

## **SUBMISSION TO RENAME THE SQUARE AT ABERCORN AND EAST WAYNE STREET “CASEY SQUARE”**

Submitted May 11, 2023 by Andrew Jones

### **Introduction**

This submission proposes renaming the square after Dr. John Aloysius Casey, a Savannah physician who gave his life to treat the victims of the Yellow Fever Epidemic in 1819-1821.

Dr. Casey’s humanitarianism towards the Savannah community, including its African American population, embodies the ideals that we citizens of Savannah revere. Not only is Dr. Casey the polar opposite of Calhoun, but Dr. Casey also has a specific connection to the burial ground in that the deceased likely include the very people he worked to save.

### **Submission Requirements**

1. Review of Article E - Completed
2. Name and contact information of applicant:  
  
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(646) 248-2050  
[andrewjonesnyc@aol.com](mailto:andrewjonesnyc@aol.com)
3. Support Letter from Detric Leggett (Ex. A)
4. Proposed name: Casey Square
5. Statement of significance with supporting citations

### **Statement of Significance with Supporting Citations**

**Introduction.** This nomination proposes naming the square “Casey Square” after Dr. John Aloysius Casey (1781-1819), a physician who came to Savannah in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and gave his own life in order to save the victims of the yellow fever epidemic, which began in 1819. (Victor H. Bassett, Librarian, Georgia Medical Society, *Two Medical Martyrs of Georgia in 1819-1820*, reprinted in Savannah Morning News, August 22, 29, September 5, 12, 1937)(Exhibits B-1 through B-9).

**Biography:** John Aloysius Casey came to Savannah from Maryland, via Augusta, Georgia prior to 1814. (Ex. B-7, upper left). He married Sarah Lowndes Berrien. (Ex. B-6, lower right), the daughter of Major John Berrien (1760-1815) a Revolutionary War hero who fought at Valley Forge and was later appointed by George Washington as the Inspector of the Port of Savannah. Major John Berrien’s house still stands at 324 E. Broughton St.

John Aloysius Casey practiced medicine with his brother in law, Richard McAllister Berrien. (Ex. B-9, first column). In 1817, Casey, together with other doctors in Savannah, started the raising of funds for the first African American hospital, which ultimately came to fruition as Georgia Infirmary in 1832. (Ex. B-8, top right, Ex. B-5, upper right).

In 1817 Dr. Casey and other physicians interested themselves in collecting funds for the establishment of a hospital and infirmary for negroes. [citation omitted]. A number of years passed before the attempt to found a hospital for the negroes was successful, but the work begun in 1817 was finally successful and the Georgia Infirmary founded in 1832.

(Ex. B-8).

When the deadly yellow fever first struck in 1819, both Casey and Richard Berrien tended to the dying. In doing so, they also succumbed to the disease, Casey in 1819 and Berrien in 1820. (Ex. B-8, right column, B-9, first column).

Casey and Berrien became known as the medical martyrs of Georgia, having sacrificed their lives for the good of others. (Ex. B-1, B-2). They were held in high esteem by the Georgia Medical Society. (Ex. B-5)

Given that there is already a Berrien Street and Berrien Ward named after Richard's half-brother, who was a famous senator, and given that nothing bears the name Casey, the recommendation is simply for Casey Square.

Note that there is a plaque in the Colonial Cemetery referencing the 2 doctors who died, but they are not named. (Ex. C).

### **Application Criteria and Requirements**

Proposed name, Casey Square:

- The name honors and commemorates a noteworthy person associated with the City of Savannah, an individual who sacrificed his life for the good of his fellow citizens.
- It commemorates local history, specifically the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1819-1821, especially poignant after our own experiences with Covid.
- It strengthens neighborhood identity. Approximately half of the victims of the epidemic were African Americans, some possibly buried in the African American cemeteries at or near this site.

The naming request considers the other criteria:

- Residents impacted. The Yellow Fever Epidemic caused extensive fatalities and traumatized the entire City.
- Community Diversity.
  - Casey showed great concern for the health of the African American population, first by helping to raise money for a hospital and then by tending to the victims of the epidemic.
  - Also, Casey was an Irish immigrant. Applicant is not aware of a square named after an Irish immigrant.
- Location significance and appropriateness.
  - The naming is appropriate given the location of an African American cemetery at or close to the site. It certainly is possible that Casey tended to one of the deceased buried there.
  - The naming is also appropriate in that Casey's humanitarian efforts draw a stark contrast to Calhoun's attitudes. They were contemporaries, with Calhoun having been born just one year after Casey. Renaming the square as Casey Square stands for the proposition

that there were individuals living in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century who embodied Savannah's humanitarian values rather than the values of Calhoun, a South Carolina Nullificationist.

- When the square was named in the 1850s, Dr. Casey was already deceased and would have been a worthy person to have named the square after. Thus, renaming the square Casey Square reflects a choice the City should have considered at that time.

#### Natural Person Naming Request consideration

- The proposed honoree is deceased.
- The proposed candidate exerted efforts of significance locally, providing humanitarian efforts and ultimately sacrificing his life doing so.
- Casey contributed to the humanitarian movement to better the lives of African Americans. His fundraising efforts were part of a campaign that beneficially changed the lives of African Americans through the founding of the Georgia Infirmary.
- His achievement was in the field of medicine, and he was held in high esteem by the Georgia Medical Society.



**DR. JOHN ALOYSIUS CASEY**



## CITY OF SAVANNAH—CITY COUNCIL

**Detric Leggett**  
**District 2**

May 11, 2023

City of Savannah  
P.O. Box 1027  
2 East Bay Street  
Savannah, GA 31401  
[Squares@savannahga.gov](mailto:Squares@savannahga.gov)

**Re: Support for Renaming the Square at Abercorn St. and Easy Wayne St. "CASEY SQUARE"**

To Whom It May Concern,

I, Alderman Detric Leggett, officially endorse the naming request for consideration to name the public square located on Abercorn and East Wayne Streets, to 'CASEY SQUARE' in accordance with City Ordinance and the process outlined within 'Article E. Naming of Public Property, Facilities, and Streets'.

I look forward to this application advancing within the process as required by City Code.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination.

Regards,

Alderman Detric Leggett  
District 2  
City of Savannah, Georgia

**Two Medical Martyrs of  
Georgia in 1819 - 1820**

*With Short Accounts of the Lives of Dr. John A.  
Casey and Dr. Richard McAllister  
Berrien, of Savannah*

BY VICTOR H. BASSETT, M. D.  
Librarian, Georgia Medical Society

TWO MEDICAL MARTYRS  
OF GEORGIA IN 1819-1820

With Short Accounts of the Lives  
of Dr. John A. Casey and Dr. Richard  
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Victor H. Bassett, M. D.  
Librarian  
Georgia Medical Society

*Printed in the Savannah Morning News  
Aug 22: Aug 25: Sept 5 - Sept 12 - 1937*

# Two Medical Martyrs of Georgia In 1819-1820

*With Short Accounts of the Lives of Dr. John A. Casey and Dr. Richard McAllister Berrien, of Savannah (1)*

BY VICTOR H. BASSETT, M. D.  
Librarian, Georgia Medical Society (2)

Part I

The first two decades of the Nineteenth Century constituted a golden period of progress in the history of medicine in Georgia. Soon after the close of the Eighteenth Century, the Georgia Medical Society (3) was formed, "for the purpose of lessening the fatality induced by climate and incidental causes and improving the science of medicine."

This period began in the early years of the establishment of an independent democratic form of government in the United States, and at a time when all activities, including trade, commerce, and medical practice were just beginning to recover from the disorganization occurring during the Revolutionary struggle and during the hardly less difficult period following that struggle. This period of progress ended in 1820 with great catastrophes to the City of Savannah and to its medical fraternity. In 1820 (1819-1821), a great epidemic of yellow fever swept the city, its greatest period of activity being in 1820 when a very large proportion of the population of the little city was stricken by disease, 666 fatalities (4) occurring. The medical profession was not spared, seven doctors (5) dying of malignant fever in the period from

astated by a great fire (6) and swept by a great storm. (7) A number of physicians (8) had their work interrupted by the destruction of their homes or their offices and by the loss of their libraries and equipment, in whole or in part.

Before citing briefly the advances made in medical practice and in public health during the first two decades of the last century, it will be helpful briefly to consider the status of medicine and the conditions surrounding medical practice in Georgia in 1800.

Savannah had at that time a fine body of physicians, well trained in the hard school of experience. Such were the demands for medical practice on the plantations along the Georgia Coast and on its rivers, that the number of doctors in the city, then hardly more than a village, was relatively large (9). Medical practice was exacting and laborious, placing great burdens on the medical profession, often to the detriment of the health of its members. This was due in part to the lack of good roads and bridges and to the fact that many of the plantations were at a distance from the city, often isolated on sea-islands or on the necks of the mainland. Practice on the plantations (10), despite these handicaps, was profitable and much sought after by the young doctors attempting to establish themselves.

The physicians of Savannah in 1800 were mainly followers of Cullen (11), in the theory and practice of medicine, but were noted as students of the literature of their profession (11-A), being especially devoted to the reading of the works of Boerhaave (12). The writings of Dr. Francois Joseph Victor Broussais (13) and Dr. John Brown (14) were soon to have a marked influence on the advance of medicine. A brilliant new American writer on medical subjects,

ers, was (10) of these 18 were founders of the Medical Society; 13 others became members before 1820.

(10) See article on Plantation Medicine, Savannah, 1937, by the writer.

Dr. Benjamin Rush (15) of Philadelphia, was beginning to be read. This author, both through his books and by his personal teachings, was to have great influence on the young men from Savannah who studied medicine during these two decades.

Few of the Savannah doctors in 1800 had training in universities or in medical schools and hospitals. In this respect Georgia compared unfavorably with her near neighbor, South Carolina (16) (16-A). Georgia was the youngest and, in some respects, the poorest of the colonies. Never, until after the Revolutionary period, were the colony and young province entirely free from the threat of invasion. A number of excellent surgeons and persons "skilled in physic" settled with the colonists. Most of these medical men were trained by the apprentice system, reading medical authors and learning the duties of the profession by daily practice as assistants to their teachers who were themselves actively engaged in practice and often unable to give much time to teaching. This method of preparation for medicine

(11) Dr. Wm. Cullen (1710-90), of Glasgow and Edinburgh, who wrote clear descriptions of diseases and introduced new remedies. He was the first medical teacher to use the common tongue, instead of Latin, in his lectures.

(11-A) In 1799, there were 18 subscribers to the Medical Repository in Savannah; see Medical Repository, 1799, Vol. II, p. 15.

(12) Prof. Hermann Boerhaave (1668-1738), of Leyden. For an appreciative criticism of Boerhaave's medical writings, see Kollock Memorial-Letter Dr. Edwin Leroy McCall to Dr. Lemuel Kollock, of Savannah, 1805.

(13) Dr. F. J. V. Broussais (1772-1838) of France, the author of a doctrine of medicine called Broussaisism, attributing all diseases to the local irritation of some organ.

(14) Dr. John Brown (1733-23), author of Brunonianism, a dual system of medicine.

(15) Dr. Benjamin Rush (1745-1815), Professor of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Medical School. The following Savannah physicians were students of Dr. Rush: Drs. Wm. Parker, Wm. Coker, Edwin Leroy McCall, John Mendenhall, James Glen, Wm. R. Waring, and John Grimes.

often gave good results, producing fully competent surgeons and physicians. This was especially the result when the students were mentally active and industrious, and when the preceptors

(1) Prepared with the co-operation of members of the Savannah Historical Research Association.

(2) The writer is especially indebted to Mrs. Peter W. Meldrum, of Savannah, for information concerning the life of her grandfather, Dr. John A. Casey.

(3) Founded in June, 1804; chartered in December, 1804; the oldest medical Society in Georgia, and the second-oldest city medical society which has been constantly active until the present time.

(4) Page 1, Report to the City Council of Savannah on the Epidemic Disease of 1820. By Wm. R. Waring, Savannah: 1821.

(5) Five physicians died in 1820 and one each in 1819 and 1821. See list accompanying this paper.

1819 to 1821. Other great calamities occurred in 1820; Savannah was dev-

(6) In January, 1820, burned 453 houses; estimated loss \$10,000,000.

(7) On September 30 and October 1, 1820; Reported in the Columbian Museum and Savannah Evening Gazette, October 3, 1820. "Much damage in streets and squares; and trees in every part of the city, but more especially on the Bar, have been sadly dismembered."

(8) The following named physicians had property burned: Drs. George Jones, Theo. Barlow, Edward Cooper, J. W. Colston, Wm. H. Cutler, Wm. C. Daniell, A. Dashiell, T. H. Harris, Wm. Isaac, Joshua E. White.

(9) The entire number of physicians in the city, including irregular practition-

had some of the qualifications of teachers and were willing to devote their spare time to instruction. In all too many instances instructors were incompetent or lazy, and their students, despite good intentions, became rule-of-thumb physicians, lacking in general culture and deficient even in the knowledge of the history of their own profession and, so, often unable to make progress.

Not only were few of the medical men well prepared who accompanied the original settlers of Georgia, but the slow progress of the colony gave little inducement to the emigration of well-prepared doctors in later years. There were, until 1765, no medical schools in America where young men could secure adequate preparation for their profession. So slow was the material progress of the young colony and province, that few of the younger generation were sent to England or to the continent of Europe, either for general culture or for professional training as was common in some of the other American colonies. In very few instances, if any, had young men been sent for medical instruction to the universities of England, Scotland, or to the Continent, or to the hospitals of London.

In 1765 a medical school (17) became available in America and a beginning was made of sending young men from Georgia (18) to Philadelphia for university training. This progress was rudely interrupted by the Revolutionary struggle. During this period, however, Georgia doctors came into professional relationship with the medical officers of their better-trained French Allies and, at times as prisoners of war or as co-workers with British medical officers captured

(16) A number of members of the Medical Society of South Carolina, founded in 1758, had medical degrees secured in European institutions of learning; Michel, Address to the Medical Society, Charleston, S. C., 1859.

(16-A) Ten or more of the physicians of South Carolina were graduates of the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania before 1800. See General Catalogue of the Medical School, Univ. of Penn., Phila., 1845.

(17) The Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania.

(18) In 1773, young Dr. Wm. Martin Johnson was a student of medicine under Dr. Rush at the Med. School of the Univ. of Penn. Dr. Johnston's medical preparation was interrupted by the Revolutionary War. It is possible that a member of the Habersham family was also studying medicine with Dr. Rush in 1774. See Recollections of a Woman Loyalist, by Elizabeth Lichtenstein Johnston, N. Y. and London, 1836, pp. 177.

in the war, became acquainted with recent progress in medical science, especially in war surgery. Some of the foreign medical officers settled in the States after the close of the war.

By 1800 only two (19) of the Savannah doctors had university training in American schools of medicine. Not a single graduate of a foreign school of medicine practiced in Savannah at that time, though it is probable that some of the foreigners had licenses from the licensing bodies of their home countries. Georgia did not yet have a law requiring a medical license and establishing standards of medical practice, and there was a considerable number of irregular practitioners in the city, includ-

ing those who operated drug stores and sold patent medicines, and those who advertised themselves as doctors (20).

By 1789 four medical (21) schools were available in America, and in that year another was established in Lexington, Kentucky (22). Some medical instruction had been given for short periods in Rutgers College and William and Mary College, but no medical schools were available in the South until 1823, when the medical college of the State of South Carolina was established, and in 1833 when the medical college of Georgia was founded.

After 1800 a great demand for the

(19) Dr. Wm. Parker (1766-1828) and Dr. Wm. Cocks (—-1831). Dr. Parker received his degree of Bachelor of Medicine in 1782; Dr. Cocks the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1798; both degrees granted by the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania.

(20) Dr. Geo. Harris, Dr. Alexander Habersham, and others.

(21) Medical Colleges of Univ. of Penn., Dartmouth, Harvard, and Columbia, N. Y.

(22) Medical School, Transylvania University.

more liberal education of physicians was made in Savannah due to the influence of Dr. Lemuel Kollock (23) of that city, who was preceptor to many young Savannah students (24). Under Dr. Kollock (25) students of medicine continued to receive instruction under the apprentice system, combined with university training at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. The more liberal professional education of these new additions to the profession, many of whom had had the advantage of superior general culture and undergraduate university instruction, was the characteristic feature of medical practice in the period of the first two decades of the Nineteenth Century. Much of the progress of that period, though begun and planned by the practical men who were established in medical practice in 1804, was due to the addition of these more highly trained physicians who brought the enthusiasm and vigor of youth as active aids to progress in medicine.

The mere recital of the improvements made in medicine from 1800 to 1820 is impressive. In securing these improvements, the older professional men, and their better educated students, co-operated. A brief account follows:

#### Vital Statistics

In 1803 (26) the first records of deaths were made in Savannah. Prior to that time no records of vital statistics are available except for occasional notices in the newspapers and a few references in legal papers relating to wills, etc. At first and for many years, only the deaths of white people were recorded. In 1805 (27), soon after the formation of the Med-

(23) Dr. Lemuel Kollock (1766-1823). Dr. Kollock studied medicine under the direction of Dr. Isaac Senear, of Newport, R. I., and was a graduate in the classical course of Brown University, but did not have a medical degree until late in his career, when he received degrees of Doctor of Medicine from Brown and Harvard.

(24) Drs. Edwin Leroy McCall; John Mendenhall, Benj. A. White, John S. Che-

ster, John Cocks, Richard McAllister, Berrien, John A. Casey, James Glen.

(25) See notices from students, Kollock Memorial, Georgia Historical Society.

(26) Death Records, Cemetery Records, Colonial Cemetery 1803-1850.

ical Society, a committee was appointed to keep a register of deaths and births in Savannah. Seven physicians (27) offered to undertake house-to-house visits and register both deaths and births in both the white and the colored races. Public opinion was not prepared for this progressive measure and, despite repeated attempts by the medical profession, a proper vital statistic law for Georgia was not secured until 1915, and even then its full enforcement was delayed until 1927.

#### Medical License Law

In 1805 (28) the Medical Society sent out a circular letter advocating a medical license law for the protection both of the public and of the profession. No action was secured until 1821 (29) when a law for local licenses in Savannah was passed. In 1826 (30) a general medical license law was passed, but its enforcement was not effected until several decades had passed.

#### Vaccination

Jenner's method of vaccination against smallpox had been introduced into America in 1800. By the middle of the year 1801, vaccinations were being made in Savannah and at Sunbury. The method came into general use in 1802 (31). In 1805 the medical profession of Savannah offered to perform vaccinations of indigent persons without charge. Not long afterwards vaccination was made compulsory. At the present time there is an ordi-

(27) Georgia Republican and State Intelligencer, Oct. 25, 1805. Drs. Henry Bourne, Mees Sheftall, Peter Ward, James Ewell, Wm. Cok (Cocks), Geo. V. Proctor and Wm. Parker.

(28) This circular has not been preserved, but reference to it is made in Kollock Memorial—Letter McCall to Kollock, Aug. 19, 1805. "Until some tribunal is established for the prohibition of similarities, we must calculate being deluged by an irruption of the Goths and Vandals of Medicine." (McCall).

(29) For five years, 1821-1826, the Georgia Medical Society was authorized to examine candidates who desired to practice medicine in Savannah.

(30) Laws of Georgia, 1826.

(31) See account by the writer, Journal of the Florida Medical Association, Feb., 1935 and February, 1936.

nance of the City of Savannah and a law of the State of Georgia relative to vaccination in Chatham County (32), both making this form of protection compulsory.

#### Topographical Survey

In 1804 and 1805 (33) topographical surveys of Savannah and Waynesborough, Georgia, were made and reported to the Medical Society, and the diseases existing considered in their relation to topography, etc. At various times in later years similar surveys were made in Savannah and elsewhere in Georgia (34).

#### Hospitals

The need of a hospital had been felt before 1800. As early as 1795 a lottery (35) was provided to raise funds for a hospital, and about 1809-11 the hospital was put into operation (36). This was for white pa-

x M.D. Brown Ungrad. 1819 - M.D. Howard 1822

(32) Georgia Code 1822: Ordinance, City of Savannah, 1802.  
 (33) Dr. Joshua E. White, Topography of Savannah and its Vicinity, 220, Medical Repository, N. Y., 1807, 2:357-361; 1808, 3:15-24.  
 (34) Dr. John F. Poore, On the Topography & Epidemic Diseases of the State of Georgia, Sou. Med. & Surg. Journal, Augusta, 1836, 1:17-196-191.  
 (35) General History of the City Government, pp. 61-62.  
 (36) I. C. 98, 21.  
 (37) E. J. Ewell's Medical Commem-

1801, P.M.A., 1815. In 1809, Dr. Ewell had a woman's hospital in Savannah.  
 (38) Columbian Museum and Savannah Gazette, Feb. 11, 1817. Advertisement of a fund for hospital for sick and convalescent or disabled negroes addressed to the inhabitants of the city and the planters of the neighborhood.  
 (39) Charleston, Richard M., The Georgia Infirmary, Savannah, n. d.  
 (40) Ewell's Medical Commemorative. In 1816 Dr. James Ewell advocated a hospital for the treatment

of negroes (37). In 1817 Dr. John A. Casey and others were engaged in securing contributions for a hospital and infirmary for negroes (38). This movement later became successful and the Georgia Infirmary was established for negroes (in 1833); the first hospital established solely for negroes, operated by white doctors and under the direction of white trustees (39).

SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS: SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 1937

IN MEMORY OF  
 THE BRAVE PHYSICIANS OF THE  
 COASTAL PLAINS OF GEORGIA  
 WHO GAVE THEIR OWN LIVES IN THE EFFORT  
 TO SAVE THE LIVES OF OTHERS

"Those Who Are Remembered Are Not Dead"—Butler

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

- |                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| DR. KRENEZZER STOWELL          | OBIT SEPT. 1808     |
| DR. L. MITCHELL                | OBIT SEPT. 1808     |
| DR. DANIEL TURNER              | OBIT OCT. 14, 1808  |
| DR. JOHN A. CASEY              | OBIT SEPT. 1, 1813  |
| DR. JOSHUA E. WHITE            | OBIT AUG. 25, 1820  |
| DR. CHARLES CLAUDE GUELAND     | OBIT SEPT. 17, 1820 |
| DR. RICHARD MACALISTER BERRIEN | OBIT SEPT. 20, 1820 |
| DR. NESTOR WARREN              | OBIT SEPT. 26, 1820 |
| DR. JAMES W. COTTON            | OBIT SEPT. 27, 1820 |
| DR. JONAS CUTLER               | OBIT OCT. 8, 1820   |
| DR. PHILIP H. WILDMAN          | OBIT SEPT. 10, 1854 |
| DR. J. M. ELLIS                | OBIT SEPT. 1854     |
| DR. CHARLES HARTRIDGE          | OBIT SEPT. 12, 1854 |
| DR. FREEMAN SCHLEY             | OBIT SEPT. 12, 1854 |
| DR. CHARLTON H. WELLS          | OBIT SEPT. 13, 1854 |
| DR. STEPHEN N. HARRIS          | OBIT SEPT. 15, 1854 |
| DR. JAMES M. GORDON            | OBIT SEPT. 18, 1854 |
| DR. JOACHIM R. SAUSSY          | OBIT OCT. 7, 1854   |
| DR. P. M. CULLEN               | OBIT OCT. 10, 1854  |
| DR. A. R. BRANTLEY             | OBIT                |
| DR. THOMAS SMITH               | OBIT OCT. 8, 1876   |
| DR. JEREMIAH HARRISS           | OBIT NOV. 9, 1876   |
| DR. LANGDON CHEVES             | OBIT SEPT. 25, 1878 |
| DR. JOHN W. BRANKIN            | " Aug 24-1893       |

BY VICTOR H. BASSETT, M. D.  
 Librarian, Georgia Medical Society  
 Part 2

Medical Library

In 1809 the Medical Society, in conjunction with the Savannah Library Association, made plans which resulted in the establishment of a medical library in the Chatham Academy (46). This library is now housed in the Savannah Public Library.

Dry Culture and Control of Malarial Fevers

In 1809 (41), after the occurrence of a considerable number of cases of malignant fever in Savannah and following the epidemic of 1808 at St. Marys, Georgia, the Medical Society began an agitation for a system of control of the drainage and culture in the rice-fields near the city. It was then thought that the malignant fevers originated in the rice-fields. In 1817 Dr. Wm. R. Waring (42) took an active interest in this subject, and City Council authorized the issuing of bonds to cover the cost of dry culture and drainage. The first issue was for \$70,000, at the rate of \$14.00 per

capita for all residents in the city including all ages and all colors. The final cost was \$200,000. The dry culture of rice-fields near the city resulted in considerable reduction in the prevalence of malarial fevers, but had no influence on the incidence of yellow fever, for reasons now well understood. This improvement is the most important of the measures taken for the improvement of the public health in the history of the city.

Medical Ethics

A system of medical ethics (43) was adopted soon after the formation of the Medical Society. The first printed pamphlet on this subject, which is available, was issued about 1822. The Medical Society enforced this system of medical ethics, which closely conformed to the systems in use by

(46) The Library Room was the property of and used by the Medical Society jointly with the Savannah Library Assn. Information obtained from Gen. Wm. Harris.

(41) Republican & Savannah Evening Ledger, 1820, March 24. Dr. Thomas Smith, secretary of the Medical Society, called a meeting at the Exchange to hear and read the report of the Engineering Com-

mittee on Drainage.  
 (42) See Note 4.  
 (43) A system of medical ethics adopted by the Georgia Medical Society Feb. 4, 1811, Savannah. Printed by Henry Burrell, 1822. Pamphlet 3 pages. This contains a provision forbidding physicians to "take part in duels" "on a professional quarrel."

other medical societies, by allowing membership in the society to only those physicians who agreed to accept and observe the rules of conduct prescribed.

Fee Bill

Some attention was given to the business ethics of medicine. In 1818 (44) a fee bill was drawn up, providing minimum fees for the various medical and surgical services. A lower charge was made in many instances for services to negro patients, especially for slaves on plantations, who could often be treated in groups.

Participation in Civic Duties

Many members of the Medical Society served as officers of the city (45), state (46) and national (47) governments, using the opportunities thus afforded to secure improvements in public health and in medical practice.

Medical Practice in 1801

Medicine in 1800 was very different in practice, though similar in its underlying principles, from medicine today. In 1800 entirely too much attention was paid to theory, which fettered medical thought. Too much time was spent in futile controversy, and too little attention paid to the experimental method. Medicine and surgery were in their infancy. Antisepsis and asepsis were alike unknown. Practically all wounds suppurred. No operation could be performed without pain, a practical method of providing anaesthesia not being yet discovered. Too much dependence was placed on medicines which were used in great variety in promiscuous mixtures and in large

(44) Minute Book No. II (71st book list) of the Georgia Medical Society.

(45) Eight physicians have been mayors of the city; thirty-six have been aldermen.

(46) Dr. John Grimes and Dr. Richard Daniels Arnold were members of the State Assembly.

(47) Dr. Geo. Jones was Senator of the United States from Georgia.

and often enormous doses. Calomel was frequently used to the point of salivation. The process of bleeding, deemed useful now only in a very few conditions, was then very generally used. Many patients were bled who now would be transfused,—exactly the opposite measure.

xx Hortative Subjunctive "Let them rest in Peace."

The doctor's armamentarium was limited. He had no clinical thermometer (48) and depended upon the senses of touch and sight to determine whether a patient had fever. He had no stethoscope (49) and listened to the heart sounds with the naked ear, if at all. Few doctors had microscopes, and fever still used them. Except for the examination of urine, few laboratory tests were used in connection with medicine. Many of the purer forms of medicines in common use today were unknown. Quinine (50) was not yet isolated and the doctor combatted fever with Peruvian bark, or with red-oak and black-oak bark of local origin (51). Morphine (52) was likewise unknown in 1800, though the preparations of opium were used, especially laudanum.

Despite these limitations, the doctors of 1800 were usually able to alleviate pain, to prolong life, to provide protection against fatal complications, and, having secured the confidence of their patients, to give them satisfactory service.

The ideals and professional standards of the medical profession in 1800

(48) Clinical thermometers were recommended as early as 1811, but did not come into general use until nearly 1870.

(49) Invented by Laennec in 1819.

(50) Isolated in 1820.

(51) Recommended by Dr. James Ewell, on page 27, "The Planter and Mariner's Medical Companion" (Phila-1807). This was probably the first medical book written in Georgia.

(52) First isolated in a pure state in 1818.

were similar to those of today. The doctor of that day was in honor bound to practice his profession honestly, to prepare himself as fully as possible, to refrain from the use of improper methods in attempting to secure patients, and to devote his efforts strictly to the curing of the ills of his patients. These obligations are likewise recognized by members of the profession today. The main differences between medical policy in 1800 and medical policy in 1937 were the lack in early times of legal means for enforcing medical standards and less general public appreciation of their value and necessity.

The lack of a law for medical licenses in 1800 and the lack of publicly recognized standards for medical practice were the greatest obstacles to medical practice. The introduction into medical practice of a considerable body of younger men possessing medical diplomas from recognized institutions of learning, enabled the profession to make the progress recorded in this paper.

Yellow fever had been prevalent in Savannah at times, though never prior to 1808 being as severe as it was at times in our neighboring city, Charleston. In 1807 and 1808, simultaneously with the epidemic in St. Marys, Georgia, where three physicians succumbed to the disease (53), fever of malignant type was prevalent in Savannah. The local profession objected to the term "yellow fever," regarding it largely as a symptomatic name. The term "malignant fever," or "fever with black vomit"

(53) Drs. Ebenezer Stowell, L. Hitchcock

and Daniel Turner; see p. 139, Origin of Yellow Fever, in "The Constitution," A.P. of a Coasting Vessel and of the Town of St. Marys, Georgia, etc., by James Seagrave, N. Y. Medical Repository, 1810, Vol. III, pp. 132-133. See also Seagrave—An account of the Origin and Nature of Yellow Fever, as it prevailed in the town of St. Marys, Georgia, in the Autumn of 1808; American Medical and Philosophical Register, 1814, Vol. III, pp. 417-424.

was more commonly used. The objection to the term "yellow fever" was acknowledging the presence of this disease, though doubtless there were occasions when this was true.

For a number of years after 1809 yellow fever was not seen, though severe and fatal fevers of malarial origin were prevalent yearly as autumnal fevers. Some physicians considered that malignant fever was only a severe form of malarial or bilious fever. Hardly a single doctor believed that yellow fever was introduced from other localities, and as a corollary the profession was opposed to quarantine as a method of preventing the disease. Young Dr. McCall, in 1805 (54), and young Dr. Byrd, in 1820 (55), were the first Savannah doctors to favor quarantine.

In 1817 the malignant fever began to appear again, reaching considerable proportion in 1819, when Dr. John A. Casey died from the disease. In 1820 the epidemic occurred and five physicians of Savannah died from the disease. In 1821 Dr. Nicholas S. Bayard, who had survived the epidemic of 1808 at St. Marys (and Cumberland Island), died from a malignant fever, probably yellow fever.

Of the seven physicians dying from epidemic fever in 1819-1821, two were founders of the Georgia Medical Society (56), two were older physicians

(54) Dr. Edwin Leroy McCall (1783-1808); see letter Kokoak Memorial, McCall to Kellogg, Philadelphia, Aug. 19, 1805.

(55) Dr. Harvey L. Byrd (1820-1884); Orelhorpe Medical Journal; Vol. I, p. 284 (1854-1859).

(56) Dr. N. S. Barard and Dr. Joshua E. White; Bayard (1774-1821); White (1775-1820).

(57) Dr. Chas. C. Guiland, from Paris (1775-1820); Dr. Nestor Warren (1774-1820), of South America, a Doctor of Civil Law from Buenos Ayres, "a gentleman of some distinction in the land of his nativity." Note from Mortuary Records, City of Savannah.

(57) of alien origin, three were brilliant well-prepared young men of the group of university graduates who had begun to make great changes in the practice of medicine in the city. The writer presents short biographies in memory of two of these young doctors, Dr. John A. Casey and Dr. Richard McAllister Berrien. Of the life of the third, Dr. James W. Cotton, but little is known. Dr. Cotton had recently (58) come from New York but had, by his faithful (59) work, secured the confidence of the people of the city. In January (60), 1820, the great fire had burned his office building and destroyed some of his property, and, since much of it was saved by the activity of his friends, the young doctor promptly set up another office and offered to attend, without charge, any persons injured during the fire (61). Dr. Cotton was placed in charge of the city hospital and, partly in that institution and partly

in their homes, he had attended a large number of patients with yellow fever during the epidemic. Nearly one hundred of the death certificates bore his name. He was stricken with the disease and died on September 27, 1820, just a day or two after he had attended many of the sufferers. Most of his patients were dependent on charity. One is reminded of Dr. Arnold's words of tribute (63), "I believe it takes more true courage to make a trustworthy physician than to make a soldier. The spirit-stirring drum . . . the emulation of masses, urge the soldier on to face death. The

(58) Columbian Museum & Savannah Daily Gazette, Apr. 20, 1819. Notice of Dr. James Watson Cotton's beginning the practice of medicine in Savannah.

(59) The first mortuary record to which his name is attached is dated 1819.

(60) January 10 and 11, 1820.

(61) Republican and Savannah Evening Ledger, January 15, 1820.

(62) Mortuary Records, City of Savannah, 1820.

(63) The Arnold Letters (Shrock) pp. 71, Letter, Oct. 5, 1854.

physician has no external aid. He goes into the very dens of infection, he inhales the reeking effluvia of filth and disease, he is much exposed to catching disease himself in those very cases which will bring him neither money nor credit."

Dr. John A. Casey  
1781-1819 (63)

Dr. John A. Casey was born in Ireland (64); Edgeworthstown, County Longford. His father was Dr. John Casey; his mother, Philocelea Edgeworth (65). The exact date of his birth is unknown (66).

On account of the limited opportunities for advancement in his native country, Dr. Casey's father sent him to Maryland supplied with ample funds for a liberal education. After receiving a classical education, probably mainly from tutors, and partly in his new home, he began the study of medicine under a physician who acted as his preceptor. He removed to Washington, Georgia, and soon after to Augusta, Georgia (67), where he began the practice of medicine, probably after further study with a practicing physician. Dr. Casey remained a student of medicine all his life, finally securing a university degree in that subject. The exact details of his first steps in medical education and the name of his first preceptor are unknown.

It is probable he began the practice of medicine in Augusta in 1809, or a little earlier. On December 21, 1808 (68), Dr. Casey was married to Miss Sarah Lowndes Berrien, daughter of Major John Berrien, of Louis-

(63) Data from family records and family tradition; see Note 2.

(64) The Death Record (City Mortuary Records), states that Dr. Casey was a native of Maryland. The writer has accepted the family tradition.

(65) The name was given to Dr. John A. Casey's second child and daughter, Philocelea Edgeworth Casey, b. 1813.

(66) The year 1781 is taken as the year of birth and obtained by subtracting his age (38) from the year of death (1819).

(67) A letter to Dr. J. R. Cox, dated 1808 from Augusta, Ga., contains Dr. Casey's report of a "Case of a high grade of Inflammatory Fever, produced by Vega-

table Miscellanea," The Philadelphia Medical Museum, N. S., Vol. 1, p. 372.  
(58) Historical Collections, Georgia Chapters D. A. N., Vol. IV, p. 373. See also Columbian Museum and Savannah Advertiser, Dec. 21, 1809.

ville, Georgia, and sister of Richard McAllister Berrien, who afterwards became a physician and was in partnership with Dr. Casey and with Dr. Lemuel Kollock. Dr. and Mrs. Casey had three children, one of whom, Henry Rozier Casey (68-A), became a Georgia physician.

After practicing for a time in Augusta, Dr. Casey removed to Savannah, probably soon after his marriage and certainly prior to 1814. In Savannah Dr. Casey came under the influence of Dr. Lemuel Kollock.

(68-A) Dr. Henry Rozier Casey (D. Sept. 22, 1833; b. 1809).

Though Dr. Casey had practiced with success for a number of years with the preparation he had received from study under the apprentice system, he was ambitious and desirous of excelling in his profession. Stimulated by Dr. Kollock who had been advisor to many young Savannah physicians, Dr. Casey decided to enter the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1814, after study in the University for one or two years, Dr. Casey received in 1814, the degree of Doctor of Medicine. There is no record of his presenting a thesis. It is possible that on account of his having practiced several years, only one year's study at the University was

required, and that he was excused from the provision requiring the presentation of a thesis.

Only one of Dr. Casey's medical writings has been preserved, and published in the Philadelphia Medical Museum (N. S. Vol. 1, p. 162), on or about October 1, 1809 (69). The title of this paper was "Case of a High Grade of Inflammatory Fever, Produced by Vegetable Miasmata." The theory that malarial fevers were caused from miasmatic poisons arising from decaying vegetable material

(69) See Note 67.

was then commonly held. A copy of Dr. Casey's article on malaria has been preserved in the old medical library in Augusta.

## SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1937

BY VICTOR H. BASSETT, M. D.  
Librarian, Georgia Medical Society

### Part 3

Another interesting record of medical interest made by Dr. Casey has been preserved. In the Kollock Memorial Collection there is a letter, dated from Philadelphia, January 5, 1814, written by Dr. Casey to his friend and advisor, Dr. Lemuel Kollock, of Savannah. In this letter Dr. Casey tells of his work in the medical school, giving information concerning the lectures of Professors Barton, Chapman and Dr. Wistar. He mentions the names of several people from Savannah and gives the cheerful information in regard to the young medical students from Savannah, "The young gentlemen of Savannah are all remarked for diligence and attention." Of particular interest is his reference to his brother-in-law, Richard, referring to his brother-in-law, young Dr. Richard McAllister Berrien.

Dr. Casey's letter is so full of interest that it is given in full (69-A); Philadelphia 5 January 1814.

My dear sir:

My visit to this place has been productive of greater general benefit than my most sanguine wishes could have been anticipated. The season thus far has been so mild that a great coat has not as yet been necessary, no indisposition of any kind has attended a change of climate, and comparatively speaking no inconvenience from the mistula (70). An increase of twenty pounds to my ordinary weight for the last three years and a corresponding improvement of muscular motion has been the consequence of the great quantity of exercise the distance of our lodgings from the medical Lectures daily demands. It is to be lamented that the present medical course is not taught with those advantages it was wont to bestow. The death of Doct. Rush (71) has deranged the departments considerably. The Chair of Materia Medica, filled so ably by Doctor Barton (72), has fallen into hands not in-

tended by nature to adorn it. Dr. Chapman (73) unites to great merit considerable talents, great acquirements and no want of ambition. He has always looked forward to a seat among the professors and prepared himself to fill the Chair of the Institute and Practice of Medicine, should such a vacancy occur. Of the elaborate detail of the orders, genera, and species of the Botanical Names, etc., of the Materia Medica, you may suppose he was not ready to enter on an immediate course. He has, however, exercised considerable policy, has very much curtailed and simplified the plan of his successor. By di-

(69-A) The letter is copied as written, without change in spelling or other corrections.

(70) Dr. Casey had a surgical disability.

(71) Dr. Benjamin Rush (1745-1813), Professor of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, was beloved by his students but had died before Dr. Casey attended.

(72) Dr. Benjamin S. Barton (1768-1815), Professor of Natural History, succeeded Dr. Rush as Professor of Medicine.

(73) Dr. Nathaniel Chapman (1780-1853) succeeded Dr. Barton as Professor of Materia Medica.

viding his books, etc., into stimulants and sedatives, and progressing thus far on his course with an account of the latter, and only of such specific ones as he has had an occasion of having used himself in the treatment of various diseases, he has gained a reputable name as a lecturer and travelled largely into the affections of his class. Considering his unprepared situation, his being inducted almost by surprise into this department, he has acquitted himself highly to his credit. Had Barton contented himself with that Theatre in which he was formed to shine (for Paratus ad omnes, is not the common faculty of man) Dr. Chapman would have commenced with ecia, and in a few years would have improved even on Rush. His lectures have contained much Physiology, he has descended on that subject whenever occasion offered; he theorizes well and is peculiarly happy in his style.

Dr. Barton having been always the

subject of gouty affections, in many paroxysms whereof his life was suspended on a thread, had, I presume, scarcely thought of surviving Dr. Rush, and had made no calculations on supplying his seat. His appointment found him without arrangement, without even a plan of a course. His extensive reading easily afforded matter but his opposition and enmity to Dr. Rush forbid his being benefited by the Dr.'s works. The nosology and opinions of Dr. Cullen are again resuscitated like a Phoenix from the ashes of his greatest foe, for no man labored more to deary the Edinburgh Professor than Dr. Rush. You may then calculate on a "nove scolorum ordo" in medicine. The Bust of the Venerable deceased adorns one of the Lecture Rooms and serves to arouse a reaction of resentment when the opinions of Rush are handled with disrespect. Indeed the Professor has found it prudent to touch lightly when commending his doctrines (74).

The Department of Midwifery has suffered also. Dr. Chapman had obtained considerable repute in this chair, it is now filled by a worthy and amiable man, but by one not intended for a public Lecturer (75).

(76) Doctor Physick is in ill health, and has necessarily been absent from the school, he has not lectured more than a dozen times—Dorsey, his nephew and adjunct attempts to supply his place.

The Anatomical Hall is crowded, about 360 attend Dr. Wistar (77) and here it must be gratifying to the professors feelings to mark the attention and eagerness of the young men. The Dr. is perfectly at home on all the parts of his professorship, demonstrating with ease, perspicuity, and attention, he meets the eyes of his class on the subject before them. It is really a pleasure to listen to him. His manners are singularly engaging, his mind studious to instruct and his happy knack in demonstrating lucidly, never appearing fatigued, even if enquired of often on the same point by a dozen, he goes thro' the demonstration over and over again. The

x-See Note 69-A

lectures are now interesting. The brain, nerves, etc., are the order of the day—after the class is dispersed, the Dr. attends the Table and repeats

(74) There was much controversy over systems of medical philosophy. Dr. Pugh, who engaged in constructing his own system, had been a severe critic of Cullen. Dr. Wilson supported the theories of Dr. Cullen.

(75) Possible refers to Prof. Thomas C. Jamon, Professor of Midwifery.

(76) Dr. Philip Syng Physick (1769-1823), Professor of Surgery. A great surgeon, often called the "Father of American Surgery."

(77) Dr. Caspar Wistar (1781-1818), the relative of Professor of Anatomy, was a favorite with all the students.

with pride, and satisfaction to all such as appear solicitous to impress the recollection of the subject. From 9 a. m. till 2 p. m. five professors are occupied in daily dispensing knowledge, and three times a week in the afternoon, the sixth occupies an hour. So you may observe very little time save Sunday is allotted to leisure or recreations, and thus, Sir, time passes off with me.

A late paragraph in the Intelligencer intimating something like pacific overtures from Lord (78) Castlereagh has had great effect on our market here. The effect will be regarded in any event with great pleasure by the poor. The necessaries of life, salt, coffee, tea, etc., had been bought and hoarded up by Speculators till the three last articles could not be obtained at less than 38c, 37c and \$4.00 per lb. This intelligence reduced the price of sugar to 18—Coffee 23 and Tea \$1.50, and other things, I am told, in proportion. The busy character of the inhabitants of this place will not permit them to remain inactive. The merchants are turning farmers, grazers and (like Mr. Goodridge) embarked with promising crops of Merino Wool. Land for 50 miles is increasing vastly. The war, the embargo, etc., excite little sensation, and complaints are seldom heard, at least as far as my limited opportunities allow me to judge—the latter measure is admitted as a prudent, correct and efficacious proceeding. Politics and Physics, our friend (79) Grimes once said, have nothing to do together. I generally conform to the opinion, tho' sometimes to a Brother Doctor expatiates on them.

I was gratified in the honor of paying my respects to Mrs. Campbell and Miss Hall (80). Friend Edward deserves credit for his generalship in his expeditious campaign. Your society will appreciate his excellent choice. It would afford me satisfaction to be in Augusta when he shall become an inhabitant. They set out on the 18th ult., calculating on being with you by the 20th inst. Young

(81) White promises to do you credit and himself honor, he is a studious, industrious, intelligent and ambitious lad—has gained the good opinion of Dr. Wistar, who early noticed his aspiring pretensions and almost daily affords him an occasion to give proof of his improvement. I wish much I could prevail on my modest brother

(82) Richard to imitate him. Tho' possessor of superior acquirements, and great readiness and correctness, when interrogated in private, I cannot persuade him to take a prominent stand among the competitors. The young gentlemen from Savannah are all remarked for diligence and attention. Young White I may perhaps be partial to. Without seeming to know it, I have filled my sheet—if leisure offers, shall be glad to hear from you. Present me respectfully to Mrs. K. and to the Judge's family.

Respectfully yrs.

(Signed) John A. Casey

Folded letter addressed to Dr. Lemuel Kollock Savannah, Georgia. Postmark: Philadelphia.

(83) Viscount Castlereagh, British Statesman.

(84) Dr. John Grimes, of Savannah (see page 46), the politician. From Dr. Grimes is a fine example of encyclopaedic wisdom. Today we would say "Politics and Medicine do not mix." Savannah physicians have proved the contrary. Dr. Grimes (d. 1863) d. 1823.

(85) Dr. Casey's friends from Augusta and Savannah have not been clearly identified.

(86) Dr. Paul A. White (MD, Uni Penn, 1813) from Savannah, later settled in Augusta.

(87) Dr. Richard McAlister, Berrien, his brother-in-law. See this sketch.

Dr. Casey, after receiving his degree, returned to Savannah and became a partner of Dr. Kollock in the practice of medicine, devoting practically all his time to the work, since he was the younger, more active member of the firm. At times, the last occasion being just before his death, he was urged to enter political

life, but would take no action which would interfere with his medical work. He became a member of the Georgia Medical Society, but unfortunately the minutes of the Society have been lost and we do not know what his activities were, except that he was elected Treasurer of the Medical Society (83).

In 1817 Dr. Casey and other physicians interested themselves in collecting funds for the establishment of a hospital and infirmary for negroes (84). A number of years passed before the attempt to found a hospital for negroes was successful, but the work begun in 1817 was finally successful and the Georgia Infirmary founded in 1822.

After 1817, yellow fever appeared yearly in Savannah, with increasing severity until the climax was reached in the great epidemic of 1820. A good many cases occurred in 1819. During the latter part of August, after having attended a number of cases of malignant fever, Dr. Casey contracted the disease in fatal form and died on September 1, 1819, at the age of thirty-one years (85). The loss to Savannah and to the Medical Society was great, since his death closed a professional career which was just reaching its maximum of service. In his death notice (Georgia, September

(83) Minutes, Georgia Medical Society.

(84) See Note 15.

(85) Death Notice, The Georgian, September 8, 1819.

9, 1819) it is erroneously stated that Dr. Casey was born in Maryland. A well deserved tribute added, "In the death of this gentleman Society has lost a distinguished and faithful physician, a warm patriot, and an honest man."

His wife did not long survive him, but died a few years later at the Berrien Plantation, "Oaklands."

On the 4th of September, 1819, a special meeting of the Georgia Medical Society was held and it was resolved, "That the Society, deeply regretting the loss sustained by them, and by the community in general, in consequence of the death of Dr. John A. Casey, will wear trape on the left arm for one month from this date, as a tribute of respect to his memory" (86).

(86) The Georgian, September 7, 1819.

OK

x see note 67A

~~Words omitted - should read -~~  
~~"Politics and Medicine have nothing~~  
~~to do together."~~  
Physic

BY VICTOR H. BASSETT, M. D.  
Librarian, Georgia Medical Society

Dr. Richard McAllister Berrien  
(1795-1820)

Dr. Berrien was the grandson of Chief Justice John Berrien, of New Jersey, and the son of Major John Berrien of the Revolutionary Army, who in later life was a planter near Louisville, Georgia. Dr. Berrien's mother was Williamina, daughter of Colonel William Moore, of Moore Hall, Pennsylvania. (87).

Dr. Berrien received a classical education, probably at Franklin College, and, when about 18 years old, began the study of medicine with his brother-in-law, Dr. John A. Casey, and probably also came under the influence of Dr. Casey's partner, Dr. Lemuel Kollock. In 1814, in a letter written from Philadelphia where he was a student of medicine, Dr. Casey writes that his "modest brother, Richard", was also a student of medicine in the University of Pennsylvania Medical School. Young Berrien did not receive his degree until 1818 when he presented a thesis on the subject of delirium tremens (Mania a Potu) and received the degree of doctor of medicine. That same year he began the practice of medicine in Savannah with the firm of Kollock & Casey and progressed rapidly, "advancing to professional eminence with a rapid and undeviating step". "His neighbors, and the people to whom he was master and friend, remember his kind and gentle ministrations for love's sake, and that at any hour he was ready and cheerfully anxious to alleviate all suffering."

(87) Information on file in the library of Georgia Medical Society from and prepared by a member of the Berrien family.

In September, 1819, Dr. John A. Casey was a victim of the yellow fever epidemic, which was each year increasing, culminating in 1820. After Dr. Casey's death Dr. Berrien became a full partner of Dr. Lemuel Kollock, then the leading physician of Savannah whose activity was somewhat reduced from age and ill-health. There followed a year of great activity, since the great epidemic came in 1820, and in the same year Savannah bore the burden of the destruction caused by a great storm and a great fire. On the 26th of September, 1820, Dr. Berrien succumbed to the prevalent malignant fever. (88). For weeks he had been devoting himself day and night to the sick and suffering in Savannah. He was ill only two days and was buried in the Berrien vault in Colonial Cemetery. His death was a great blow to his family and a great loss to Georgia, since it closed a promising professional career.

None of Dr. Berrien's writings has been preserved, even his thesis not now being available.

(88) Mortuary Record, City of Savannah 1820.

Many tributes have been paid to the physicians of Georgia for their self-sacrificing services, (89), but too lit-

tle attention has been paid to memories of the doctors who fought yellow fever in our epidemics. Individual services have been at times recognized, (90), but some of those who gave their lives are unknown or unremembered, their burial places unknown or neglected. (90-A). So far as the writer knows no complete lists of those who died while attempting to save the lives of others from epidemic fever, have been prepared. The records show that three physicians died in the epidemic of 1808 at St. Marys, seven died in the epidemic of 1820 (1819-1821), ten physicians died of yellow fever in 1854, and two in 1876; a total number of twenty-three. (91). It is probable that further research would add to this list.

Now that there is no danger of this disease becoming epidemic in our city or state, and now that no injury can result from bringing to memory the sad conditions which caused these deaths, there should be no further delay in providing for a memorial which will forever preserve the knowledge of the sacrifices of these martyr physicians in their fight against disease. It would be fitting to include in this memorial the names of those physicians who came voluntarily to Savannah from other localities, proffering their services to alleviate the suffering of our people in times of need. The names of the many Savannah

(89) The City of Savannah has recognized the services of physicians, both resident and non-resident, after each epidemic, and has passed appropriate resolutions of thanks, in addition to financial remuneration and substantial gifts. Minutes City Council, October 19, 1834.

(90) After the epidemic of 1876, the Savannah Benevolent Society presented gold medals to five physicians, to five reverend gentlemen, to one druggist and to four nursing sisters. Page 45. History of the Savannah Benevolent Society, by James H. Johnston, Savannah, 1895.

(91) This includes Dr. Cheever, who died in the West.

(90-A) The Georgia Medical Society placed a monument on the graves in Laurel Grove Cemetery of Dr. Thomas Smith, of Fredericksburg, Va., who came to aid Savannah in the epidemic of 1876.

physicians who served other communities during epidemics should also be included. No complete list of the physicians who gave their services has been made. (92).

After each epidemic Savannah mourned for her doctors who have given their lives in heroic service. The sacrifices made by Savannah physicians illustrate the spirit of the motto of the Georgia Medical Society "Mens invicta manet". This old saying embodies the doctrine that though the body dies, the spirit of man remains unconquered.

(92) The following named physicians served in epidemics, the Savannah men being sent as volunteers to various afflicted communities, the men of other localities being those who were sent to Savannah to help during epidemics. This list is incomplete and may have some inaccuracies. The writer is not sure the data concerning the services of physicians during epidemics are well appreciated. Receive information concerning any of the names on this list, or concerning other names not on the list of physicians who served in yellow fever epidemics along the coast of Georgia: Drs. Henry S. Bacon, of Augusta; Nicholas S. Bayard, of

Savannah and Cumberland Island, Ga.; William F. Brunner, of Savannah; Hartwig Bunz, of Wilmington, N. C.; Hugh Buford, of Savannah; T. J. Charlton, II, of Savannah; Landon Cheves, of Savannah; F. Coleman, of Vicksburg, Miss.; Dr. Cross, William Duncan, of Savannah; J. E. Godfrey, of Savannah; E. F. Gratton, of Columbia, Ga.; Dr. Hamilton, of Savannah; Dr. McFarland, of Florida; Dr. McFarland, of Savannah; Dr. Martin, of Savannah; R. J. Nunn, of Savannah; J. F. Posey, of Savannah; James Bond Read, Jr., of Savannah; Dr. Redmond, K. W. Skinner, of Savannah; Thomas Smith, of Fredericksburg, Va.; Dr. Starbuck, of Brunswick; Stowell, of Brunswick and St. Marys, Ga.; Octavius White, of New York.

The End.

*Langdon Moore*

*Cheever*

Exhibit C

Plaque in the Colonial Cemetery

