



JOSEPH J. WOODWARD, M.D.
Washington, D. C.
1833-1884

*Thirty-fourth President, A. M. A.
St. Paul Session
June 6, 7, 8, 9, 1882*

J Woodward

DR. JOSEPH J. WOODWARD, pioneer American medical microscopist, was the first medical officer of the United States Army to be elected to the presidency of the Association. A faithful attendant at annual sessions since 1865, he was prevented by illness from presiding at the St. Paul meeting June 6-9, 1882, and Dr. P. O. Hooper of Arkansas, the first vice president, presided during this entire session.

Dr. Woodward was born in Philadelphia October 30, 1833, and was educated in his native city, receiving the degrees A.B. and A.M. from Central High School, and that of Doctor of Medicine from the University of Pennsylvania in 1853, when he was twenty years of age.

While a student of Professor George B. Wood, he formed a class of instruction in the use of the microscope and the study of pathological histology. He practiced medicine in Philadelphia until 1861 when he was appointed Assistant Surgeon of the Army of the Potomac, later being assigned to duty in the office of the Surgeon General and Army Medical Museum. At the close of the war in 1861-5 he continued with the Medical Corps U. S. Army and remained in this service throughout the remainder of his life. In connection with Colonel George A. Otis he edited the medical and surgical history of the war, the first volume being published in 1870,

and the second in 1879. He also prepared the first catalogue of the Surgeon General's Library. His valuable work in microscopy and photo microscopy, in which he was a pioneer, and the publication of the same, won him national and international recognition in this field. He was elected as Honorary Member of the Royal Microscopical Society of London, as well as of the Society of Microscopy of Liverpool and Belgium.

In 1880 his health began to fail and a trip to Europe was advised, without producing any definite improvement. In 1881 he was one of the consultants in the illness of President Garfield.

Dr. Woodward died in Philadelphia, the city of his birth, August 17, 1884, a few months under fifty-one years of age.

