

## IN MEMORIAM

MATTHEW DERBYSHIRE MANN, A.B., A.M., M.D., F.A.C.S.

BY JAMES E. KING, M.D.

*Buffalo, N. Y.*

**M**ATTHEW DERBYSHIRE MANN was born July 12, 1845, at Utica, N. Y. He obtained his early education in the Utica public schools, finishing with two years of European study under private tutelage before entering Yale. In 1867 he graduated from Yale with the degree of A.B. He then entered upon the study of medicine in Columbia University and received his degree from that institution in 1871. This same year Yale conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts. After study abroad he began the practice of medicine in New York City in 1873 and for the five years following was a lecturer in the medical school of Columbia University. In 1879 he went to Hartford, Conn., and for one year was a lecturer in the Medical Department of Yale. In 1882 he was called to Buffalo to fill the chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the university, a position he held until 1910 when he was retired at the age limit.

Dr. Mann was elected to membership in the American Gynecological Society in 1882; was its president in 1895 and in 1909 was made an honorary Fellow. As one of the founders of the American College of Surgeons he was much interested in the work of that organization. In 1901 he was vice-president of the International Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology, meeting in Rome, Italy. He was an active member of many local medical organizations.

Dr. Mann's literary work included a book on *Prescription Writing* published in 1879 and the two volumes of *The American System of Gynecology*, which he edited. He also contributed to journal literature over one hundred papers and addresses.

As a surgeon Dr. Mann was skillful and resourceful. When he came to Buffalo, operative gynecology was in its early development and his splendid training under the greatest teachers of that time placed him at once at the head of the profession in Western New York. His method for intraperitoneal shortening of the round ligaments is still employed and is known as the Mann operation. In 1901 he came into international prominence as the surgeon who operated upon President McKinley, when he was assassinated.

Dr. Mann's recreation was found in the field and forest. He was a

true sportsman in the best sense of the word and deplored all unsportsmanlike methods. His hobby was civic beauty and he did much to interest others in maintaining and enhancing the beauty of his home city. He was also a great lover of flowers and at his country home he took much pride and spent much time in his garden which contained many and varied specimens.

Dr. Mann died March 2, 1921, at the age of seventy-six, several years after his retirement from active work. His death came suddenly. After returning home from his usual walk, he lay down for his accustomed afternoon rest and sleep: he never awakened. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Pope Mann, one daughter, and five sons, one of whom is a surgeon in San Diego, California.

Dr. Mann was firm in his convictions of right and would never compromise with what he considered to be his duty. As a teacher he was clear and forceful and always had the respect and love of his students. Those who knew him intimately best knew his sterling qualities and found inspiration for better effort in their work. His death marked the passing of one who has left his impress upon, and has exerted an influence in, the development of gynecology as a specialty.



*Matthew D. Mann*

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