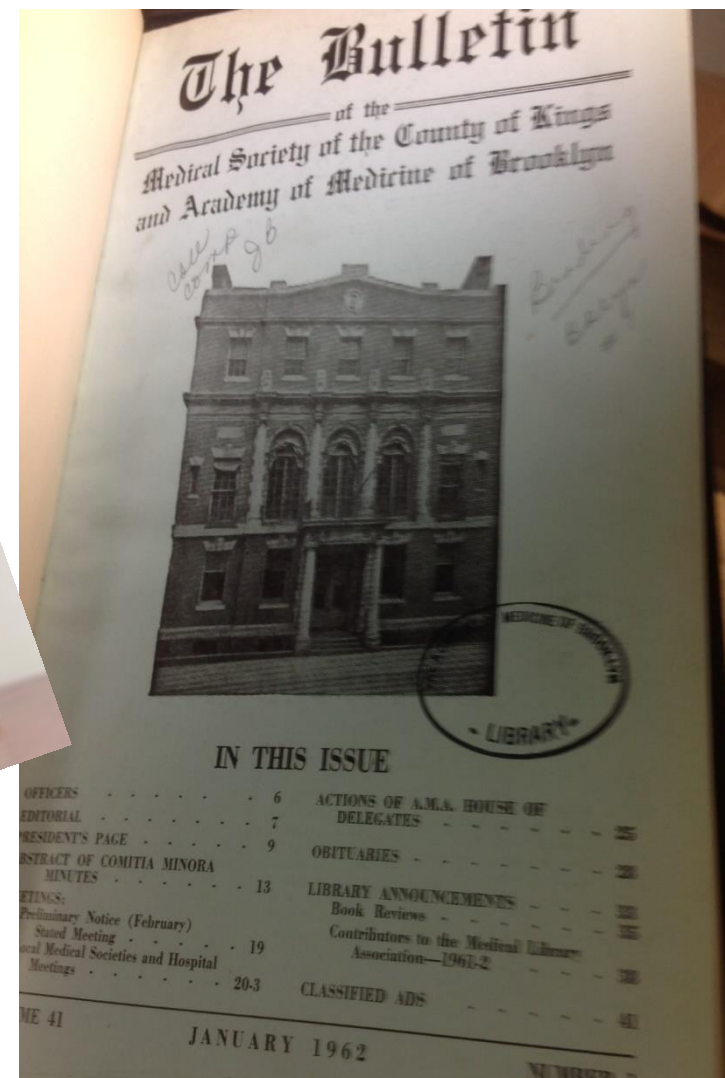
**Founded in
Brooklyn
April 14, 1898**
Published the
Long Island
Medical Journal
from 1907 to
1930. It
succeeded the
Brooklyn
Medical Journal
which was
published from
1888 to 1906

The Bulletin

The official publication of the Medical Society of the County of Kings



The Bulletin was preceded by the Brooklyn Medical Journal (1888-1907) and the Long Island Medical Journal (1907-1930)



Continuing Medical Education (CME)

A Brooklyn Idea



Frank D. Jennings, M.D., President 1922. To mark the 100th anniversary of the County Society, President Frank D. Jennings appointed a Clinical Committee to develop his “idea” of continuous medical education for every practitioner in the county as a demonstration of public service, and as a contribution of the Society in the cause of public health. A resolution was offered and passed approving the concept that one of the Society’s’ functions was graduate teaching.

Medical Society of the County of Kings Centennial 1922 Mac Naughton Auditorium



Founders Day Exercises

Commemorating the
founding of the Kings
County Medical Society

Mac Naughton Auditorium
October 7, 1922

Vernal G. Cave, MD

First Black President MSCK, 1981

Dr. Cave was born in Panama while his father, from Barbados, was working on the Panama Canal. He was President of the National Medical Association (NMA) in 1974 and president of Provident Clinical Society, the Brooklyn chapter of NMA from 1963-69. Dr. Cave practiced dermatology on President Street in Crown Heights and was Director of the Bureau of Venereal Disease Control of NYC Dept. of Health



VERNAL G. CAVE M.D.
PRESIDENT-1981

Duncan W. Clark MD

1910-8/5/2007



Dr. Clark was the 135th president from 1984- 1985 and president of the New York Academy of Medicine from 1983-1984. *He advocated for the addition of fluoride to the New York City water supply.* He earned his medical degree at Long Island College Hospital Medical School in 1936. Clark served as Dean of the Long Island College of Medicine. The Duncan Clark Library Fund was established at the Academy of the Medical Society of the County of King. The Duncan Clark Awards and Lectureships honor him today

MSCK SEAL

In God is
knowledge
and
welfare



SKETCH OF THE ORIGINAL SEAL



Scientia Salusque Deo
In God is knowledge and welfare

Societas Medica Comitatus Regis
Instituta, A.D. - 1822.

The Medical Society of the County
of Kings Established, A.D. - 1822.

THE SEAL AS WE KNOW IT TODAY



Bicentennial Celebration 2022



MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS

SESQUICENTENNIAL

1822-1972



The Medical Society of the County of Kings celebrates 200 years of physician representation and community service in Brooklyn

...of physicians who had fallen victims to yellow fever.

In 1872, a dinner celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Society went into arrears to the sum of \$30, due to the failure of several members to pay for their tickets although they attended the affair. Fortunately, the treasury was able to withstand this onslaught on it—the treasury showed a balance of \$753.67. Dues were \$5 per year at the time.

By 1884, the Society had enrolled some female members: Mrs. E. D. LaVergne, an 1855 graduate of the Hydro-pathic College; Dr. Jennie Baker; and Dr. Suzan McKen-

31

ney, who was born in Brooklyn and who was graduated from the N.Y. Medical College for Women in 1870. Dr. McKenney was the first Negro female physician in the United States. Also an active member about this time was Dr. August Jacobi, a graduate of the University of Göttingen, circa 1860. Dr. Jacobi was one of the earliest borough physicians of Jewish descent.

In 1890, the Brooklyn Gynecological Society was founded, many of its founders being leaders in the Medical Society.

On May 14, 1896, the Jenner Centennial commemorating the inauguration of smallpox vaccine was celebrated. All the guests received large bronze medals struck especially for the Society.