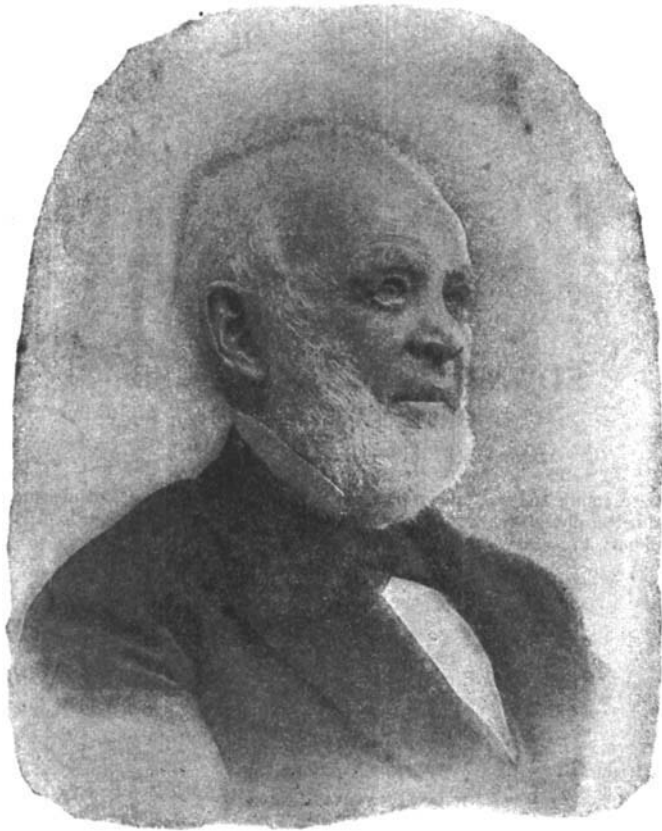


EDWARD ROBINSON SQUIBB
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Born July 4, 1819—Died October 25, 1900.

“His recognized ability and well-known integrity raised the standard and set in motion forces tending toward better pharmacy, the influence of which is felt unto this day.”—John F. Patton, *Presidential Address, Proceedings A. Ph. A.* 1901, p. 7.



very truly yours.
E. R. Squibb

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EDWARD ROBINSON SQUIBB.

A number of reasons, that will become apparent, prompt the presentation of this sketch.

Dr. E. R. Squibb was born at Wilmington, Del., July 4, 1819, hence the New York meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association will be held during the centennial year of his birth.

In 1857 Doctor Squibb aided in the establishment of a medical supply laboratory in Louisville, Ky., and the chief medical purveyor of the Army induced him to establish the laboratory in Brooklyn. His work in the interest of the Army and Navy, pharmacy and medicine, is a matter of record. The report of the Committee on Drug Market, A. Ph. A., of 1863, of which he was chairman, is comprehensive, and some of the items, under discussion, were subjects of recent considerations.

We quote from a paper by Prof. Curt P. Wimmer on "Edward R. Squibb's Lecture Course in Pharmacy," before the Historical Section, A. Ph. A., at Chicago:

"In his (Doctor Squibb's) introductory lecture (1869), he wrote on the black-board: 'A pharmacist is not a druggist,' and by way of explanation said: 'A druggist is a merchant in drugs, a dealer in substances which, though originally used in medicines, came to be used in many other arts. The pharmacist, synonymous with pharmaceutist and apothecary, but not with druggist or chemist, is an educated, qualified practitioner of the art of pharmacy. He is a dealer in substances used to prevent and relieve distress; who has the knowledge and skill to secure a proper quality in his merchandise; to prepare this for its ultimate uses; and to secure it against accidental and criminal misapplication. The druggist is a merchant like the grocer, the dry goods dealer, etc. The pharmacist may be all this, but must be very much more.'"

The following data are taken from a sketch prepared some years ago:

"Edward R. Squibb served an apprenticeship with pharmacists of Philadelphia from 1837 to 1842, as a preparation for the study of medicine. He graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1845, served as assistant demonstrator of anatomy and practised medicine until 1847, when he entered the Navy as assistant surgeon and saw active service for four years. In 1852 he was transferred to the Naval Hospital in Brooklyn, then under the direction of Dr. Franklin Bache.

While serving in the Navy he observed the poor quality of many of the medical supplies furnished on contract. Through their efforts, Congress was led to consider 'quality first and price second.' In 1857 he resigned his commission to aid in establishing a medical supply laboratory in Louisville, Ky. His success attracted the attention of the chief medical purveyor of the Army, who induced him to establish a laboratory in Brooklyn, N. Y. In December 1858, when scarcely well under way, the laboratories were destroyed by fire, and while attempting to save his books his face and hands were terribly burned. In 1869, after having declined flattering offers to teach in the colleges of medicine, he accepted the chair of pharmacy at the New York College of Pharmacy, but did so on two conditions—he was to receive no pay and he was not to be called Professor. He held this position until 1872. He joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1855 and was made a life member in 1900. He was its vice-president in 1858-59. In 1873 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Pharmacy. He was a member of the Pharmacopoeial Revision Committee of 1860; a member of the Convention for the Revision of 1870, but refused to serve on the committee; elected a member of the Convention for the Revision of 1880, but resigned. The convention of 1900 thanked him for his painstaking work in the realm of pharmacy for fifty years, and for the unselfish manner in which he had always placed the result of his labors at the disposal of the several committees of revision."

As a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association, Doctor Squibb took an active part in its deliberations, as evidenced by the pages of the Proceedings. His studies and work in improving the process of percolation are printed in the Proceedings of 1865, 1866, 1867 and 1872. A paper by him "Notes and Suggestions upon Some of the Processes of the United States Pharmacopoeia, Especially Directed to the Committee of Revision," contains in outline his process for the manufacture of ether, spirit of nitrous ether, etc., and pleads for the introduction into the Pharmacopoeia of "that which relates to simple, reliable tests of purity of its materials and products."

Doctor Squibb was an indefatigable worker, a careful observer, possessed of high intellectual attainments, and actuated by positive convictions. He was a pioneer manufacturer of pharmaceuticals and chemicals, having entered the fields of American pharmacy soon after the organization of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

E. G. E.

OFFICERS-ELECT OF AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, 1919-1920.

The result of the vote by mail, for officers of the American Pharmaceutical Association, has been announced as follows:

President—L. E. Sayre, Lawrence, Kas.

First Vice-President—Theodore J. Bradley, Boston, Mass.

Second Vice-President—Harry Whitehouse, Johnson City, Tenn.

Third Vice-President—E. Fullerton Cook, Philadelphia, Pa.

Members of the Council—J. H. Beal, Urbana, Ill.; Charles H. LaWall, Philadelphia, Pa.; S. L. Hilton, Washington, D. C.
