

Maurice Howe Richardson Papers
1892-1912
MC 21

Size: 0.33 c.f. (1 manuscript box)
Accession number: 2014-9

Processed: 2014
By Abby Rasch

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Biographical Note

Maurice Howe Richardson, M.D., was born December 31, 1851, in Athol, Massachusetts, and died July 31, 1912. He was Surgeon-in-Chief at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and Moseley Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School (HMS). His professional career spanned the period between pre-antiseptic and antiseptic surgery.

Richardson studied medicine under Dr. Edward Brooks Peirson (1820-1874), a highly regarded local physician, entered HMS in 1874, and received his M.D. in 1877. Immediately after graduation he began a private practice and also worked as an assistant at HMS's Anatomy Department. Through his work at HMS's Anatomy Department Richardson began anatomical training that greatly contributed to his education and practice in surgery.

In 1882, Richardson became an outpatient surgeon at MGH, and a visiting surgeon in 1886. In 1888, he became the first New England physician to give up his private general practice for surgery. Between 1882 and 1912 Richardson held several faculty positions at HMS. He succeeded J. Collins Warren (1842-1928) as Moseley Professor of Surgery in 1907 and held this position until his death in 1912.

Richardson contributed writings covering a wide range of surgical topics to many professional publications. More specifically, the subjects pertained to abdominal surgery. Richardson worked with Dr. Reginald Heber Fitz (1843-1913) in early appendix research and his research and writings contributed to the early diagnosis and surgical prevention of appendicitis.

Contents Note

The Collection contains reprints of Dr. Maurice Howe Richardson's published papers. The dates of the published materials span from 1892 until Dr. Richardson's death in 1912. The professional publications and associations to which the writings in this collection relate include: *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, *Annals of Surgery*, *The Medical News*, *American Surgical Association*, *Southern Surgical and Gynecological Association*, *Maine Medical Association*, *Medical Register*, *The Medical Age*, *The St. Paul Medical Journal*, *Interstate Medical Journal*, *Massachusetts Medical Society*, and *The Canadian Journal of Medicine and Surgery*.

Also included is a memorial to Dr. Richardson written by his colleague Dr. Reginald Heber Fitz (1843-1913) and a "thank you" note written to Fitz regarding his memorial from Edward H. Risley, M.D.

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Intestinal Resection and Suture for Artificial Anus, 1892

Cases of Chronic Intestinal Obstruction, 1893

Four Successful Nephrectomies, 1893

Extra-Uterine Pregnancy and Pelvic Hemorrhage, 1894

Removal of the Gasserian Ganglion for Facial Neuralgia, 1894

Uterine Fibroid Complicated by Stone in the Bladder, 1896

Intraperitoneal Suprapubic Cystotomy for Stone, 1896

Perforating Gunshot Wound of the Kidney, 1896

Three Cases of Lateral Anastomosis by Means of the Murphy Button, 1896

The Practical Value of the Roentgen Ray, 1896

Ureteroplasty for Intermittent Hydronephrosis, 1897

Acute Abdominal Symptoms Demanding Immediate Surgical Intervention, 1899

Ovarian Tumor with Twisted Pedicle, 1899

Esophogial Diverticulum, 1900

On Methods of Closure of Abdominal Incisions, 1900

Obscure Non-Traumatic Tumors of the Lower Abdomen, 1900

Surgery of Uterine Fibroids-Early Removal in the Young, 1900

Conservatism in Surgery, 1901

Obliteration of the Right Ureter, 1901

Discussion on the Teachings of Surgery, 1902

Small Papilloma of Bladder, 1902

The Significance, Pathological and Clinical, of Abdominal Pain, 1902

The Contributions of Surgery to Internal Medicine, 1903

Extensive Embolic Gangrene, 1904

Time as an Element in Abdominal Surgery, 1905

The Responsibilities of Surgery, 1905

Anatomical Appearance in the Living, 1906

A Consideration of Contra-Indications in Surgery, 1907

On the Diagnosis of Tumors, 1907

Surgery of Kidney Stone, 1908

Oration of Surgery, 1908

Relations of the Country Practitioner to the Consultant, 1908

Total Extirpation of the Lower Pharynx for Epithelioma, 1908

On Certain Evil Tendencies in Medicine and Surgery, 1908

On the Significance of Clinical Histories, 1908

The Borderland of Medicine and Surgery, 1910

Case of Cancer involving Tongue, Tonsil, and Pharynx, 1911

The Operative Treatment of Cancer of the Breast, 1911

Position and Value of the Exploratory or Operative Diagnosis, 1911

The Error of Overlooking Ureteral or Renal Stone under the Diagnosis of Appendicitis, 1912

Memorial to Maurice Howe Richardson, 1912