

I am indebted to Dr. O'Reilly for allowing me to have this slide made from a copy in his possession.

William Thomas Aikins was born at Burnhamthorpe, Ontario, in 1827, and died at Toronto, May 24th, 1897. He obtained his medical education at Jefferson, from which college he graduated with high honors, and soon after began practice in Toronto. He became a lecturer in the Rolph School in 1850, and the Toronto School of Medicine in 1856. For nearly twenty years he was President of the Toronto School of Medicine, and when in 1887 the University of Toronto took this over as its Medical Faculty, he was made Dean, and deservedly so, for he entered heart and soul into the negotiations, believing that such an arrangement meant much toward the progress of medicine in this Province. He held this position until 1893, when, because of failing health, he found it necessary to relinquish some of his work. In both institutions he held the post of Professor of Surgery, and was looked upon as one of the ablest surgeons on this continent. As a teacher of the practice of surgery he had few equals, his style was impressive, his advice good, and his methods of teaching practical. Many a graduate has gone into the backwoods places to practise, filled with excellent ideas as to how to deal with surgical emergencies. Associated with him as I was for nearly two years as a student in his office, and "soop" at the old school, I learned to love him as I would a father, and to respect his ability as a surgeon: and as the years rolled on this respect grew and grew. As I remember him he was kind and unselfish: many times in later years have we chatted together, and of one theme he never tired talking, namely, that so many of his old pupils were taking leading places in surgery in this city and Province. Nothing pleased him more than to hear of one of his boys having done some new and difficult operation, as many were then doing, for antiseptic surgery was yet in its infancy, and great things were happening daily.

He took an active part in the formation of the Ontario Medical Council, and was its treasurer from the time of its organization. He was at the inaugural meeting of the Canadian Medical Association in 1867. From 1850 to 1880 he was a surgeon to the Toronto General Hospital. For many years he was Surgeon to the Central Prison.

He devised and used the hoop iron splint for fractures of the humerus: he invented a most excellent fracture bed; he devised the idea of using rubber tubing for applying the continuous cold water coil many years before Leiter ever described it; in amputations of the breast and in other operations necessitating the loss of a large quantity of blood, he used the tourniquets on the extremities as "blood savers." These were