

Frederick Dawes

(26 Jan 1778 – 10 Feb 1852)

The National Intelligencer, February 11, 1852

Died, in this city, yesterday morning, at half-past one o'clock, after a protracted illness of nineteen months, Dr. Frederick Dawes, in the 74th year of his age. This distinguished physician, valuable citizen, and amiable and excellent man was a native of the town of Huntingdon, in the county of Huntingdon, England. After enjoying the advantages of a regular medical education, in the course of which he studied under the celebrated Sir Ashley Cooper, he commenced the practice of his profession at Wisbeach, in Lincolnshire. Subsequently, he was induced to accept a commission in the service of the Emperor of Russia, acting as surgeon with great acceptance on board a Russian man-of-war in the Mediterranean. After this he returned to his native land, and resumed his profession there, but being a liberal in politics, and having contracted a warm admiration for the Government and policy of the United States, he in 1819 embarked with his family from Liverpool for New York. Though strong inducements were held out to him, both in New York and Philadelphia, to continue in those cities, his first practice in the United States was in Washington. Here he remained several years, and then removed to Illinois, where he purchased and resided on a farm. Not satisfied with the West, he recrossed the mountains, and located himself on a farm in Westmoreland county, Virginia, where he continued three years. In 1839 he returned to Washington, where he has remained ever since.

Dr. Dawes always maintained a distinguished position in the ranks of the medical profession of this city. His judgment in general was very good, but in the diagnosis of diseases pre-eminent. Towards his medical brethren, as indeed to all with whom he had intercourse, his bearing was ever that of a most benevolent, intelligent, high-toned gentleman; modest, kind, considerate, always delicately mindful of the rights, the welfare, and comfort of others. For the country of his nativity he kept a tender recollection, which by no means interfered with the deep interest he took in the honor, the progress, and dignity of his adopted land. A faithful husband, a tenderly affectionate father, a kind master, he was admired and beloved by all who knew him, and by those most who knew him best. For the week previous to his decease he suffered greatly, but, as throughout his trying illness, with wonderful patience and submission.

The funeral will take place from his residence, corner of D and 9th streets, on Thursday afternoon, at half-past three o'clock, to which the friends of the family are, without further notice, invited.

The National Intelligencer, February 14, 1852

The funeral of Dr. Dawes, yesterday afternoon, was quite fully attended by man of the numerous friends of the venerated deceased, both professional and non-professional, attesting the deep and sincere regard in which he was held. The services, after the form of the Episcopal Church, were performed by the Rev. Mr. French, of the Church of the Epiphany. At about quarter past five the procession reached the Congress burial ground, in one of the private vaults of which the mortal remains of this modest but worthy and valued friend of rich and poor will temporarily rest.

History of the Medical Society of D.C., 1811-1909

Born Jan. 26, 1778, in Huntingdon, England. Died Feb. 10, 1852, after an illness of nineteen months. Was first an apothecary at Wisbeach, Lincolnshire, England. Studied medicine with Sir Astley Cooper; practiced at Wisbeach. Served as Surgeon on Russian man-of-war. Returned to Wisbeach and then, in 1819, emigrated to the United States, and came to Washington. After a few years, bought a farm at and removed to Shelby, Ill. Later removed to a farm in Westmoreland Co., Va. In 1839 returned to Washington. One of the founders of the Med. Association, D.C., member of Pathological Society, Washington. Married, about 1797, Miss Ward, of Wisbeach; in 1819, Charlotte M. Taylor, of Montgomery Co., Md. See Busey's Reminiscences, p. 143; Minutes of Med. Society, Feb. 11, 1852.