



DAVID WENDELL YANDELL, M.D.
Louisville, Ky.
1826-1898

*Twenty-fourth President, A. M. A.
Philadelphia Session
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D. W. Yandell

DR. DAVID W. YANDELL, of Louisville, Kentucky, evidently owed his election to the presidency of the Association, at the comparatively young age of forty-six years, to his prominence as a surgeon and teacher as well as his leadership in medical affairs throughout the middle west.

He was born near Murfreesboro, Tennessee, April 4, 1826 and received his collegiate and medical education at the University of Louisville where he was granted the M.D. degree in 1846. After graduation he devoted two years in further study at different European medical centers.

In 1850 he was appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy in the University of Louisville. About this time he established the "Stokes Dispensary," considered one of the first clinical institutions in the West. He was later named Professor of Clinical Medicine serving until the War of 1861-65, when he joined the Confederate Army to become Director of the Medical Division of the Department of the West under General Albert Sidney Johnston.

In 1867 he became Professor of Clinical Surgery in the University of Louisville, which afforded special opportunity for his particular talents as a teacher of clinical surgery.

His operations are described as artistic and carried out with scrupulous cleanliness, and as early as 1870 he prophesied the advent of

antiseptic surgery. In 1870 in cooperation with Dr. Theophilus Parvin (president A.M.A. 1879) he established the American Practitioner and was its principal editor for many years. In 1886 he published a classic analysis of 415 cases of tetanus.

Among the many honors that came to him, was the election as president of the American Surgical Association, Honorary Fellow and Corresponding Member of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh, and Fellow of the Royal Medical Society of London. In his address as president at the Philadelphia session of the Association, which was devoted largely to the progress of medical education in the United States, he felt it fitting to recall that as Philadelphia was the cradle of the American Medical Association, it should also be the cradle of American medical education.

His last illness was of five years' duration, due to progressive arteriosclerosis, and he died in Louisville May 3, 1898 at the age of seventy-two years.

