"Biographical Sketch of Caspar Morris, M.D." MS 1994

them, so as to make of themselves useful
able earnest servants of God. To carry out
spar was but a few years old, they removed
miles from Market St. bridge near the
Here their children were reared in thrift
all the more necessary by the financial
hich overspread the country from 1808 to
ocations of farm life demanded the ener-
ntribute to the general weal according
At one time Caspar accompanied the
g in a stall in the Second St. Market
duce on market days. But their education
Amid her household duties and the cares
heir mother never neglected to inspire in
at which she had found so precious, a
s of nature, the trust which looks from
e's God, and the habit of storing the mind
the g r thought to be met with in the writings of the best authors. Her purity of thought and high, noble aim, her refinement of character, and practical active usefulness and benevolence were the traits which, with her devoted mother-love, her children have ever dwelt upon. Their first loss, sad and irreparable, was her death, June 23, 1820, after an illness of only a few hours, when Caspar was but fifteen years old. But her memory was to him, as to all her children, ever as a guiding star.

In winter Caspar, with his brothers and sisters, was at first sent to school at Pine St. Meeting-house, subsequently to David Dulles in Church Alley, then to the William Penn Charter School under the charge of Thomas Dugdale and Joseph Roberts, of whom he always spoke with high regard. As the boys attained a suitable age they were apprenticed or articled,

as the custom then was, for the various trades or professions chosen by themselves and deemed appropriate by their parents, who wisely thought no one fitted to command who had not first learned to obey, or to conduct any business with the minute details of which he is unacquainted. How successful was the training thus given, and what principles were inculcated, may be judged when we recall these young men as the founders of the houses of Stephen P. Morris & Co., afterward Morris, Tasker & Morris, of Levi Morris & Co., afterward Isaac P. Morris & Co., and Morris & Jones, now Morris, Wheeler & Co.

Caspar, having early shown medical tastes and proclivities, and having received a legacy as namesake of his great-grandfather Caspar Wistar (the ancestor also of the illustrious anatomist of that name who was at that time Professor in the University of Pennsylvania), was destined for the medical profession. During his school and student years, which were from 1819 to 1826, except during his term as Resident at the Pennsylvania Hospital, he resided much with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Hollingsworth. He entered the office of Dr. Joseph Parrish, then the leading practitioner in the city, and, as part of the usual course of study, was employed for some months in a drug store. He graduated in 1826, his thesis being on the practice of medicine. Several amusing and instructive incidents of this period may be given as illustrations of his character and of the times. He had a horror of surgery from an instinctive dread of giving pain—think of what surgery was before the days of anæsthetics—and also from a too great lack of confidence in his own abilities (too rare a trait); and so great was his dread of failure in his examination on this branch that he rode on horseback to the professor's door, determined that if unsuccessful he would ride