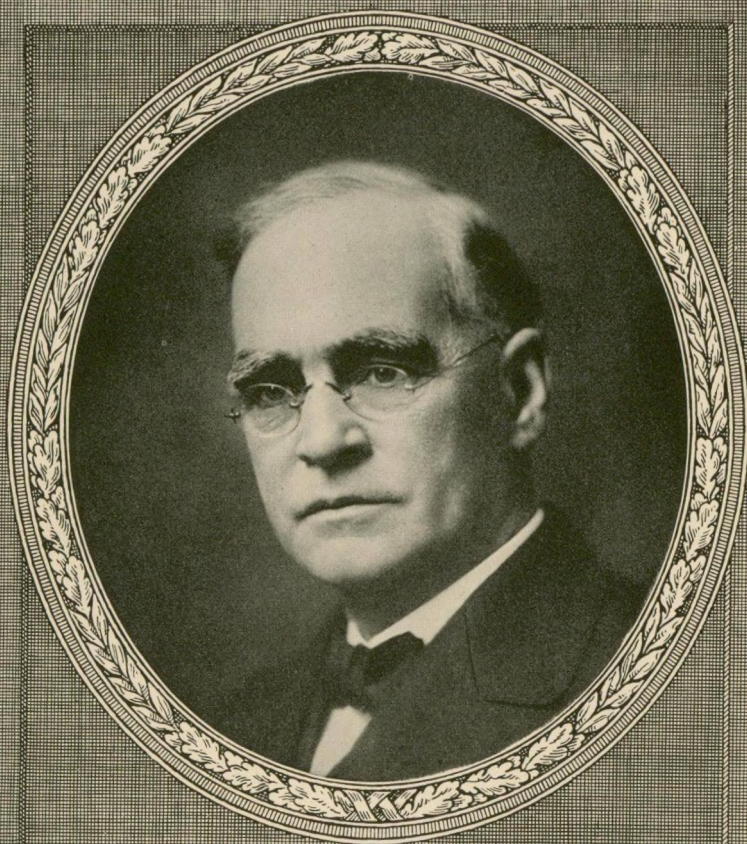




JAMES E. MOORE
1852-1918

MASTER SURGEONS OF AMERICA

JAMES EDWARD MOORE

JAMES EDWARD MOORE was born in Clarksville, Pennsylvania, on March 2, 1852 and died in Minneapolis, Minnesota, November 2, 1918, of pernicious anæmia. He was the son of the Reverend George W. and Margaret (Ziegler), Moore.

He received his preliminary education in the public schools of Pennsylvania, later attended the Poland Union Seminary at Poland, Ohio, subsequently the University of Michigan, receiving his medical degree from the Bellevue Hospital Medical College of New York in 1873. The year following his graduation he practiced in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He then returned to New York for post-graduate work in the hospitals. In 1876 he established himself in Emlenton, Pennsylvania, where for six years he performed the arduous work of a country practitioner, making most of his calls on horseback and dispensing from his saddle-bags.

In 1882 he moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and practiced there as a general practitioner until 1885, when he went to Europe and studied in London, Paris, and Berlin. Returning to Minneapolis in 1887, he announced himself as specializing exclusively in surgery. He was the first specialist in surgery west of New York to so announce himself.

Always profoundly interested in medical education, upon the organization of the medical school of the University of Minnesota, Dr. Moore was appointed one of the faculty of that institution. He held in succession the positions of professor of orthopedic surgery, professor of clinical surgery, and professor of surgery. In 1904 he was made chief of the department of surgery and held this position until his death on November 2, 1918.

Dr. Moore was blessed with the rare gift of imparting knowledge; he was a born teacher. He presented his subjects in a simple, terse, logical manner. With a splendid command of English, with an earnest enthusiasm, with a native dignity and a quiet eloquence, his logical summaries carried conviction. He was forceful and emphatic, yet temperate and restrained in all of his utterances and his actions. He contributed generously of his money, of his time, and of his energy to the upbuilding of the medical school. The welfare of this school was very close to his heart. Successive generations of students sat at the feet of this master

teacher of surgery, of whom it has been said that he was one of the four great teachers of surgery in the United States. He was a virile, lucid, convincing writer. He was the author of a number of chapters contributed to the various American systems of surgery. In 1885 he published his work on *Orthopedic Surgery*. The literature of surgery has been greatly enriched by his contributions to that science, he having written and published over 200 papers on surgical subjects. His writings and discussions won him recognition at home and abroad, and he early became identified with the representative surgical societies, being a fellow of the American Surgical Association and its vice president in 1905; a fellow of the Western Surgical Association and its president in 1902; a fellow of the Southern Surgical Association; chairman of the surgical section of the American Medical Association in 1903; a member of the judicial council of the American Medical Association; a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of the Board of Governors; a member of the Société Internationale de Chirurgie; a member of the Minnesota Academy of Medicine, and of all the local state and county societies.

Perhaps more than any one man who has passed into the great beyond, James Edward Moore left his imprint upon the profession of the middle west. His renown as a teacher of surgical subjects spread beyond the confine of his own territory and the influence of that teaching was disseminated over the land through the hundreds of students who are privileged to reflect his influence. His devotion to the University Medical School was proverbial, a devotion which unquestionably shortened his life.

In February, 1910, while lecturing to the junior class of students in an old building which had been partially destroyed by fire, the ruins of a brick chimney fell and buried him in the débris, injuring him so severely that for days his life was despaired of. His former robust health was never regained. His health failing, he retired from the practice of surgery in 1915 and for the rest of his life devoted himself entirely to surgical teaching and surgical clinics at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Moore was as much a victim of the Great War as though he himself had gone "over the top" and paid the supreme sacrifice in Flanders or on the fields of France. His high sense of duty unquestionably shortened his life. In 1917 and 1918 the Great War drained the medical school of the University of Minnesota as it did all other medical schools, of its teachers. This threw an added burden upon those who were left, a burden which was doubly difficult to bear when laid upon the shoulders of a man already frail and well along in years. Uncomplainingly he shouldered the added burden feeling that he was doing his "bit" in helping to do the work of his absent "boys" who were over-seas. The strain, anxiety, and overwork but hastened a breakdown made inevitable by his insidious disease.

To the many who were permitted to know Dr. Moore well and to the few who were privileged to be his intimates, the charm of his personality, his simple manly creed, his love of justice and fair play, his intolerance of incompetence and sham, his charity for human weakness and frailty, his keen appraisal of character, his fearless championship of right and, above all, his great human sympathy for those in trouble or distress,—one and all were traits which appealed and bred love, respect, and deference.

For 36 years this Nestor of the profession of the northwest left a serious imprint on the medical life of his community. The influence of his example, skill, and teaching on the medical life of the middle west through these formative years helped to blaze the trail and to mold, stimulate, and standardize the surgical trend of medicine toward the very highest type.

As a teacher, surgeon, and friend he was a constant inspiration, his life a model which helped to shape the destinies of his students and inspire the emulation of his fellows. He illustrates the old poem—

“The heights by great men reached and kept
Were not attained by sudden flight.
But they while their companions slept
Were toiling upward in the night.”

ARTHUR A. LAW.