

ARTICLE I.

DR. ABRAHAM GESNER—A BIOGRAPHICAL
SKETCH.

BY G. W. GESNER.

Read April 7th, 1896.

Abraham Gesner was born in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, May 2nd, 1797. His ancestors originally came from Germany, where Conrad Gesner three hundred years ago was so distinguished for his scientific attainments as to be called the Pliny of Germany, and was ennobled by the Emperor. A branch of the family afterwards settled in Zurich, Switzerland, where Solomon Gesner became distinguished as a poet, and where his fellow citizens afterwards erected a monument to his memory.

Another branch of the family settled in Holland, from which country Dr. Gesner's grandfather, Nicholas Gesner, emigrated to New York, and settled on the banks of the Hudson River at Tappantown, in Rockland Co., about twenty miles from the city of New York.

Henry Gesner, the father of the subject of the present sketch, one of the sons of Nicholas Gesner and his twin