

**CHARLES FREDERICK CHANDLER**  
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CHARLES FREDERICK CHANDLER

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With few exceptions, the sketches which appear on this page are not intended as complete records of the activities of these individuals, but, in a measure to honor those who have directly or indirectly contributed largely to pharmacy, and while they are still with us. The following data of a useful life will therefore only briefly speak of the beneficent influences exerted by the subject and the valuable services rendered by him in other departments of science, through which humanity has benefited.

Charles Frederick Chandler was born in Lancaster, Mass., December 6, 1836, the son of Charles Chandler, a merchant of New Bedford. The American ancestry of Dr. Chandler is traced back to William Chandler who came from England in 1637 and settled in Roxbury, Mass.

The subject of this sketch attended school in Lancaster and New Bedford and even his younger years indicated the scientific trend of his mind, for his vacations were spent in collecting minerals and listening to lectures in the town lyceum by Prof. Louis Agassiz. After studying in the Lawrence Scientific School, where he received further instruction from Prof. Agassiz, he went abroad and took courses in the Universities of Berlin and Göttingen. At the latter university he studied under Professors Wöhler and Weber, and later, coming to the University of Berlin, he studied mineralogy with Prof. Gustav Rose, physics under Prof. Dove, and applied chemistry under Prof. Magnus.

Through the influence of Prof. Wöhler and Prof. Joy, he obtained the position of private assistant to Prof. Heinrich Rose. In 1856, he received the degree of "Ph.D." from the University of Göttingen, for his researches in mineral chemistry.

Early in the following year Prof. Chandler returned to the United States and accepted the position of chemical assistant at Union College, Schenectady, in the newly established laboratory under Prof. Charles A. Joy. The latter came to Columbia College in April of the same year, when Prof. Chandler succeeded him and remained with this institution until 1864 when he joined the Columbia faculty, and with Prof. Egleston and General Francis L. Vinton established the Columbia School of Mines, which from the very beginning was a success. Prof. Chandler was made dean of the faculty and professor of analytical and applied chemistry. In 1872, he became adjunct professor of chemical and medical jurisprudence in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and held this position for nearly twenty-five years.

Soon after coming to New York City, Prof. P. W. Bedford requested Prof. Chandler to aid in the development of the College of Pharmacy in the City of New York, and this additional work as professor of chemistry, he also accepted

and retained active connection until a few years ago, and still evidences a deep interest for pharmacists and that institution, expressed in his own words at the Testimonial Dinner tendered to him March 28, 1910.

"Wherever I see the green and red lights of the apothecary in New York there I know I have a friend. I never go into a drug store but that some one comes up and tells me he was of the class of '69, of '80, or possibly a junior student still. Sometimes they are boys but newly matriculated at college. Sometimes they are old gray haired men whose stooping shoulders and faltering footsteps make them seem older than I myself; always they are friends. This has been my highest reward, this has been my most cherished compensation. The feeling that I may have helped in the upbuilding of the institution, have aided in the formation of the minds of the rising generation of pharmacists and that this help has brought me the friendship of my students is a source of pride and will remain a source of pleasure so long as I live. Although this has been announced as a farewell address, I shall not say farewell, for so long as I am able to go anywhere, I shall come to the meetings of the New York College of Pharmacy, there to meet the friends of a lifetime, dear friends, from whom I hope never to part."

Professor Chandler has received the following degrees: Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in 1856, from the University of Göttingen; Doctor of Medicine in 1873, from University of New York; Doctor of Laws in 1873, from Union College; Doctor of Science in 1900, from Oxford University. It is needless to enumerate the various American and foreign associations and societies of which he is an honored member. He took part, as president, in the centennial of the discovery of oxygen at Priestley's home in Northumberland County, Pa., in 1874, and it was out of that celebration that the American Chemical Society, of which he was twice elected president, grew. He was chosen president of the Society of Chemical Industry in 1899, the first American to receive this distinction. He became a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1867 and hence this year he celebrates the golden anniversary of his connection with this organization.

Professor Chandler's work aside from teaching has largely been in industrial chemistry and his thoroughness emphasized in his courage and sincerity of purpose. An attempt at giving a summary of his services for the University, City, State and Nation would not do him justice. So let it suffice to say that whatever he undertook to do, he did thoroughly, and everywhere and always he had the performance of duty in mind.

Commemorating the long years of useful services, a number of pleasant functions were arranged by the departments of Columbia University and other organizations, following Professor Chandler's retirement in 1910.

Professor Chandler was elected first honorary member of the Society of Older Graduates of Columbia and a beautifully engrossed certificate of membership presented to him. The testimonial of the Chemists of America took the form of a bronze bust of Doctor Chandler, in heroic size, executed by J. Scott Hartley, presented by him to the Chandler Museum of Columbia University; a replica of this bust was presented to Mrs. Chandler, who gave it over to the keeping of the Chemists' Club; the Chandler Testimonial Fund was also established for the purpose of purchasing books for the library of the Chemists' Club. The College of Pharmacy presented several loving cups and engrossed resolutions of appreciation; similar action was taken by other departments of the University. The alumni of the University provided for the Chandler Lectures, and a gold medal to be given to the lecturer; the fund so created is known as the Charles Frederick Chandler Foundation. The chemical museum was named the Chandler Chemical Museum, Professor Chandler was elected emeritus professor and many other distinctions and recognitions were given him.

A testimonial number of Columbia University Quarterly was published June, 1910, and named for Professor Chandler, in which the many interesting events of his life are given with some detail, and more particular reference is made

to the tributes paid him by officers, faculty, alumni, fellows, and representatives of scientific and other institutions and organizations.

The following lines from the address of Dean John Howard Van Amringe will serve to close this sketch: "You learned from him not only chemistry, but habits of mind and thought, lessons of life and conduct so administered as to burn them into your consciences and leave behind no wound or scar. His wit and humor played over all his discourse, and his illustrative anecdotes and stories have become college classics. Think of the educative and constructive power exerted by such a man, working for nearly half a century with young men now scattered all over the globe, and of his continuing influence, through his pupils, on generations to come."

F. G. F.

#### WILLIAM CHARLES ALPERS.

The sad news conveying the information of ex-President Alpers' death came after the matter prepared for this section had been put in type; several pages are devoted to his memory under Obituary. For other biographical references, see also Vol. III, p. 1722, and Vol. IV, pp. 1014, 1086.

William Charles Alpers, ex-President of the American Pharmaceutical Association, died February 20, 1917, at his home in Cleveland, Ohio. While the news was not unexpected to those who were advised relative to his impaired health, the announcement came as a shock to his many friends and is a source of regret and sorrow to the members of the American Pharmaceutical Association and pharmacists generally. Doctor Alpers had been ailing for some time, but neither he nor his family were much alarmed over his condition; soon after returning to his home, however, for the opening of the Cleveland School of Pharmacy, of which the deceased was dean, an operation was advised which disclosed the serious condition, that a number of months later terminated his life.

The first paper presented by Dr. Alpers before the American Pharmaceutical Association was read at the Denver meeting in 1895, and entitled "Proposed Curriculum for Candidates before Boards of Pharmacy," and the year following he contributed a paper on Gelatine Capsules. Both attracted considerable attention; since that time the indices of the Proceedings and JOURNAL evidence the activities of the deceased for pharmacy and the Association. He was also a frequent contributor to other pharmaceutical journals and societies, and was associate editor of *Deutsch Amerikanische Apotheker Zeitung*; the sketch of Doctor Alpers under Obituary is contributed by Editor Hugo Kantrowitz of that publication.

Dr. Alpers was, at the time of his demise, a member of the Council of the American Pharmaceutical Association and was twice, during previous years, vice-chairman of that body. He presided as chairman of the Scientific Section in 1897, of the Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing in 1906, of the Section on Historical Pharmacy in 1914, and was president of the Association 1915-1916.

He was a member of the Revision Committee, U. S. P. IX, and chairman of the sub-Committee on Syrups and Elixirs. He was an ex-president of the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association and for a number of years a member of the State Board of Pharmacy.

The earthly record of an active life has been closed in the passing away of Dr. William C. Alpers, the sixty-third president of the American Pharmaceutical Association.