Time Passages:
Local Military Medical History Connections

Art Anderson MD
Office of Human Use and Ethics
In the Early 1700s Frederick Settlers Spoke Mainly German

Frederick was laid out by Daniel Dulany in 1745. The same year its first settler, John T. Schley arrived from Germany. He was quickly joined by more of his countrymen. Joseph Brunner built Schifferstadt (shown above) in 1756. His farm was well outside of Frederick City.
1755 Frederick and the French & Indian War

In 1755, General Edward Braddock, *his aide de camp* LTC George Washington and Benjamin Franklin met here to plan Braddock’s ill fated campaign West to Fort Duquesne. The house was located on the South Side of Carroll Creek across from the New County Court House.
Most people know about the Boston Tea Party, taxation without representation is treason, but…
The Repudiation of the Stamp act by 12 Frederick Judges was the first act of civil disobedience leading to the Revolutionary War. Of the Frederick rebellion leaders, Thomas Johnson, nominated Washington as Commander in Chief, and John Hanson served as first “President of the United States In Congress Assembled.”
Autonomy and Self-determination

- Individualism, self-determination, national autonomy and government with consent of the governed, were principal ideals for which our forefathers fought the war for independence.

- A person's desire to have information about, and input into, actions that effect his life is a fundamental drive of human nature.

- Denial of “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” led to rebellions and the Revolutionary War lasting from 1775 to 1783.

Resistance to Tyrants is Obedience to God
1777 Variolation of the Troops Helped Win the Revolutionary War

- George Washington's experiences during the French and Indian War convinced him that Smallpox was a bar to success of the Revolution.

- Washington proclaimed smallpox to be his “most dangerous foe;” and, by 1777 he had all his soldiers variolated.

- He also ordered all new recruits to be variolated as soon as they enlisted.

- Fortunately, for our nation, the end of these actions did justify the means.
1777 Variolation of the Troops Helped Win the Revolutionary War

- Hessian soldiers were mercenaries who fought for the British until they were captured, transported, and held in Frederick.

- Were the Hessians the first to receive variolation as a "safety test" before George Washington ordered his entire army to be inoculated at Valley Forge?

See Political Cartoon, next...
Variolation of the Troops Helped Win the Revolutionary War

Forced troop variolation protected most from smallpox but caused small outbreaks and this led to criticism from the media.
Variolation of the Troops Helped Win the Revolutionary War

- Variolation is not the same as "vaccination."
- Jenner had not yet shown that cowpox inoculation could protect against smallpox.
- Variolation was the practice of collecting ooze and scabs from smallpox lesions from a person who had survived smallpox and scratching this material into the skin of other persons who then contracted the disease.
- During the war 1/500 soldiers variolated died following a serious and catastrophic course.
On 14 April, 1818 the Congress passed an Act which Created the Army Medical Department, by Surgeon General Joseph Lovell.

The passage of this law was made essential by continuing smallpox outbreaks, availability of Jenner’s vaccinia vaccine after 1798, and the need to continue immunizing the troops against smallpox.
Jenner’s Vaccine was also criticized by the “anti-vaccine society” in 1812
Random Fact

The “Spite House” on West Church Street is named after Dr. John Tyler, known as America's first oculist. He lived in a house adjacent to a vacant lot that he owned. In 1814, Frederick was going to extend Record Street through his lot. Taylor made a preemptive strike. He put up a foundation. By the time the city passed the legislation to okay the street construction, the way was blocked by house construction.
The Marquis de Lafayette advised George Washington throughout the revolutionary War. It was only near the end that he was given a commission as a General. His return visit to Frederick as a General was at the Ross House.
Medicine Advanced Due To Battlefield Medical Research

A Civil War Hospital was built on South Market Street in Frederick across from the Hessian Barracks.

Civil War casualties led to invention of a battlefield Ambulance Service.

Dr. John Shaw Billings studied hospital designs & pt care that worked well during the Civil War.
The Civil War Led to Medical, Hygiene and Scientific Advances

- John Shaw Billings’ Accomplishments while, a military surgeon working for the US Army Surgeon General:
  - His index for Army SG’s Library became Index Medicus.
  - The SG’s Library became the National Library of Medicine.
  - He created the NY Public Library System
  - He designed the Johns Hopkins hospital, and
  - As a member of the JHH board of trustees, he hired William Osler as medicine chair.
Drs. Welch and Osler were students in Berlin with Rudolf Virchow, who was a famous Pathologist, a human rights activist and a member of the Berlin city council.
Controversy in Berlin
Led to Ethical Code and IC

Dr. Neisser “treated” Berlin prostitutes without their knowledge using serum from patients recovering from syphilis on the belief that he was discovering a way to prevent it.

This caused an epidemic of syphilis among prostitutes and their customers, causing great public outrage.

Virchow recommended a code for research with humans to prevent future breaches of ethics.
Berlin Code of 29 Dec 1900

1. Required unambiguous consent, after thorough explanation of possible negative consequences of participation in study

2. Required that the study be conducted or directed by the institute medical director

3. Excluded use of minors or incompetent subjects

4. Required documentation of fulfillment of code requirements in subjects medical records

5. Did not interfere with standard diagnostics, care and prophylaxis
The Johns Hopkins Connections with Yellow Fever Commission

William Welch, Pathologist and Bacteriologist at JHU, trained with Virchow in Berlin in 1880s

George Sternberg was Welch’s first student of bacteriology before he became Army SG
The Johns Hopkins Connections with Yellow Fever Commission

Walter Reed worked with Osler & Welch while assigned to Fort McHenry in Baltimore.

William Osler, JHU Chairman of Medicine was interested in Reed’s research with Typhoid.

Random Fact

Offices Francis Scott Key shared with Roger B Taney.
Dr. Jesse Lazear died of yellow fever.

Ms. Clara Louise Maass, an Army contract nurse, was the only US woman to volunteer. She died of a severe case of yellow fever. This created a public outcry that ended human experiments in yellow fever research.

Major Walter Reed

Hospital Corps Detachment at Camp Columbia, Havana, Cuba, September 1900 served as yellow fever research subjects.
The undersigned, Antonio Benino

being more than twenty-five years of age, native of Cienfuegos,
in the province of Coro, the son of Manuel Benino

and Josefa Castro hereunto by these presents, being in
the enjoyment and exercise of his own very free will, that he consents
to submit himself to experiments for the purpose of determining the
methods of transmission of yellow fever, made upon his person by the
Commission appointed for this purpose by the Secretary of War of the
United States, and that he gives his consent to undergo the said ex-
periments for the reasons and under the conditions below stated.

The undersigned understands perfectly well that in case of the
development of yellow fever in him, that he endangers his life to a
certain extent but it being entirely impossible for him to avoid the
infection during his stay in this island, he prefers to take the
chance of contracting it intentionally in the belief that he will
receive from the said Commission the greatest care and the most skill-
ful medical service.

It is understood that at the completion of these experiments, within
two months from this date, the undersigned will receive the sum of
$100 in American gold and that in case of his contracting yellow fever
at any time during his residence in this camp, he will receive in addi-
tion to that sum a further sum of $100 in American gold, upon his re-
coveries and that in case of his death because of this disease, the
Commission will transmit the said sum (two hundred American dollars)
to the person whom the undersigned shall designate at his convenience.

The undersigned binds himself not to leave the bounds of this camp
during the period of the experiments and will forfeit all right to the
benefits named in this contract if he breaks this agreement.

And to bind himself he signs this paper in triplicate, in the Experi-
mental Camp, near Cienfuegos, Cuba, on the 26th day of November
nineteen hundred.

On the part of the Commission:

Walter Reed
Maj. & Surg., U.S.A.

The contracting party:

Antonio Benino

Yellow Fever Consent Forms 26 Nov 1900

El que consente, Antonio Benino

hace de voluntad y firma ante mi el presente, señor de

Cienfuegos, en la presencia de Manuel Benino y

Josefa Castro, que con el presente se practique un experimento

en el que se consente en el experimento, y que se haga por el

comité mencionado, y que los beneficios que se obtengan sean

transmitidos a quien el presente señale en su conveniencia.

El que firma se compromete a no abandonar en todo momento

este campo durante el tiempo de los experimentos y a no ceder en

ningún caso a los beneficios que se obtengan en este experimento.

Y firma de voluntad y firma ante mi el presente, y que los beneficios

que se obtengan en este experimento sean transmitidos a

la persona a quien el presente señale en su conveniencia.

Antonio Benino

26 de Noviembre
“The limits of justifiable experimentation upon our fellow creatures are well and clearly defined. The final test of every new procedure, medical or surgical must be made on man, but never before it has been tried on animals...

“Risk to the individual may be taken with his consent and full knowledge of the circumstances, as has been done in scores of cases, and we cannot honor too highly the bravery of such men as the soldiers who voluntarily submitted to the experiments on yellow fever in Cuba under the direction of Reed and Carroll.”

* from Osler’s 1908 presentation supporting animal research vs antivivisectionists.
COL Arthur O. Anderson MC

Chief, Human Use and Ethics
US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases

art.anderson@us.army.mil

Random slides follow ->