

WM. L. DUBOIS.

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

VOL. XVII

AUGUST, 1928

No. 8

WILLIAM LANEMAN DUBOIS.

Historically speaking William Laneman DuBois is the successor in a drug business established by Thomas O'Hara Crosswell, at Catskill, more than 130 years ago. His connection therewith covers about one-half of that period and his sole ownership of the store dates back to the Centennial year of the Declaration of Independence of this country from England. The business had been in existence for a quarter of a century when Dr. Lyman Spalding completed his work on the first U. S. Pharmacopæia, and the subject of this brief sketch was engaged as office boy in a wholesale drug house when the call for the formation of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was issued. He hopes to be present at the 76th annual meeting of the latter body in Portland, where he will celebrate the 90th anniversary of his birth.

Mr. DuBois was born in New York City, August 25, 1838, the son of Grant DuBois, a City missionary, and a charter member of the "Association for the Improvement of the Condition of the Poor." He graduated from the Collegiate School of the Reformed Dutch Church. His teacher, H. W. Dunsper, recommended him to the firm of Schieffelin Bros. & Co., then at 104 and 106 John Street. Here he was engaged as office assistant for several years until advanced to the order department and when the firm, in 1854, moved to 170–172 William St. he was placed in the City Department and of which, later, he was given charge. In 1863, he formed a partnership with Benjamin Wey, of Catskill; the latter retired in 1876, when Mr. DuBois became sole owner of the business which he is still conducting. He was one of the charter members of New York Pharmaceutical Association fifty years ago, and has been a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association since 1880; he was Honorary President of the latter organization in 1923 and Chairman of the Section on Historical Pharmacy in 1916.

The veteran is accompanied to the annual conventions by a daughter, Miss Charlotte. We say "a daughter," for about ten years ago Mr. DuBois wrote, "I have had the pleasure of seeing my family grow up and am the proud father of nine children, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren."