

of Louisville. In 1874 he was elected president of the College of Physicians and Surgeons. He was also professor in the Hospital College of Medicine, and for a number of years was secretary of the State Board of Health.

He was always a rather delicate man physically, which interfered to some extent with his success as a practicing physician. He had a keen intellect and unusually quick perception, but his strength was often so slight that it somewhat impaired his energies. But for this he would have achieved a much greater reputation. As it was, he became well known throughout this State and all over the country as a learned and skillful physician. He wrote a great many medical papers and lectures, which were published in the medical journals and in pamphlets.

He was an excellent writer. His composition was clear, direct and forcible, and at times brilliant. He wrote with great ease; he thought clearly, grasped his subject strongly, and expressed his thoughts in apt and striking language.

He was also very forcible in his speech. He expressed himself well in conversation and added to the effect of all that he said by a peculiarly emphatic voice and manner.

In all that he wrote or said, and in his practice, he was noted for his perfect fidelity to the truth. If a patient was not really in need of medicine, he would give none, although the friends and family were frantic to have "something done." By this he, doubtless, failed to win popularity, but he made a reputation for absolute candor.

He did not believe in giving much medicine. His faith was in the "*vis medicatrix nature*." He tried to assist nature. He believed that disease had a certain course to run, and that the physician could do more in aiding the system to stand the strain and throw it off than by heroic efforts to "cure" by medication. His perfect honesty made him regard the welfare of his patient without a thought for himself pecuniarily or otherwise. He did not make as much money out of his profession as many physicians of less ability.

He was appointed postmaster of Louisville, in 1861, by Mr. Lincoln. He held the office for eight or nine years.