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MEDICAL EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES:

HISTORICAL

The first medical school in the United States was organized in 1765 in connection
with the University of Pennsylvania by Dr. W. Shippen, the anatomist, and Dr. John
Morgan, both of whom had been favorite pupils of the Hunters in London and were
graduates of Edinburgh. The Harvard Medical School was founded in 1783 by
Dr. John Warren, who had been a military surgeon in the army from the battle of
Bunker Hill until ill health forced his retirement. Anatomy was taught by demonstra-

As time went on there was a great increase in the number of medical schools; the older schools either dropped their university affiliation or this became nominal. The "proprietary school" arose, in which a few practising physicians came together for the purpose of giving lecture courses and clinics to medical students during a period of five months each year. The students listened to the same courses during two successive terms and, after passing an examination, received the degree of M.D. eighteen months subsequent to the beginning of their medical studies. Attempts to raise the standard of medical education were always accompanied by a loss of fees,

1 A report prepared for the International Conference on Post-graduate Medical Education held at the time of the Seventeenth International Medical Congress, London, 1913.
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