History of the Northwestern University Medical School—Its Founders, and the Important Improvements in Medical Education they sought to accomplish—and their very gratifying degree of success.

The Northwestern University Medical School was first organized in 1859, under the name of Medical Department of Line University of Chicago; and its first annual course of Medical Instruction was commenced October 9th 1859. The active founders and permanent supporters of the School were Dr. Hosmer A. Johnson, Edmund Andrews, Ralph N. Isham, Nathan S. Davis, and William H. Rifford; aided by Drs. David Aultman, John H. Hollister, J. Mable, W. H. Taylor, and Titus Deville.

To enable our readers to understand the condition of educational institutions more clearly the objects to be accomplished and the obstacles to be overcome by those who undertook to organize this school on a broader basis and with a more rational system of instruction than previously prevailed in the Medical Schools in this country, it is necessary to state in as few words as possible the actual condition of Medical College education in this country during the second and third quarters of the Nineteenth Century.
At the commencement of that century only four medical schools existed in the country, i.e., one in Philadelphia, one in New York City, one in Boston, and one in Bowdoin, N.H. They all had been organized as departments of universities or colleges, authorized to grant the degree of Doctor of Medicine, which was everywhere recognized as sufficient authority to practice medicine and surgery. The number of students attending these schools was very limited, and a still more limited number graduated annually. During the period and the twenty-five subsequent years a large majority of the medical students received their instruction in the offices of general practitioners whom they chose as their preceptors. In most of the States laws had been passed requiring from four to seven years of medical study and an examination by the Censors of some organized medical society by which they were licensed to practice, without having attended any medical school. But by attending one annual course of medical college instruction, one year could be deducted from the period of medical study, and attending two college courses and graduating M.D., they were permitted to practice medicine in all its departments without any other examination or license. Under such regulations, it was soon learned that it cost less both in time and money for a young man to register himself as a student in the offices of
a practitioner for three years and during that time attend an incorporated Medical College through two annual courses of lectures of sixteen weeks each and receive from the College the Degree of Doctor of Medicine, than to study with the practitioners four years and then pass an examination by a Board of Censors of either a State or County Medical Society. Under such regulations and circumstances, Medical Colleges soon began to increase rapidly and their Degrees sought by Medical Students instead of a license from a State or County Medical Society.

As proof of this it may be stated that in 1810 only six medical colleges and schools existed in the United States; while before 1850 the number had increased to thirty-six.

In 1810 the whole number of students attending the six medical schools was 650 and the number of graduates 150. But in 1850 the whole number in the thirty-six medical schools was 4,500, and the number of graduates 1,300. During the same period of time, the number of students applying to the County and State Boards of Censors for licenses decreased equally rapidly. This decreased multiplication of Medical Colleges, nearly all of which were dependent solely on the fees derived from their students for their support, led to so active a rivalry for numbers of students that before the middle of the Century it was no longer a question as to College would give the most complete system of medical instruction but which would be reasonably certain to grant the coveted degree for the least expenditure of time and money.
No standard of preliminary education for commencing the study of medicine or entering the medical college was maintained; no laboratory work was required except the dissection of a part of the human body; and no hospital clinical instruction was made obligatory on the students. The college faculty generally consisted of six or seven professors and a demonstrator of anatomy. The instruction was almost wholly by didactic lectures given at the rate of five or six per day to all the students in a single without any consecutive order by which the more elementary branches might be attended the first year and the more practical the second year. In that way all the then recognized branches of medicine were lectured upon each year for a period of from twelve to sixteen weeks, which was recognized as an annual college term. Such was the condition of medical education of Medical Education and Medical Schools in this country during the first half of the nineteenth century, and it called forth numerous and severe criticisms both in the meetings of medical societies and in the medical periodicals. It was the period of transition from the personal instruction of the preceptor's office and library to the incorporated medical schools. In the annual meeting of the New York State Medical Society, February 1844, resolutions relating to the subject of medical education were presented by Dr. Alexander Thompson of Cayuga County, and Dr. Nathan T. Davis.
then a young delegate from the Broome County Medical Society. Those by the latter called for the adoption of a fair standard of general education before commencing the Study of Medicine, the lengthening of Annual Medical College terms to six months, the attendance on three such Annual Terms, the grading of the Curriculum in such manner that the Student would be able to confine his attention to a limited number of branches each year. It was the earnest and persistent discussion of these resolutions and their principles they involved in the Annual Meetings of the New York State Society in 1844 and 1845, that resulted in the call for a National Convention of Delegates from all the regular Medical Societies, Medical Colleges, and hospitals in this Country to be held in May 1846, in the City of New York, and the final organization of the American Medical Association by a Second Convention in Philadelphia in May 1847. The great leading object of the National Association was to elevate and systematize medical education by inducing the Medical Schools in all the States to act in concert. And although it continued to faithfully reiterate its recommendation of a fair standard of preliminary education, a much longer Annual Term with a graded Curriculum, embracing 12 hospital clinical instruction at least one term, and three full years of Medical Study, not one of the 35 or 40 Medical Schools then existing in this
country attempted to carry those recommendations into practice. It was while attending the third annual meeting of the American Medical Association held in Boston in May 1849, that Dr. N.J. Davis was invited to accept a professorship in the Faculty of Rush Medical College in Chicago, which he accepted and changed his residence to that city the following autumn. In his new position as a member of the Faculty of the Rush Medical College he continued to urge the adoption of the more thorough and efficient system of medical education by that institution without waiting longer for other colleges to move first. His views were supported by Drs. H.A. Johnson and Edmund Andrews, who were graduates of the College of Liberal Arts of the Michigan University, and had both been members of the Faculty of Rush Medical College.

The majority of the Faculty and Trustees, however, persistently refused to make any changes in the direction desired. It was under the foregoing conditions of medical education and medical society organizations in this country that the Trustees of Lind University of Chicago, a new institution that had just received a liberal charter from the State legislature, informed Drs. H.A. Johnson, E. Andrews and R.N. Isham, that they were desirous of opening their University with Departments of both Theology and Medicine in addition to a College of Liberal Arts. Accordingly at a meeting in which the three physicians just named and Dr. David Hunter were
present, written propositions were submitted by the Board of Trustees as follows: 1st that the University, temporary, rooms for the Department of Medicine for the three first years, and at the end of that time would provide a permanent building suitable for that department.

2nd that the faculty of the Department of Medicine, when organized, should have the right to arrange the curriculum of studies, the length of the annual courses of instruction, and to nominate to the Board of Trustees, all persons for filling vacancies in the Medical faculty that might occur from time to time.

3rd that all income to the Medical department after defraying the current expenses, should be used in addition to the means for illustration for the first three years, during which the members of the Medical faculty would render their services gratuitously.

4th that Medical degrees should be given by the University only on the recommendation of the faculty of the Medical Department.

Being in these propositions, if carried out in good faith, an opportunity to organize a Medical School on the basis persistently recommended by the American Medical Association and its founders, they were accepted by the four physicians present. The last time in inviting Drs. Davis and Offord of the faculty of Rush Medical College to join them in their important undertaking. After proper notices to their and Colleagues of the Rush Medical College.
they assigned their respective professorships, for the purpose of accepting the same chairs in the Medical Department of Land University. After due consultation, it was decided that instead of only six or seven professorships the curriculum of the new Medical School should embrace thirteen, as follows: 1. Descriptive Anatomy; 2. Physiology and Pathology; 3. Inorganic Chemistry; 4. Materia Medica and Therapeutics; 5. General Pathology and Public Hygiene; 6. Surgical Anatomy and Operations of Surgery; 7. Obstetrics and Diseases of Women; 8. Principles and Practice of Medicine; 9. Principles and Practice of Surgery; 10. Medical Jurisprudence; 11. Organic Chemistry and Toxicology; 12. Clinical Medicine; and 13. Clinical Surgery. The foregoing arrangement of the various branches of medical study was adopted for the purpose of ultimately dividing them into three groups, i.e. one for each of the three years of medical preparation, and thus establish a rationally graded system of medical instruction by which the student could limit his attention to the more elementary branches the first year, pass on to another group of branches the second year, and the strictly practical branches with hospital clinical instruction the third year. If each annual college term was lengthened to six months, attendance upon these such con- sequent courses would more than double the time required to be spent in the College and correspondingly increase the student expenses. Consequently it was deemed more
prudent to commence with the whole curriculum divided into two groups and permit them to be included in two consecutive college courses of instruction of five months each, called junior and senior courses. And when the principle of graded instruction had been established in medicine as in all other departments of education, it would be much easier to add the more complete grading and additional time. The faculty as first organized and approved by the Board of Trustees was constituted as follows: Titus Deville, M.D., Professor of Descriptive Anatomy; John H. Hullinger, M.D., Professor of Physiology and Histology; F. H. Ward, Professor of Inorganic Chemistry; Benjamin Johnson, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics; W. R. Taylor, M.D., Professor of General Pathology and Public Health; A. N. Isham, M.D., Professor of Surgical Anatomy and Operations of Surgery; Edmund Andrews, M.D., Professor of Principles and Practice of Surgery, and of Clinical Surgery; Nathan S. Davis, M.D., Professor of Principles and Practice of Medicine and of Clinical Medicine; William H. Ripper, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women; Henry S. Spofford, Eng., Professor of Medical Jurisprudence; F. H. Ward, Professor of Organic Chemistry and Toxicology; David Rutter, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Obstetrics; and Horace Ward, M.D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.

The instruction given by the five professors just named will...
Discussions and laboratory work constituted the junior course, and that given by the remaining members of the faculty constituted the senior course.

Students who were in the first half of their three years of medical study were required to attend the junior course, and those in the second half, the senior course.

Rooms were provided in Lyceum Block on the corner of Randolph and Dearborn Streets, and the first annual college term was commenced October 9th, 1859, with an introductory lecture by Prof. M. B. Davis, which may be found in the Chicago Medical Examiner, Vol. 1, p. 1, 1860.

Near the commencement of that address it was stated that the considerations which have induced the faculty to undertake the task of establishing this institution may all be included in the two following propositions: First, the very liberal offer of the Board of Trustees of the University, to furnish all the necessary accommodations for a medical department, with no other restrictions than that the plan of instruction adopted should be such as would most effectually promote the educational interests of the profession without reference to established customs and usages. Second, a sincere desire on the part of the faculty to put into practical operation a system of medical college instruction more in accordance with sound educational principles, and better adapted to the present state of the science and art of medicine, than that which has been so long adhered to by the medical schools of this country.
Matriculants for the first college term were 33, of whom 19 were juniors and 14 seniors, they having completed their first year or study and one college term in some other medical school. The rooms that had been provided consisted of two convenient and well lighted lecture rooms, a laboratory, a museum, a room for practical anatomy, a library and faculty room. The laboratory was furnished with new apparatus selected with special reference to illustrating full courses of instruction both in inorganic and organic chemistry and toxicology. The museum contained a good collection of specimens, anatomical, pathological, microscopic and obstetrical, some of which had been brought from Paris by Professor Deville. The facilities for clinical or bedside instruction in the departments of practical medicine, surgery, gynecology, and pediatrics were furnished by the mercy hospital with about sixty beds for the sick; an orphan asylum adjoining the hospital; and a free dispensary for the poor in one of the rooms of the medical school. The hospital and orphan asylum were at that time located on Wabash Avenue near Van Buren Street, and the senior class of students attended clinical instruction in the surgical wards by Professor Andrews every Tuesday and Friday morning, and in the medical medical wards by Professor Davis on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings.
from eight to nine o'clock. In addition to the regular hospital clinics every morning except Sunday, one of the college clinics was given in the lecture room from two to three o'clock on Wednesday afternoons or patients selected from the dispensary by the professor of surgery, and a clinic at the same hour on Saturdays on patients from the same source by the professor of practice of medicine. These dispensary college clinics were generally attended by both junior and senior classes, but like the hospital clinics, attendance on them was obligatory only on the senior class. The first term of regularly graded medical college instruction thus commenced was continued with entire regularity five months and was closed by a valedictory address by Professor H. W. Robinson, as Dean of the Faculty, and the conferring of the degree of Doctor of Medicine on the members of the senior class and the candidate degree on two other members by the Trustees of the University on the 5th day of March, 1860. The names of the graduates were J. E. Sewell, C. DeKoven Jones, John Conant, Rufus Cogswell, Lucien Ashley, Thomas J. Reig, J. A. Randall of Illinois; H. H. Randall of Indiana; and A. D. Andrews and F. H. Hopkins of Wisconsin. The two receiving the candidate degree were Dr. Edward C. Dickinson and Ezra A. Steele. All of the foregoing subsequently became active and successful practitioners; and the first named attained a very high reputation both as a teacher and writer.
Of one thing, however, is certain: after the living at the present time, the College of Physicians.

Soon after the close of the regular annual college term, a summer course of instruction was commenced, consisting of a continuance of the Medical and Surgical Clinics in theMercy Hospital and Dispensary, by the Professors of Practice of Medicine and Surgery, and lectures on the more important topics connected with Midwifery and Diseases of Women by Prof W. H. Byford, in the same institutions; also lectures on Analytical Chemistry by Prof. Mahler; On Pathology and Microscopy by Prof. J. H. Holloway; on Auscultation and percussion by Dr. E. A. Stebbins; and on Diseases of the Genito-Urinary Organs by W. S. Blake.

This summer course was open and free for the attendance of both medical students and practitioners, fees being required only sufficient to pay for the materials used. It attracted considerable attention and proved very beneficial to such medical students as could spend the summer in the city.

Soon after the close of the first regular college term, Prof. Charles Deville, who enjoyed a very high reputation as a Teacher of Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy, found it necessary to return to England and consequently resigned from the Chair of Anatomy, which led to the following changes in faculty of the Medical Department of Lind University. Prof. J. H. Holloway was transferred from the Chair of Physiology and Pathology to that
of Anatomy; Prof. H.K. Johnson was transferred from the Chair of materia medica and therapeutics to that of Physiology and histology; and the last named chair was occupied by the appointment of Dr. A.H. McKinley of Peoria, Illinois.

The second regular annual Course of Instruction in the Medical Department of State University was opened by an introductory lecture on "The Incentives to High Attainments in the Science and Practice of Medicine," by Prof. W.H. Bixford on October 7th, 1861, and was continued with entire regularity five months. The whole number of matriculatcs in attendance was 51, of whom 12 received the degree of M.D., two the last named degree, and one the honorary degree.

No material changes were made either in the faculty or in the system of instruction; and the year of term for 1861-62 was attended by 63 students, and 17 of the seniors passed satisfactory examinations and received the degree of M.D., in March 1862.

It was during this year, however, that the great Civil War commenced in the South, causing intense excitement in all parts of the country. Prof. H.K. Taylor resigned the Chair of general pathology and public hygiene and accepted the office of Surgeon to a regiment of Volunteers in the Government Service, and Dr. Horace Wadsworth, demonstrator, died the same. The office of Professor of materia medica and therapeutics, and the vacancy, was filled by transferring Prof. J.H. Hollessness from the Chair of descriptive Anatomy, and the last named chair was filled by the election of E.D. S.
was a member of the first graduating class and had acquired a thorough knowledge of Anatomy under the instruction of Prof. DeWitt, and soon proved himself to be an enthusiastic and successful teacher in that important branch.

The Chair of General Pathology and Public Hygiene vacated by Prof. H.K. Taylor was filled by the election of Harry King, M.D. With these changes the work of the Medical department of the University was continued unabated interest and success.

The fourth regular annual College term, 1862-63, was attended by 79 matriculants, and 17 of the seniors passed satisfactory examinations at its close in March 1863, and received the degree of M.D. Besides the members of the faculty who resigned for the purpose of giving their whole to the military service, there were others who promptly and important service to the government and still retained their connection with the medical department of the University. Soon after the commence-ment of the war in 1861, Prof. Davis was appointed by the Governor, a member of a temporary Board of medical examiners for examining the candidates for Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons to the first six regiments of Illinois Volunteers; and he spent one or two weeks in Springfield in the faithful discharge of that duty. A little later, Professor H.S. Johnson became the chief Medical Adviser to Governor of the State, and made many tours of inspection to the military camps and hospitals during the progress of the war.
Soon after the close of the College Term of 1861-62, Prof.
E. Andrews, accepted the office of Surgeon to the first
Regiment of Light Artillery. He went with the Regiment
directly into the active and bloody campaign under General
Grant in Tennessee and for nine months rendered most
efficient and valuable service. His health being then im-
paired in some degree, he was permitted to return to Chicago
in time to give his course of Surgical instruction in the
Annual College Term of 1862-63. And even in the midst
of his arduous military campaign he wrote several very
interesting letters that were published in the Chicago Medical
Examiner Vol.3, 1862. —

The close of the regular practical
College Term of 1862-63, marked a critical period in the
progress of both Rush University and its Medical department,
the latter 1863.

During the four preceding years, the Medical School had
efficiently sustained its organization for better preliminary
education, longer annual College Terms, proper graded
Curriculum, laboratory teaching in Chemistry, Anatomy,
and Histology, and direct Clinical instruction in both
Hospital and Dispensary. The regular obligatory five-
month's College Term had been supplemented by four months
summer Clinical and practical instruction free to all matricula-
ted students. The member of students, including both
Junior and Senior classes, had increased from 33 in the first
year to 79 in the fourth, and the temporary rooms had been

inadequate for their accommodation. The time had also come when the Trustees of Lind University had promised to have a new and adequate building ready for the permanent accommodation of the Medical Department. But the disturbing influences of the great Civil War and the unexpected financial failure of Mr. Sylvester Lind, who had promised the Trustees an endowment of $100,000, and in whose honor the University had been named, had rendered the Trustees unable to fulfill that part of their contract with the Medical Faculty.

These circumstances entirely beyond their own control caused them to change the name of the Corporation to that of Lake Forest University, and to release the Medical Faculty from all further obligations to remain a department of that institution. Being thus thrown entirely upon their own resources the gathering members of the Medical Faculty immediately set about and obtained an independent incorporation under a General Incorporation Law of the State of Illinois, in the name of Chicago Medical College.

Faculty, soon after, the close of the College Term of 1862-63, decided to continue the Medical School as an independent institution and issued their Annual Announcement under the name of Chicago Medical College - Medical Department of Lind University, but without any change in the membership of the Faculty or the system of instruction. They purchased
a lot on State Street near Dearborn Place, called Kingsley Place, new Twenty-second Street, and caused a new college building to be erected therein in time for the opening of the next regular annual college term in October 1863. In the mean time, the usual summer courses of Clinical and didactic instruction were continued faithfully to a good class of students with but one change in the faculty. Dr. S. Spofford Ely resigned the chair of medical jurisprudence, and Vacancy was promptly filled by the appointment of Dr. O. Haydock of Chicago, whose general scholarship and professional attainments rendered him well qualified for the place. The new college building having been completed according to the contract therefor, the fifth annual college term was inaugurated by an introductory lecture on the evening of October 12th, 1863, by the Rev. J. P. Scudder, D.D., in which he gave the following summary of past progress, and of the accommodations of the new building. "Four years have now elapsed since this institution, organized in the manner already indicated, began its career in rooms temporarily fitted up, not as facetiously remarked by an enemy of the enterprise, in the "loft of a warehouse," but on the third and fourth floors of an elegant block of buildings on Dearborn street. The number of students attending the first annual lecture term was 33; the second 54; the third 63; and the fourth 81. Thus in the short period of four years attaining a larger class than the old and justly celebrated medical.
departments of Bel or Dartmouth; and equal to the classes in one fourth of Medical Schools in the Union. During the same period of time, by careful attention to the pecuniary income of the Institution, a museum has been filled with every needed means of illustration; a chemical laboratory supplied with all the apparatus required in both departments of Chemistry; and a library stored with more than ten thousand valuable medical volumes. And this evening, at the commencement of the fifth annual lecture term, instead of climbing three long flights of stairs to reach temporary lecture rooms, we are assembled in a new and permanent college edifice, admirably arranged for the work for which it was designed. On the first floor is a library and dispensary room, a chemical laboratory and the spacious lecture room in which we are now assembled. On the second floor, is a beautiful museum, and an anatomical and surgical amphitheatre. On the third floor are the well-lighted and ventilated rooms for practical anatomy. All these we have with a pecuniary incumbrance remaining of only six thousand dollars payable in ten equal annual installments."

The term thus commenced was prosecuted with zeal and regularity in every part, and was attended by 89 students, 17 of whom passed their Senior Course examinations and received the degree of M.D., at the hands of Prof. H. A. Johnson, President of the Chicago Medical College, March 1st, 1864.
In the meantime the terms of incorporation of the Faculty as an independent educational institution, had been completed in accordance with a general act of incorporation of the State of Illinois, under the name of Chicago Medical College. The same was filed with the Secretary of State and duly certified by him April 26, 1864. The following members of the Faculty were made to constitute the Board of Trustees in the act of incorporation viz: James S. Lowell, M.D., Prof. Descriptive Anatomy; Homer A. Johnson, M.D., Prof. Physiology and Histology; John H. Hollister, M.D., Prof. Martial Medicine and Therapeutics; Henry Wing, M.D., Prof. General Pathology and Public Hygiene; F. Mahlon P.M., Prof. Chemistry; Edmund Andrews, M.D., Prof. Principles and Practice of Surgery, and of Military Surgery; Ralph, N. Leham, M.D., Prof. Surgical Anatomy and Operations of Surgery; William H. Biggford, M.D., Prof. Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children; Nathan S. Davis, M.D., Prof. Principles and Practice of Medicine, and of Clinical Medicine; and A. O. Haydock, M.D., Prof. Medical Jurisprudence. The board of Trustees of Chicago Medical College thus constituted were authorized to fill all vacancies that might occur in future; appoint Professors and confer medical degrees on the recommendation of the Faculty; and hold the legal title to the real estate and other property belonging to the College. Homer A. Johnson was elected president and Edmund Andrews Secretary of the Board of Trustees; Prof. Davis being Dean of the Faculty. The annual College fees had
been from the beginning of the Medical Department of... University for Matriculation $5.00; for Lectures $50.00 for Practical Anatomy or Dissecting ticket $5.00; Class Hospital ticket, $6.00; and Graduation fee, $20.00. And the same were continued under the new organization and entitled all regular matriculates to attend all the College, hospital, and Dispensary instruction during the year. (This is the end of the inscription of Dr. Davis upon which he was writing when when attacked by his last illness.)

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