

Doctors of Rock Hill

Facts collected from the families of the doctors. Collected by Mrs. I. A. Bigger, Dr. W. F. Strait, and Mrs. Rosa B Guess.

Dr. Gilmore Stevens practiced in RockHill for a number of years.

Dr. Weldon about 1890.

Dr. J. E.W. Haile practiced here.

Dr. Arthur Lynn was associated with Dr. W.W. Fennel at Dr. Fennell's first hospital in 1900.

Dr. J.P. Crawford was here in 1895.

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" Dr. Robert Hanna  
Dr. Harper Thomasson  
Dr. Thomas Neely  
Dr. Nye - that erratic disciple of the Escupalian school  
practiced medicine in the bounds of Rock Hill before the war".

Article by L. Barron  
The Women's Edition - R.H. Record  
1905

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Dr. E. T. Avery lived and practiced in Ebenezer before the war. He was quite active in the KuKlux and his wife kept him hidden in his own home and thwarted the efforts of the soldiers who searched for him at all hours.

Mrs. L. Barron  
The Women's Edition  
Rock Hill Record - 1905

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During the war we had no hospital here for the accomadation of wounded or sick soldiers but when reaching this point if they were not able to go further they were taken in the homes and tenderly cared for.

L. Barron  
Women's edition of the RockHill Record  
1905

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The depot at the close of the war was the store house for a great part of the medical stores. Some having been moved here from Charlotte when Sherman was advancing from Columbus and Yankee calvalry menacing Charlotte.

In the panic caused by the news that Sherman was within six miles of R.H. the medical supplies in the depot were distributed to whoever would go and get them.

L. Barron  
Women's Edition of R. H. Record-1905



Dr. David Andrew Bigger was born in the Bethel Community, York County, Oct. 1, 1891. His parents were Dr., I. A. Bigger and Mary N. Johnston Bigger. At an early age he came to Rock Hill to attend Mr. Banks school. He attended C.M. A. and from there went to Davidson College for two years. He took his pre-medical work at Chapel Hill and then went to Jefferson where he finished in 1917. He interned in the French Hospital in San Francisco. In 1918 he entered the U. S. Army World War I. Before going over seas, he married Miss Hazel Matte. She met him in Rock Hill on his return and from then they made their home here. Despite much suffering he carried on his profession until Feb. 20, 1951.

Doctor Bigger was loyal, sympathetic, and self-forgetful with his patients, ethical with members of his profession, a real historian whose memory never failed to bring back interesting events, and a historian who wanted the records right, a man of humor and keen perception. He has left an expression of his artistic taste in a beautiful garden, where people can enjoy beauty of color and landscape.

Isaac A. Bigger, M. D.

A member of an old and prominent southern family of York County, dating back to Colonial days, the late Dr. Isaac A. Bigger was born May 9, 1867, in Bethel community, York, County, S. C. He was the son of Andrew and Helen Marr Campbell Bigger.

He received his education in the schools of his native region and studied medicine at Charleston Medical College. He graduated from the Medical School in 1889 with second honor. He did post graduate work in Philadelphia Polyclinic and in Baltimore, Maryland. At the early age of twenty-two, he began active practice in his native community, being associated with his uncle, Dr. T. W. Campbell, until the retirement of the latter.

In 1906 he moved with his family to Rock Hill, where he continued to be actively engaged in practice until his death, May 6, 1926.

He was a member of the York County Medical Society, the S. C. State Medical Society and the American Medical Society. He was also a member of the Association of Surgeons of The Southern Railroad.

Enjoying a large practice, he was considered the dean of physicians in his community. He was a deep student, an able diagnostician, and a therapist of no mean ability. Possessing the traditional Scotch characteristics, Dr. Bigger was a man of few words, but deep thought, reserve of manner, but general friendship. His religious affiliations were with the Presbyterian Church and, more particularly, with the Presbyterian Church of Bethel Community. For many years he was an elder of Bethel Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Bigger married Mary Neel Johnston, September 5, 1888. Of this union there are two sons and three daughters. Both sons are doctors: Dr. D. A. Bigger, of Rock Hill, S. C. and Dr. I. A. Bigger, of Richmond, Virginia. In 1921 he married Anne Claire Hutchison.



Dr. Thomas Randolph Carothers was born near Rock Hill Feb 24, 1855. He was educated at the Medical College in St. Louis. He married Carrie Erwin and came back to live in the old Howard Neely home at Newport. In 1900 he moved to the old Major Barry home, that is 100 years old. He was in the House of Representatives and served as Regent of the State Hospital in Columbia for ~~XXXXX~~ several years, returning to Rock Hill to practice.

He was ruling elder of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church for a number of years.

Three of his children, James Frank Carothers, Mrs. M. C. Newland and Mrs. J. T. Dixon live in Rock Hill.

T. A. Crawford, M.D.

One of the leading physicians among the younger practitioners of York County, S. C. , was born in York County, October 14, 1853. He was the son of David Craighead Crawford, who was also a South Carolinian, having been born in Chester County. He followed the calling of a planter all his active life, and was honored and esteemed as a man of worth and ability.

His father was Edward Crawford, who was born in Lancaster County, S. C., and son of James Crawford, of Scotch-Irish parentage. His great-grandfather seems to have been a man of prominence in Ireland, as he is recorded as one of the founders of the Presbyterian Church at Ulster, Ireland.

D. C. Crawford married Miss Mary Starr Hope by whom he had five children: Martha, Mary, Thomas A., Amelia and Elizabeth.

Dr. T. A. Crawford was reared on his father's plantation and received his preliminary schooling in the neighboring schools, after which he entered Kings Mountain Military School, at Yorkville, S. C. In 1875, having attained his twenty-third year, he entered the medical department of the Central University of Kentucky and, two years later, was graduated therefrom.

In 1878 he located at Rock Hill and entered upon active practice, in which he continued until 1883 when he took the post graduate course at the Polyclinic of New York City. After his graduation, in the same year, he returned to Rock Hill,

He was a member of the State Medical Society and also of the County Medical Association, and was a Master Mason.

In March, 1891, he became associated with Dr. W. F. Strait in the practice of medicine.

His marriage at Pittsboro, N. C. to Mrs. Carrie Ihrle, nee Poe, was solemnized in 1884 and resulted in the birth of seven children, six of whom are living, viz: Thomas A., Robert H., Oran S., David C., Mary Hope and Frank C. Crawford.



Dr. William Wallace Fennell

Dr. Fennell was born in the Richburg section of Chester County, August 29, 1869 and died at his home in Rock Hill, Oct 11, 1926 at the age of 57.

Dr. Fennell attended the Medical College of Charleston, and graduated in 1895, later studied with the Mayo Brothers.

He practiced first at Edgemoore and in 1897 came to Rock Hill.

In 1897 while practicing at Edgemoore he performed <sup>a</sup> successful appendectomy on a Mr. Turner who was visiting in the home of Mr. J. D. Collins near Harmony Baptist Church.

In the fall of 1897 Dr. Fennell moved to Rock Hill as a general practitioner of medicine, but surgery soon became his specialty.

In 1900 he established his first hospital which was located on Clay St., now Charlotte Ave. In 1910 he established the Fennell Infirmary which he operated for a number of years and here he enjoyed a wide reputation as a surgeon of note.

In 1899 Dr. Fennell was married to Mary Rose Lyle, and to them were born three children. Dr. W.W. Fennel, Jr., Alethia (Mrs. W. W. Pate of Greenville), and Henretta, (Mrs. J.M. Lesene of Due West.) .

He was a charter member of the American College of Surgeons and served on the Medical board of the state.



John William Fewell, M. D.

Eldest son of Alexander F. and Martha A. Fewell. Born at Ebenezer December 2, 1847.

When 17 years of age (1864) he joined Co. K, 4th South Carolina State troops. Just before Lee's surrender he was returned home with typhoid fever. After the war he went to Charleston Medical College and then to Baltimore Medical College, (now University of Maryland) from which college he was graduated with high honors in 1868. In 1872 he incurred the wrath of Merrill who was the leader of the Federal forces in York County, and who persecuted the citizens for their Ku Klux activities. Dr. Fewell was advised by his friends to leave the State. This he did, going to Texas. He returned to Rock Hill in 1874. He took a prominent part in the Hampton campaign of 1876.

He was elected Mayor (the first) in January 1893, was reelected in January 1895.

In 1888 he married Mrs. Kate Sadler Walker.

Died March 24, 1895.

In the newspaper account of the funeral services, "The physicians of the city were pall bearers, as follows: Drs. T. L. Cornwell, W. J. White, T. A. Crawford, W. F. Strait, J. M. Hunter, J. A. Meldan, J. P. Crawford."



Dr. William Barron Fewell was born in Ebenezer August 1, 1828, the son of Alexander and Margaret Barron Fewell. He attended the Medical College of South Carolina finishing sometime during the fifties.

He married Agnes Alexander of Mecklenburg County, N. C., and lived in Ebenezer. Here he practiced riding horseback over a large surrounding territory. During the Confederate war he volunteered three times, but each time was sent back home by petition from his patients because he was the only doctor in the village.

He died in 1904.

His son Dr. Sam Caldwell Fewell practiced in Rock Hill.

Robert Thomas M. Hall, M. D.

Robert Thomas M. Hall was born near Ebenezer, York County, S. C., May 8, 1847, the son of Amzi Newton and Katherine Gillespie Hall.

He attended old Ebenezer Preparatory School. Entered Davidson College but left before graduation to join the Confederate Army. He remained in the service until the close of the war, serving with fidelity and distinction. He was a member of Company C, 3rd Battalion, State Troops, commanded by Col. Gill.

At the close of the war he began the study of medicine. He attended the S. C. Medical College at Charleston, graduating in 1868. After graduation he went to Florida to settle up an estate left by his father, all of his property in S. C. having been converted into Confederate Bonds during the war by his guardian. While there he practiced medicine successfully for several years.

He was married November 20, 1872, to Mary Letherd Hicklin of York County and located near R. H. for the practice of his profession. He soon built up a large practice, being recognized as one of the most eminent and successful physicians in that section of the State. His popularity as a man and a physician was unbounded and his energy was untiring.

He was a deacon in the old Hopewell Presbyterian Church during the pastorate of Rev. James S. White, of Rock Hill. His fine Christian character and great generosity of spirit caused him to be acclaimed by all who knew him as one of Nature's Noblemen.

He died, July 27, 1891, in the prime of life, at the age of forty-four years. His wife and the following children survive: M. James Hall, Charleston, S. C., Elizabeth Hall Gillespie, Atlanta, Ga., Ammie Hall Sims, Rock Hill, S. C., Roberta Hall McCutcheon and Rebekah Douglas Hall Green, of Sumter, S.C.



James Cloud Hicklin, M. D.

James Cloud Hicklin was born July 27, 1819, in Chester County, South Carolina, a son of Zachariah and Sarah Cloud Hicklin.

He was prepared for college at Mt. Zion Institute at Winnsboro; graduated from South Carolina College in 1842 and South Carolina Medical College in Charleston in 1845. Located for practice of medicine in York County. Married Sarah Rebekah Douglas, near Blackstock, on December 8, 1847. About 1854 he located near Ebenezer, S. C. He practiced here with great success until his death, July 23, 1874.

Dr. Hicklin was recognized far and wide as a physician of unusual knowledge and skill, his practice extending into several counties. His charity and generosity were unbounded and he was never known to turn down a case for fear of not being paid. He practiced medicine, not only for the dollars and cents that were in it, but to relieve suffering. Many students read medicine in his office, as was the custom in those days. He was an outstanding man in upper S. C. He was looked up to by all who knew him; and he was the arbiter and often called upon to settle disputes and discord in the community.

He was a devout Christian gentleman, being an elder in the old Allison Creek Presbyterian Church for many years.

He was appointed Surgeon in the Confederate Army and was anxious to remain in the service, but returned, at the urgent petition of the soldiers from his community, to minister to their families at home.



Robert Harvey Hope, M.D.

Dr. Hope was born November 19, 1818 in Cabarras County, N.C. in November 1818. In 1841, he was graduated from the Medical College of Charleston. He died June 20, 1890.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Hope were charter members of the First Presbyterian Church of this city. They were greatly beloved by the people of Rock Hill and the surrounding county.

A monument was erected to his memory by the Mothers of Rock Hill.

Mrs. Hope died June 30, 1895.

They were survived three children. Mrs. Minnie Hope Ratterree, Mrs. Anna Hope Mobley and Robert H. Hope.

Dr. Hope's life was lived to the fullest. He was much beloved by his patients; so much so that he was requested to remain away from Confederate service to minister in Rock Hill. Even when his strength was fast failing, he kept on in his strenuous labors and worked until about ten days before his death.



Dr. J. M. Hunter came here in 1892 from the Haile Gold Mine.  
They built their home on East Main St., across Confederate St.  
from the Tompkins home - now the home of J. D. Good.

Thomas Lynn Johnston

He was born in Lincoln County, North Carolina, May 21, 1823. His people were early settlers in eastern North Carolina. His ancestors were distinguished in politics and war. He was descended from two Colonial Governors and two officers in the Revolutionary War.

He graduated at Chapel Hill in 1843. He attended lectures at the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and graduated in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1846.

He married Miss Anne Luckey in 1852. They moved to Lancaster County, South Carolina in 1853. He represented the County in the Legislature. He joined Col. Wylie's company, "The Lancaster Greys," and served in the army of Northern Virginia as a surgeon.

The family moved to Rock Hill, South Carolina, in 1870. Dr. Johnston was a member of the first town council, when Rock Hill ~~was~~ was incorporated in 1872.

He was a successful physician until his death in 1878.

*Record, July 22, 1923, p. 2, C. 4 (K. C. A. S. M.)*



Clarence M. Kuykendal

Clarence M. Kuykendal was born in York, South Carolina, Sept. 20, 1868.

In 1890, he was graduated from the University of Maryland.

On April 11, 1894, he was married to Miss Daisy Ruff.

He died January 5, 1915, at Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Dr. L. D. Hay

He came to Rock Hill in 1910 and practiced until 1914. At that time he went into the Navy and returned to Rock Hill in 1918. He died at Johns Island.

Dr. David Lyle

He was born April 18, 1879 in Chester Co. He was the son of Dr. David Lyle and Henrietta Strait Lyle.

In 1899 "Dave" Lyle came to Rock Hill and worked for the A. J. Evans Drug Co. After attending the S. C. Medical College at Charleston and graduating in pharmacy he worked for a year at Eneroree, S. C.

Going back to the Medical College, he graduated in Medicine in 1910, and came to Rock Hill to practice with Dr. W. W. Fennell, his brother-in-law.

Dr. David Lyle and Dr. Robert Sumner established a hospital which was on Hampton St., After several years, Dr. Lyle ran his own hospital.

Dr. Lyle married Miss Martha Nash, a graduate nurse from Louisburg, N. C. Their children are Jean Lyle, Henrietta (Mrs. Edgar Healan), David Lyle, and Nash Lyle.

Dr. Lyle died Oct 25, 1936.

Elected in 1936 Senator from York County.  
Died before taking office.



Dr. J. E. Massey, Sr.

He was graduated from the University of Maryland in 1871.  
He practiced for 40 years, 20 years in Fort Mill, and 20 years  
in Rock Hill.

He died in 1913 at the age of 64.

He was a planter (of Lancaster County) and one of the first  
to plant tobacco.

Served as Mayor of Fort Mill and in the Legislature of his  
State.

He was the son of Benjamin H. Massey and Catherine Haile Massey.  
His father Benjamin was a member of the Wallace House.

Dr. J. E. Massey, Jr.

Following in the footsteps of his father, Dr. Massey devoted his entire life to the practice of medicine and surgery. He practiced in RockHill keeping in close touch with latest developments in medicine. He attended hospitals and clinics.

James Everard Massey was born in Fort Mill April 12, 1875 a son of Dr. J. E. Massey, Sr., and Alice Amanda Massey.

He graduated from the South Carolina Medical College in 1899 as first honor graduate.

He came to Rock Hill in 1900.

He married Carrie Friedheim in 1922.

He died in



Dr. Joseph Roddey Miller

Dr. Joseph Roddey Miller, son of William J. and Josephine Roddey Miller, was born in York County on September 16, 1867, and died in Rock Hill, April 6, 1931.

As a boy he attended the neighborhood school and was prepared for college by Dr. Robert Lathan, a noted teacher of the day. Having graduated from Erskine College in June, 1887, he spent some time in teaching before entering the South Carolina Medical College in September, 1889. From this institution he was graduated with highest honors of his class and the award of the Chemistry medal on March 11, 1891. After serving his internship in the Roper Hospital of Charleston, he located in Gaffney for the practice of his profession.

In April, 1898, he moved to Rock Hill and immediately identified himself with the highest interests of the city. Because of a special concern for the health conditions of the town, he was instrumental in organizing the Board of Health, and for more than twenty-five years, served as chairman of this body. He held various offices in the South Carolina Medical Association and rendered valuable service as a member of the Board of Medical Examiners.

Because Dr. Miller was retiring in disposition, he was prized and esteemed most by those who knew him best. In the sick-room he was kind and sympathetic. Children loved him because he was gentle and always had chewing gum for them. Grow-ups read his character in the rosebud always found in the lapel of his coat.

He gave of his time to the public schools and the church, serving as chairman of the school board for some time. As an elder in the A. R. P. Church, he was clerk of the session and teacher of the men's Bible class.

On December 16, 1896, he was married to Miss Mary Lindsay, of Chester who, with the following children, survives him: Dr. William Lindsay Miller, Joseph Roddey Miller, Jr., Margaret Miller and Elizabeth Miller. In his home he was a devoted husband, kind father and affable host.



Robert Love Moore

Robert Love Moore died at the Columbia Hospital, in that city, January 4, 1918. He is said to have had the largest ophthalmic and oto-laryngologic practice in the State.

He was born in McConnellsville, York County, South Carolina, May 12, 1872 the son of Joseph Palmer and Agnes Love Moore.

His medical degree was received at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, in 1896.

He married Carolina C. White, of Rock Hill, South Carolina, May 31, 1899. He removed to Columbia in 1903.

He was resident physician to the Presbyterian Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, Baltimore, in 1894-1895, and oculist to the University of South Carolina from 1903 until his death.

He was a small, stout man, fair and ruddy, and very quiet and deliberate in his manner. He was, for years, a deacon in the First Presbyterian Church. Later he was an elder and the superintendent of the Sunday School.

Excessive application to his practice caused a breakdown, from which he could never recover.



William Francis Strait, M. D.

William Francis Strait, M. D., the tenth and last child of Isabella Wylie and Jacob Fox Strait, was born in Chester County near Lewisville, March 6, 1854.

His three maternal uncles, Richard, Alexander and William Wylie, one paternal uncle, Samuel L. Strait, and his two older brothers, Lafayette and T. J. Strait, and his brother-in-law, David Lyle, were all physicians.

After attending the country schools of his community and "reading medicine" under his uncles, Drs. Alexander and William Wylie, and his brother-in-law, Dr. David Lyle, he entered the Charleston Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1876.

He then began the practice of medicine in his native county, riding on horseback and carrying his medicines in his saddlebags. Since he was druggist as well as doctor, he mixed his own medicines.

In 1890 he went to New York City to take a course in surgery, returning to Rock Hill, where he entered into a partnership with Dr. Thomas A. Crawford.

April 23, 1891, he was married to Rosa Gaston.

The first hospital in Rock Hill was a small house on Hampton St., which was rented by Drs. Crawford and Strait. But before this, Dr. Strait had performed a number of operations, the most daring of which was an operation for appendicitis, this being the first operation of the kind to be attempted in this vicinity. This operation was performed on a Negro boy on Laurel St., where a scrubbed kitchen table was the operating table.#

About 1895, Dr. Strait took a little girl, Bessie Poag, to Baltimore to take the rabies treatment, the doctor in Baltimore had studied under Pastuer.

October 1, 1898, Dr. Strait died and was buried from the new A. R. P. Church, which he had helped build and of which he was an Elder. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Rosa G. Strait, and three children, William Francis Strait, 11, Mrs. Rosa B. Guess, Mrs. Phillip Fairey, of St. Matthews, S. C.

# Recollection - Mrs. Rosa G. Strait



Dr. R.E. Sumner, Sr.

Dr. Sumner was born in North Carolina and was educated at the University of North Carolina and the University of Penn.

He came to Rock Hill in 1910, and in 1917 he opened his own private hospital. Later he was associated as surgeon with Dr. Lyle in another hospital.

In 1910 he married Louise Bell and to them was born one son, Robert E. Sumner, Jr. now a physician in Rock Hill.

Dr. Sumner died in 1933.



In 1837 two doctors were listed in the city directory, Dr. DuBose and Dr. James William White.

*William James  
not James Wm*

Anderson and Holler Free Press paper in possession of Mrs. J. G. Anderson

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Dr. White was the grandfather of J. William White - his name sake. Dr. White ran a drug store and practiced here and around Ashe's Ferry. He was the organizer of the first County Health Board and was President of the Board.

Facts from J.W. White, grandson of Dr. White

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JAS. D. GRIST, POST COMMANDER  
 C. J. GAULDEN, VICE COMMANDER  
 P. A. SMITH, ADJUTANT  
 T. M. FERGUSON, FINANCIAL OFFICER  
 LEWIS M. GRIST, PUBLICITY OFFICER  
 RALPH CAIN, HISTORIAN  
 S. E. GRIST, INSURANCE OFFICER  
 J. W. MARSHALL, MASTER AT ARMS  
 CAMPBELL SANDIFER, CHAPLIN



Kindness of:  
 Mrs. Jessie Huey Laurence  
 Rock Hill, S.C.

## Meech Stewart Post No. 66 American Legion

York, S. C.

Dr. David Biggs - Rock Hill ✓  
 Dr. Biggs " ✓  
 Jas. S. Barron York ✓  
 W.R. Blackmon Rock Hill ✓  
 C.O. Burruss Shoan ✓  
 J.A. Campbell Clover ✓  
 J.N. Dublin Clover ✓  
 J.R. Desportes Fort Mill ✓  
 J.B. Elliott " ✓  
 W.W. Fenrell Rock Hill ✓  
 J.J. Glenn York ✓  
 L.S. Hoy Rock Hill ✓  
 W.A. Hood Hickory Grove ✓  
 P.W. Hunte York ✓  
 David Lyle Rock Hill ✓  
 J.E. Mossey " ✓  
 J.R. Miller " ✓  
 B.N. Miller Hickory Grove ✓  
 J.W. M. Dowell York ✓  
 M.B. Neill Clover ✓  
 W.E. Simpson Rock Hill ✓  
 W.F. Strait " ✓  
 R.D. Sumner " ✓  
 R.E. Sumner " ✓  
 W.C. Tervity " ✓  
 A.E. Walker " ✓  
 W.B. Ward " ✓  
 M.J. Walker York ✓  
 W.C. Whitesides in Bennettsville

R.O. Bratten, York ✓  
 Ben Friedheim Rock Hill ✓  
 W.F. Skens " ✓  
 Harry Neill Clover ✓  
 J.H. Soyne Shoan ✓  
 J.S. Keithpatrick Fort Mill ✓

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# Auxiliary honors pi

By ANN WILKERSON  
Evening Herald staff writer

ROCK HILL — Back in 1823, when Dr. John Simpson Bratton was practicing medicine in "Yorkdale," the census reported the population at 451.

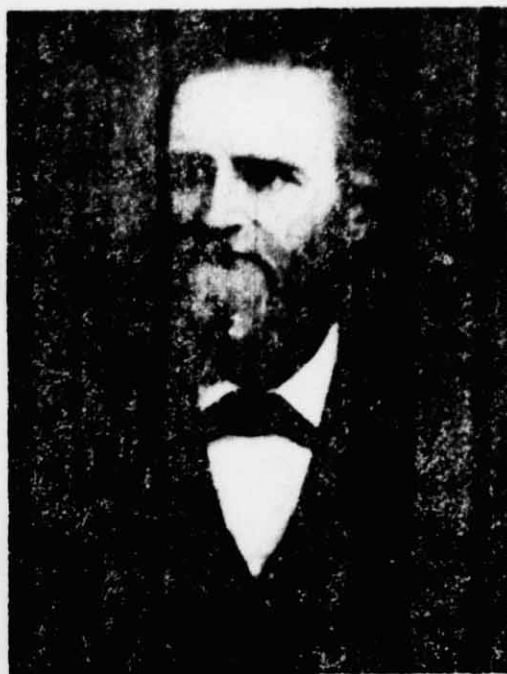
Included in these, according to Robert Mills' *Statistics of South Carolina* (1826), "there are 52 mechanics, 8 lawyers, 2 physicians, and 1 clergyman. There are 8 stores, 5 taverns, a male and female academy, post office, and a printing office, which issues 2 papers weekly: one devoted to agricultural subjects. The number of houses is about 80 ..."

One of the two pioneer physicians, Dr. Bratton, and 30 doctors who practiced in York County from 1848 to 1940 will be commemorated tonight at a Doctor's Day dinner in Rock Hill.

The auxiliary to the York County Medical Society will present a brass plaque listing the physicians to Dr. Rion Rutledge, president of the society, for permanent placement at York General Hospital.

Researching records for the project were Mrs. W. B. Ward Jr., Mrs. Robert Sumner and Mrs. Roderick MacDonald, all members of the auxiliary.

Several doctors now practicing in York County are descended from the pioneer physicians. Grandfathers of Drs. Cloud Hicklin, Frank Strait and Jack Ward practiced during the period, and Drs. Strait's and Ward's fathers are also included. Fa-



DR. JAMES RUFUS BRATTON  
Began practice in Yorkville in 1845

thers of Dr. Wallace Fennell and Dr. Robert Sumner also practiced in York County.

Five generations of physicians are represented in the family of Dr. J. Rufus Bratton, who has practiced in Rock Hill since 1940. His great-grandfather, grandfather and father all practiced in York County, and his son, Dr. J. Rufus Bratton Jr., is now serving his first-year general surgery internship at the Medical University of South Carolina at Charleston. The son's graduation in 1974 from the same university marked the fourth generation of Brattons to do so.

Although records prior to 1848 were not searched, Bratton family research turned up the earliest Doctor Bratton, who is listed at the top of the plaque. Born in 1789, John Simpson Bratton, M.D., was married to Harriet Rainey in 1814 and practiced in the Yorkville area until his death in 1843.

During the time of his practice, according to Mills' *Statistics*, "The increasing prosperity of this village, its salubrious site, interesting scenery, continuity to the mountains, and cheapness of living, will have a tendency to give it a preference in the minds of those who are seeking residence in the upper country."

His son James Rufus, for whom the present doctors are named, was born in 1921. After graduating from S.C. College he studied anatomy under two Columbia doctors, as was a custom of the times. H



DR. RUFUS ANDRAL BRATTON  
Died in 1942 at the age of 82