

OF

JOSEPH CARSON, M.D.,

LATE ONE OF THE CENSORS OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF
PHILADELPHIA, EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF MATERIA
MEDICA AND PHARMACY IN THE UNIVERSITY
OF PENNSYLVANIA, ETC.

BY

JAMES DARRACH, M.D.

Read before the College, May 7, 1879.

[Extracted from the Transactions, Third Series, Volume IV.]



PHILADELPHIA:
COLLINS, PRINTER, 705 JAYNE STREET.
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THE College of Physicians has assigned me the duty of preparing a memoir of our late and distinguished Fellow, Dr. Joseph Carson; and while I am grateful for this opportunity to pay a tribute to his memory, I undertake the task with much fear of my ability to perform it aright, and I cannot but feel that abler hands than mine should have been selected for this sacred duty. We all must lament the death of Dr. Carson, and it is a melancholy thought that all that is left of his mortality lies hidden in the grave; yet, while his body mingles with the dust, his good deeds live with us as a part of his immortality, a lamp to illumine our paths. In tracing his lineaments, I would avoid becoming either the critic or the eulogist, and it will be my endeavor to draw his portraiture as truthfully as the bias of warm friendship will admit. To say that our friend was without faults, would be to say that he was more than human; but whatever they may have been, we are safe in leaving them to be weighed and judged by the Higher Power, while we try to do justice



to his merits, with the assurance that if we follow in his footsteps, and are guided by his principles, we shall have fairly earned the praise of "Well done, good and faithful servants," remembering that a well spent life like his results not only in satisfaction and benefit to ourselves, but in good to others while that life lasts, and, when our work is done and the Master sees fit to call us home, serves as an ensample to those whom we leave behind.

Dr. Joseph Carson was born in Philadelphia, on Easter Monday, the 19th of April, 1808, and died December 30, 1876, in his sixty-ninth year. His paternal ancestors were originally from Scotland, and belonged to that rigid and staunch Presbyterian denomination which has made its deep impress upon the politics and institutions of our country. They left Scotland during the tyrannical reign of the Stuarts, and passed over to the north of Ireland. In 1735, three brothers, Andrew, William, and Joseph, emigrated to this country. Joseph (the grandfather of the subject of our notice) settled in Philadelphia, and was one of its old shipping merchants, who, like Robert Morris, loaned his credit to the Continental Congress during the struggle for independence of his adopted country. His son (also named Joseph), a highly respected merchant, though unsuccessful in business, was united in marriage to Elizabeth Laurence, daughter of Isaac Laurence, of Long Island. The issue of this union was five children, of whom Joseph, the future Professor Carson, was the eldest.

Of the doctor's early days, I have been able to learn but little, excepting that his family speak of him as having always been a student. A story connected with his childhood, and which was told me by his sister, I will relate, as it displays one of the strong points of his character. A gentleman was giving an account of a woman who had called

upon a female friend to borrow a tub, and, not gaining admission after repeated knocking, had ventured to look in by the window, when with horror she saw her friend lying dead upon the floor, with evidences of having been murdered. The story finished, young Carson, who was present, and then eight years of age, seemed unaffected by this tale of horror, and, apparently much more interested as to whether the woman accomplished the object of her journey, asked the narrator, "Did she get the tub?"-which phrase stands as a by-word in the Carson family until the present day. This story may appear to have no particular point, or in some minds may reflect unfavorably upon the little questioner, as manifesting a want of feeling, and an unimpressible nature. I see it, however, in another light, as an illustration of a decided trait of his specific character. The question indicates that, had he been sent for the tub, not even the sight of the murdered woman would have deterred him from accomplishing the object of his errand; and this quality, this grip of mind, as it were, which holds on to the end, is of supreme importance in the battle of life, and belongs only to those who know no such word as fail; while, for the want of it, genius, talent, and brightness, often accomplish but little.

The rudiments of young Carson's education were obtained at the Germantown Academy, then under the patronage of Mr. John Brewer, a very highly respected teacher in his day. The building still stands in School Lane, bearing the coat-of-arms of George IV, a relic of the olden time. As he grew older he was placed under the tuition of Mr. White, of Philadelphia. Of this part of Dr. Carson's life, I have little to relate. It is highly probable that he passed through the ordinary schoolboy's experiences, though I doubt that he entered much into the sports of his companions, nor do I

suppose he ever distinguished himself in any of the usual boyish games requiring physical effort; he was not renowned, like McClellan, the surgeon, for being a good shot; nor did he, like Bache, swim the Delaware; in fact, from my knowledge of him, I should suppose that he had always been physically inactive, and, even in his later years, he showed no disposition to exaggerate the importance of early rising. He was not a sprightly boy, yet showed great zest in pursuits which were consonant with his tastes, and we might here quote the words of Macaulay, as applied to another distinguished Joseph, that "we have abundant proof that whatever Joseph's pranks may have been, he pursued his studies vigorously and successfully."

From Mr. White's school, Mr. Carson entered (at the age of fifteen years) the Sophomore Class of the University of Pennsylvania, at this time under the presidency of the Rev. Frederick Beasley, D.D. The early part of his collegiate life was somewhat ruffled, from his not being as well prepared as he should have been, and his having to relearn his Latin pronunciation, that which had been taught him at school differing from that accepted at college. This annoyed him greatly. Nor did he, at best, much relish his academic career, and probably would not have pursued his studies here had it not been for the persistent efforts of a devoted aunt, who helped and encouraged the young student. Having resolved on this course, he showed, as he did throughout his life, a determination to do his part faithfully, and to strive for excellence; so that, with close application to his books for three years, he graduated with honor, and received his diploma as Bachelor of Arts, on July 27, 1826.

He had now, at the age of eighteen years, completed his collegiate course, which brings him to a most import-

ant epoch of a man's existence, that at which it becomes necessary to decide upon the path which is to be travelled with credit to himself and usefulness to his fellowmen, or to result, after a life's struggle, in failure and disaster. Feeling the necessity of doing something for a livelihood, he selected a business life, and was induced to enter the wholesale drug store of Dr. Edward Lowber. He did not, however, remain here long, the daily routine of trade being uncongenial to his tastes and constitution of mind. No doubt, also, his aspirations by this time took a higher flight, which, combined with the irksomeness of an apprentice's life, influenced him to change his course. We should remember that, in that day, a store apprentice performed duties of a more servile nature than the boy of the present age, upon entering his business career; it became his duty, then, to sweep out the store, make fires, and, as in young Carson's case, wash out the bottles. An impulse was given, while employed by Dr. Lowber, to the study of botany, the doctor being a botanist.

This study soon filled Mr. Carson's mind, and it was not long before he became an enthusiastic lover of plants, and made frequent excursions for their collection; he was also led from the study of abstract botany to investigate the medicinal virtues of his floral acquisitions, and while collecting for his herbarium, he made decoctions and infusions of the plants, testing their effects upon his own person; and his sister (who often accompanied him on these expeditions) says, he tried to induce her to partake of these bitter drinks, that he might extend his observations. These trips into the country, while they served no doubt to relieve the monotony and wearisomeness of his business life, invigorating his system and increasing his love of nature, also opened his mind

to its future, and directed him into the path which he followed from this time on, so faithfully and successfully, drawing nearer and nearer to the temple of fame until he entered its portals, and finally leaves us with his name engraved upon her tablets, among those of the wise and good whom he has now joined. From flowery lanes and woodland paths, he was directed to the extensive field which now opened before him, the broad field of medicine. Having thus made up his mind, he entered as a private pupil the office of Dr. Thomas T. Hewson, one of the distinguished physicians of his day, and from his preceptor's office he matriculated at the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, and received his degree of Doctor of Medicine in the month of March, 1830, having presented for graduation a thesis on animal temperature, an essay (though not marked by originality) exhibiting research, method, clearness of thought, unambiguous style, and sound reasoning; all of which qualities continued to characterize his writings and teaching in after life.

Soon after graduating, Dr. Carson was elected one of the resident physicians in the Philadelphia Alms House, then situated on Tenth Street, between Spruce and Pine. His companions, while here, were all men of first-class ability, some of whom, like himself, distinguished themselves in their after life. They were William W. Gerhard, George W. Norris, Thomas Forrest Betton, Thomas Stewardson, Edward F. Rivinus and William Keith.

As popularly understood, Dr. Carson had now completed his medical education, having obtained his theoretical knowledge from the oldest and most distinguished school of medicine in our country, and having gathered a rich practical experience from close clinical observation, which, with the opportunities that such a school offered for the study of diagnosis and the effects of remedies, prepared him to assume the responsibilities of a physician. He did not, however, immediately enter upon the practice of his profession, but determined to take a voyage to the East Indies. Of his motives for so doing I know not; perhaps to see the world, and that he might better his circumstances, and thus be able to enter upon his future career, free from that embarrassment which has sapped the energies of more than one bright mind, and driven it from the profession, weary of waiting, and of living, ever living, on hope. However this may be, Dr. Carson set sail as surgeon, on board the ship "Georgiana," commanded by Captain John Land; during which voyage he visited Madras and Calcutta, returning to Philadelphia, August 3, 1832, having been absent nearly a year. While on this expedition, he kept a journal, in which we find, neatly and methodically arranged, tables indicating the temperature of the sea and air, and the barometrical conditions of the atmosphere, with excellent drawings, some of them colored, of the flora and fauna, which did not escape his quick senses and inquiring mind. His description (recorded in the journal) of sea-sickness, as experienced by himself, is graphically and clearly given, with its physiological causes and conditions well presented.

After his return from India, we find Dr. Carson, at the age of 24 years, entering upon the duties of the practitioner; and he was not an exception in regard to the customary tardiness with which the public receives the young physician, since for the first nine years his monetary realizations from practice were very small. At the expiration of this time, and at 33 years of age, he was united in marriage with Mary Goddard, sister of Dr. Paul B. Goddard, and granddaughter of Paul

Beck, of this city. From this union there was no living issue; and Mrs. Carson was prematurely carried off within a year of their marriage. After remaining a widower for seven years, Dr. Carson formed a second matrimonial alliance with Mary Hollingsworth, daughter of Henry Hollingsworth, who was for many years the Cashier of the Bank of North America. The four children from this marriage were Henry (who died in infancy), Hampton L., now a promising lawer, Ann C. and Susan, who are left to mourn a loving and devoted father. After the first ten years, Dr. Carson's practice increased very much, and he eventually gained an excellent position as a practitioner of obstetrics. This branch of the profession, however, necessitating much labor, involving night work and its consequent exposure, wore upon his health, which was never robust. He scarcely passed a winter without an attack of tonsillitis or gout, and now, in the midst of his success, he was compelled to curtail his practice, and finally to give up entirely the branch in which he was becoming distinguished; perhaps he was also influenced by a desire to work in another field, and thus gain distinction by following pursuits which were more congenial to his tastes, and which, he had the discernment to see, were better adapted to his mental constitution and powers; and the results of his life give evidence of the wisdom of his choice.

From this time he begins to fill various positions of honor, responsibility, and trust; in all of which he does himself credit, and gains respect and confidence as a clear thinker, a judicious adviser, and a constant, faithful, and laborious worker. While not neglecting to fulfill the duties with exactness and honesty of all the various posts whose responsibilities he assumed, he still found time to cultivate history, literature, and biography; penetrated somewhat into anti-

quarian pursuits, and succeeded in making a fine collection of valuable autographic letters. He also left a number of volumes filled with the engraved portraits of distinguished men in and out of the profession. From these pursuits he had gathered a rich store of information, and, having been gifted with an accurate and retentive memory, he never failed to be an interesting and instructive companion. This habit of enlarging and widening his field of intellectual culture, he took pains to inculcate upon his pupils, as increasing their usefulness and influence.

The first institution to which Dr. Carson became attached, was the Academy of Natural Sciences, to which he was elected on October 29, 1835, and was one of its most active and useful members. He assisted in arranging and caring for the Herbarium, was Librarian for two years, and aided in preparing and publishing a catalogue of books; was a member of the publication committee for two years, and served as Secretary during six months in 1837. He ultimately became one of the Vice-Presidents, which position he occupied from December, 1869, to December, 1875, and he made contributions over a period of forty-three years. At a period anterior to this, Dr. Carson had reached another round in the ladder which he was gradually but surely ascending. I refer to his election as Professor of Materia Medica in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, which election took place in 1836; he held this post until the year 1850. While occupying this position, he was assiduous in other good works, still working zealously for the Academy of Natural Sciences, and adding to the duties and labor of his chair, the editing of the American Journal of Pharmacy, assisted by Dr. Bridges, and subsequently by Professor William Proctor; a journal which has always sustained a high reputation. He contributed to it no less than twenty-six original papers; and on looking over these, I find that he was the first botanist to describe fully and give prominence to the genus Alstræmeria as a source of edible fecula. He also, together with Pereira, fixed the genus Myrospermum Peruiferum as the source of the Balsam of Peru. While connected with the College of Pharmacy, Dr. Carson edited, with notes and additions, two editions of Pereira's Materia Medica, and in 1847, published his beautiful and creditable Illustrations of Medical Botany, in two quarto volumes, having, it is said, drawn and colored many of the plates himself.

In the spring of 1844, Drs. Carson, Paul B. Goddard, Wm. Poyntell Johnson, Caspar Morris, M. P. Hutchinson, James B. Rogers and Wm. W. Gerhard, became the incumbents of the lectureships in the Medical Institute of Philadelphia, which had "originated under the auspices of Dr. Chapman, Professor of Theory and Practice of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania." This institution, which was a summer school of medicine, grew out of a private association formed by Dr. Chapman for the benefit of his pupils. "In 1829, a Hall was erected to accommodate the increased size of the classes. It was situated in Locust Street, above Eleventh." Dr. Carson's chair was that of Materia Medica and Pharmacy. He was then, as will be perceived, carrying on a course of lectures in the College of Pharmacy during the winter, and in the summer at the Medical Institute. How long he retained his connection with the Medical Institute I am unable say.

He was elected a physician of the Lying-in Department of the Pennsylvania Hospital to fill the place of Dr. Charles D. Meigs, resigned, and occupied this position, associated with Dr. Hugh L. Hodge, from 1849 until May, 1854, when this part of the hospital was closed.

Dr. Carson was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society, and was its Curator for seventeen years; he also served on the publication committee and on the library committee. He was highly esteemed as a member of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Trust and Safe Deposit Company, to which position he was elected in February, 1872. There were various other associations with which he was connected. He was a member of the National Convention for revising the Pharmacopæia of the United States, and served on the Committee of Revision and Publication in 1860, and was Chairman of the Committee and President of the Convention in 1870. He was a member of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, and its President in 1862, and was one of its delegates to the Quarantine Convention, held in Cincinnati in May, 1861. He was elected honorary member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Reading, Pennsylvania, in 1870; of the State Medical Society of New York, and of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. He was physician of the Foster Home in 1840, and was elected a consulting physician of the Hospital of the Protestant Episcopal Church in May, 1852. He was elected a Fellow of the College of Physicians in December, 1838, and was one of its Censors for several years, and continued to occupy this position up to the time of his death. The College elected him as one of its delegates to the National Medical Convention held at Philadelphia May, 1847, which became subsequently the American Medical Association. He was appointed a member of the Committee on Indigenous Botany; was frequently appointed a delegate to the annual meetings of the American Medical Association, and was elected one of

the College's representatives to the International Medical Congress of 1876. The testimonials which his family received from the various associations of which he was an active member, are a sufficient guarantee of the esteem in which he was held by all of them.

We have next to consider Dr. Carson from the time he became a Professor in the University of Pennsylvania. When Dr. George B. Wood was transferred from the chair of Materia Medica (which he had occupied with so much distinction) to that of the Theory and Practice of Medicine, made vacant by the resignation of Dr. Nathaniel Chapman, Dr. Carson applied for the position, now without an occupant because of this transfer. His well-earned reputation, and his already established position as a learned and successful teacher and writer, made the selection an easy one, though his competitors were men of distinction. He was therefore duly elected, and assumed the responsibilities of Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in the oldest medical school in America, in the year 1850, and held his chair until May, 1876, a period of twenty-six years, when he resigned on account of ill health, and was then made one of the Emeritus Professors of this institution.

I do not recall having attended any of Dr. Carson's lectures, and therefore must depend, for my description, upon information obtained from his former pupils, and from my knowledge of him as a man. He was not considered an eloquent or brilliant lecturer, and made no display of oratory, which would have been inconsistent with the subject he had to teach. His language was correct, and his style clear. His manner of speaking was slow, though his words flowed with fluency, and were always well selected. Being an entire master of the branch of medicine which he taught, he

made an excellent and successful teacher; and while he held up before his class the importance of the Materia Medica, and would not admit that this branch stood secondary to the other branches of medicine, but gave to, as it received from, them aid and support, he was not an enthusiast, but tried to inculcate moderate views as to the efficacy of medicines, and taught the pupil to view drugs not as specifics, but as aids to nature in her effort to throw off disease. He also took seasonable opportunities to impress them with the dignity of their profession, and the necessity of entertaining enlarged views of their calling. The perfect physician does not consist simply in the accurate diagnostician and the skilful therapeutist; he must be mentally cultivated, liberal in his views, with a knowledge of mankind-of their mental as well as their corporeal parts. He should be gentle, kind, and humane; should exercise candor towards his patients, and, above all, never stoop to play upon the credulity of poor suffering humanity, or to make it subservient to gain; avoiding all presumption or pretension, he should study nature, and apply his resources to aid and sustain her in her spontaneous efforts. He should also cultivate elevation of sentiment, and correctness of opinion; and especially careful should he be not to favor anything that is subversive of the virtue, honor, happiness, or prosperity of his fellow-citizens, or of his country.

Dr. Carson was always a great favorite with his class. His genial and sympathetic manner, and the parental regard he manifested towards them, created a strong affection between preceptor and pupils. He was ever ready to listen to their troubles, and help them out of their difficulties; and these intimate and kindly relations did not cease with graduation, but were continued by correspondence, which, increasing

year by year, entailed upon the kind Professor a labor which few knew of or appreciated. This he continued until within a year of his death, when failing health and strength would admit of it no longer. If this portraiture be correct, we have then exhibited a man pre-eminently fitted for the responsible position which he occupied as a teacher of young men, all of whom were to become centres of influence in the various communities wherein they might settle. The death of such a man is a loss not only to us and to the institution where he taught, but to his country.

We have now followed Dr. Carson's career (how imperfectly no one feels more than myself) from early childhood until he reached the highest position that the medical profession can offer. It remains to speak of him as an author. He was not a voluminous writer, yet what his pen undertook was accomplished and complete. His powers of research and sound discriminating judgment, made all his essays studies of their kind; while the great care which he gave to whatever he committed to writing, prevented him becoming a prolific author. One work, however, will ever be a monument of his ability as an historian; I refer to his admirable History of the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, a work which cost him much labor, and displays great learning, and which also we should look upon as a testimonial of the regard, love, and loyalty which he bore to his Alma Mater, and the theatre of his usefulness and fame. Perhaps it was this work which prevented his finding time to write a book on Materia Medica, which I know was his intention. His admirable synopsis, however, may be considered as a text-book on this branch; to this he devoted much time and thought, and was constantly and carefully revising it. I would occupy too much time were

I to try to do justice to the various and valuable papers which he wrote, and will only refer to his learned and exhaustive communications on eclampsia and osmosis, which are excellent illustrations of the masterly manner in which he treated all subjects which he undertook to teach.

And now, in conclusion, I add with permission the following admirable sketch of Dr. Carson's character, written by one who knew him long, intimately, and well: "Blessed with an accurate and retentive memory, he had accumulated by extensive reading and intercourse with intelligent men at home and in different parts of our country, large stores of precise and miscellaneous information, from which he drew freely on appropriate occasions. He was fluent in conversation, and ready in debate, unsensual and unselfish in constitution, placidly cheerful in disposition, and always selfpossessed and respectful in his deportment to all. He quickly made friends, and was rarely deserted by any whom he had once attached to himself. He was considerate towards his inferiors, charitable to the indigent, generous to the unfortunate, and ever ready to contribute from his stores of knowledge to assist others in their pursuits. Indeed, warm attachment to his friends, and active devotion to their interests, were characteristic of his nature. Reared under the influence of the Protestant Episcopal Church, of which he was a communicant, his daily conduct in all relations of life was in harmony with Christian precept and practice. Broad and liberal in his views, he was tolerant in spirit; but he despised bigotry, pretension, insincerity, and charlatanry, in whatever form, or degree, or color, such weakness appeared; and he did not hesitate to denounce them in emphatic language on opportune occasions. His career is a fair exemplification of how much may be achieved by a man

of industrious ways, coupled with absolute probity and good sense, in the face of restricted means and imperfect health."

And now, gentlemen, I have very imperfectly described the character and virtues of Dr. Carson. As a labor of love and a tribute of regard, receive my work without criticism.

¹ Obituary Notice by Dr. W. S. W. Ruschenberger, American Journal of the Medical Sciences, April, 1877.

LIST OF THE PUBLISHED WRITINGS OF THE LATE JOSEPH CARSON, M.D.

[Furnished by Dr. Ruschenberger.]

- 1835. Egyptian Mummies. American Quarterly Review for Sept. 1835. Philadelphia.
 - On the Erythræa Chilensis. Journal of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Vol. VI. Jan. 1835.
- 1836. Notes on the Species of Cassia which yield Senna. American Jour. of Pharmacy, Oct. 1836 and Jan. 1837.
- 1837. Notice of a new Species of Lytta—Lytta rufipes. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, Jan. 1837.
 - Medico-botanical Notices, No. XII. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, Jan. 1837.
 - Medico-botanical Notices, No. XIII. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, July, 1837.
- 1838. Notes on the Taccaceæ. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, Jan. 1838.
 Notice of the true Jalap plant. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, April, 1838.
 - Medico-botanical Notices, No. XIV. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, July, 1838.
 - Remarks upon Codeia. The Medical Examiner, Dec. 19, 1838.
- 1839. Introductory Lecture to a course of Lectures on Materia Medica, delivered at the Philadelphia Medical Institute. The Medical Examiner, June 8, 1839.
 - Address delivered to the graduates of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, April 23, 1839. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, July, 1839.
- 1840. Note upon Gentiana Chirayeta. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, April, 1840.

¹ From Oct. 1836, until July, 1850, Dr. Carson was editor of the Am. Jour. of Pharmacy.

- Note upon the Cinchona bicolorata. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, April, 1841.
 - Note on Vanilla. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, Oct. 1841.
- 1842. Bib. Notice. Pharmacopæia of the United States, 1840. Am. Jour. Med. Sci., April, 1842; Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, July, 1842.
 - Necrological Notice of Dr. Wm. R. Fisher. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, Nov. 1842.
- 1843. Observations on Zamia integrifolia. The plant which furnishes Florida arrow-root. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, April, 1843.
 - Review of the United States Dispensatory, 1843. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, Oct. 1843.
 - Notes and additions to "The Elements of Materia Medica and Therapeutics. By Jonathan Pereira, M.D.," etc. etc. Am. edition, 1 vol. 8vo. Blanchard & Lea, Philada. 1843.
- On an article called Texas Sarsaparilla. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, Jan. 1844.
- Notice of some Brazilian drugs. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, July, 1845.
 - Elements of Materia Medica and Therapeutics. By Jonathan Pereira, M.D., etc. With notes and additions. Second American edition, 2 vols. 8vo., pp. 714, 852. Blanchard & Lea, Philada., 1845.
- 1846. Address to the graduates of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, delivered April 15, 1846. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, July, 1846.
- 1847. On Drymis Chilensis. The Winter's bark of Chile. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, June, 1847.
 - Bib. notice. Medical Botany. By Robt. E. Griffith, M.D. Am. Jour. Medical Sciences, July, 1847.
 - Illustrations of Medical Botany, consisting of colored figures of the plants affording the important articles of the Materia Medica, and descriptive letter-press. By Joseph Carson, M.D. Quarto. Robt. P. Smith, Philadelphia, 1847.
 - On Drymis Winteri (Winter's bark tree). Am. Jour. Pharmacy, August, 1847.

- Materia Medica and Therapeutics; including the preparations of the Pharmacopæias, etc. etc. By J. Forbes Royle, M.D., F.R.S., etc. Edited by Joseph Carson, M.D., etc. 8vo. Lea & Blanchard, Philadelphia, 1847.
- 1848. An Essay on Scammony, with an examination into the qualities of the drug found in the market. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, Jan. 1848.
 - On Black Hellebore (Helleborus niger). Am. Jour. Pharmacy, July, 1848.
 - Bib. notice. A Dispensatory and Therapeutical Remembrancer. Am. Jour. of Medical Sciences, July, 1848.
 - Bib. notice. Christison's Dispensatory. Edited by Dr. R. E. Griffith. Am. Jour. Medical Sciences, Oct. 1848.
 - On Quassia Amara. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, Oct. 1848.
 - Notice of Christison's Dispensatory. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, Oct. 1848.
- 1849. On Quassia Excelsa. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, Jan. 1849.
 Note on India Opium. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, July, 1849.
 Note on Linimentum saponis. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, July, 1849.
 - Note on India Cinnamon and Red Sarsaparilla. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, Oct. 1849.
- 1850. Calisaya Bark. Am. Jour. Pharmacy, April, 1850. Lecture Introductory to the course of Materia Medica and Pharmacy in the University of Pennsylvania, Oct. 10, 1850. Published by the Class.
- 1851. Synopsis of Lectures on Materia Medica and Pharmacy delivered in the University of Pennsylvania. 8vo. Blanchard & Lea, Philada. [November], 1851.
- 1852. Elements of Materia Medica and Therapeutics. By Jonathan Pereira, etc. etc., with notes and additions. Third Am. edition. 2 vols. 8vo. Blanchard & Lea, Philada. 1852.
- 1853. Medical Commencement of the University of Pennsylvania, held April 2, 1853, with a Valedictory Address, delivered to the graduates. Published by the Graduating Class, 1853.

- 1854. Remarks on the California Nutmeg. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, Sept. 1854.
- 1855. Note on Nectandra Puchury Major and Minor as the source of Pichurim oil, Pichurim bark, and Bean. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, Sept. 1855.
- 1856. Synopsis of Lectures on Materia Medica and Pharmacy. Second edition. Philada., 1856.
 - A case of Cyanosis. Trans. Coll. Phys. of Philada., Dec. 1856.
- 1857. Review. Traité Thérapeutique du Quinquina et de ses Preparations. Par P. Briquet. Paris, 1855. Am. Jour. Medical Sciences, July, 1857.
- 1858. Bib. notice. The Dispensatory of the United States of America. By Geo. B, Wood and Franklin Bache. 11th Edition. Am. Jour. Medical Sciences, July, 1858.
- 1859. Introductory Lecture, on the Claims of the Materia Medica.

 Delivered in the University of Pennsylvania, Oct. 10,
 1859. Published by the Class.
- 1860. Obituary Notice of Dr. Edward Hallowell, Feb. 1860. Proceedings of the Acad. of Nat. Sciences of Philadelphia.
 - Medical Commencement of the University of Pennsylvania, held March 15, 1860, with a Valedictory Address, delivered to the graduates. Published by the Graduating Class, Philada., 1860.
 - On the Fecula of Alstremeria. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, July, 1860.
 - On the Source of Balsam of Peru. Am. Jour. of Pharmacy, July, 1860.
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