

1805     PETER WENDELL.

Daughter, Sara H., married Lewis O. Morris,  
U.S.A., on Tuesday evening, 23d inst, by  
Rev. Duncan Kennedy, D.D. --Daily Albany  
Argus, Jan.25, 1849.

I am not certain that this is our Peter Wendell,  
as only one daughter is given in Cuyler Reynolds'  
History and her name was not Sara.

1805     PETER WENDELL.

At a meeting of the Common Council on Tuesday last, Dr. Peter Wendell, was appointed almshouse physician, in the place of Dr. S.S.Treat, resigned.

Since the above was in type, the following letter, from Dr. Wendell, declining the appointment has been communicated for publication.

To the Hon. James Stevenson, Mayor of the City of Albany.

Dear Sir: Permit me, through you, to tender my warmest thanks to the Honorable the Corporation, for their unanimous vote given me on the first inst., as almshouse physician. To this acknowledgement I am constrained to add, that I must decline the honor.

With sentiments of respect,  
I remain, your humble servant,

PETER WENDELL.

Albany, Jan. 2, 1828

FROM: Daily Albany Argus

1805    Peter Wendell

Benjamin Rush Wendell, who died in Cazenovia, Oct. 24, 1884, was one of the most prominent men of this community for many years. He was born in Albany, in 1822, a son of Dr. Peter Wendell, one of the forst chancellors ofthe State Regents.

Our County & Its People  
vol. 1   p. 513  
John E. Smith, Editor  
Boston History Co.  
1899

CLASS OF 1805

PETER WENDELL

University of Pennsylvania, M. D., 1807  
Died 1849, aged 64.

PETER F. WENDELL, non-graduate of 1805, of Albany, N.Y., was a member of the  
Adelphic Society.  
Adelphic Catalogue 1830

Dr. Peter Wendell was a man of prominence in Albany. He was born there June 3, 1786, died at his residence on Elk street, in that city, October 29, 1849. He was the son of Jacob Harmanus Wendell (born October 21, 1754, died March 23, 1826, son of Harmanus Wendell and Catherine Van Vechten), who married, about 1785, Geertruy (Gertrude) Lansing (born September 3, 1758, daughter of Peter Lansing and Elizabeth Wendell. His wife, (Elizabeth Van Kleeck) died in Albany, November 11, 1846.

He studied medicine with Dr. William McLellan of Albany; attended lectures at the University of Pennsylvania; commenced practice in 1807 at Albany; received the degree of M. D. from his alma mater in 1823, at which time he was elected a Regent of the University of the State of New York, of which body he became chancellor in 1842, filling that office until his death.

Dr. Samuel Oakley Van der Poel married, at Albany, New York, December 10, 1850, Gertrude Lansing Wendell, who was born in Albany, January 15, 1824, died in Cazenovia, New York, August 13, 1906, daughter of Dr. Peter Wendell and Elizabeth Van Kleeck.

Gen. & Fam. Hist. of Southern N. Y.      vl. p. 175  
Cuyler Reynolds, Ed.  
New York      1914.

1805

PETER WENDELL

Among the honorary degrees conferred by the University of Pennsylvania at the last commencement, we observe that of Doctor of Medicine on Dr. Peter Wendell of this city.

Albany Gazette  
August 4, 1826.

CLASS OF 1805

PETER WENDELL

Died October 29, 1849, aged 64. He was the longest resident practitioner of medicine in the city, and next to Dr. Bay the oldest. Dr. Wendell was a native of this city--born 1786. He received the best education that the city afforded, and at the usual time entered the office of the late Dr. William McLellan, then one of the principal physicians here. During his course of study, he attended two courses of lectures at the University of Pennsylvania. On his return he commenced the practice of medicine. This was in 1807, and we need scarcely add how extensive and lucrative this proved during the long period of forty-two years. Dr. Wendell received the honorary degree of doctor of medicine from the University of Pennsylvania some fifteen years after he attended it as a student. In 1823, he was chosen by the legislature a regent of the University, of which body he became chancellor in 1842, and to which last office he has since been annually re-appointed.

Annals of Albany  
Vol. 1 p. 362  
Munsell

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Nephew of Gen. John H. Wendell.  
Born June 3, 1786.

A practicing physician of Albany for more than forty years, and Chancellor of the University of the State of New York from 1842 till his death in 1849.

He was the son of Jacob H. and Gertrude (Lansing) Wendell. She was born Sept. 3, 1758 and married Jacob H. Wendell, about 1785.

The Lansing Family p. 34  
Claude G. Munsell  
1917.

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Appointed by Common Council of Albany physician to the poor of the city. 1820.

Annals of Albany  
vol. 7 p.143  
Munsell

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Surgeon's Mate--~~Brig.~~ Gen. Gerrit W. Van Schaick's Brigade,  
Albany County Militia, 1807.

Surgeon--89th Regiment, Albany County Militia, Aug. 11, 1812.

Council of Appointment  
Vol. 1 pp 896;1409.

An excellent portrait of him has its proper place in the State Library. Dr. Wendell has been represented in the profession by one son, who for several years was a practitioner in Albany, Dr. Herman Wendell, but who is now retired from professional life, and a son-in-law, Dr. S. Oakley Vanderpoel, late Surgeon-General of the State.

Biographical Sketches  
Transactions of the Medical Society of New York  
pp.241-243  
Sylvester D. Willard  
1857

Peter Wendell was a descendant of one of the ancient Dutch families of Albany, where he was born on the 3d of June, 1786. He obtained his early and classical education here, and here he pursued the study of his profession under the instruction of Dr. William McClelland. He attended three courses of lectures at the University of Pennsylvania where he listened with enthusiasm to the teachings of that distinguished professor and patriot, Dr. Benjamin Rush, which, says the biographer of Dr. Wendell, "constituted the guide of his practice in after years."

Upon his return from Philadelphia, in the spring of 1807, he opened an office in this city and immediately united with this society, then in its infancy. The auspices under which he commenced his professional career were most favorable. He was surrounded by a large circle of influential friends, and it was at a time when there were "not more than five practitioners of eminence in Albany, and all of them advanced beyond the meridian of life." Prompt and attentive to his patients he rapidly won reputation, so that his practice was, it is believed, more extensive and lucrative than that of any physician in the city.

Dr. Wendell was at an early period elected by this society a delegate to the State Medical Society, where he was in a few years elected a permanent member, and for a long while filled the office of censor in that society for this district. In 1813 he read a dissertation before this society on the "Stimulant Effects of Cold." In 1823 he was elected Regent of the University by the Legislature of the State. He was faithful and attentive to the great variety of business which came before that Board and made himself intimately acquainted with all its details.

He at length became, with a single exception, senior member of the Board and was elected its Chancellor in 1842. This honorable position he continued to occupy until the close of his life.

To the State Library and the State Cabinet of Natural History he gave, while a Regent, great care and attention.

Dr. Wendell felt the importance and the responsibility which the medical profession sustain towards the public, and it was always his great object to promote its interests and to uphold its dignity.

While most of the members of this society were favored with his acquaintance, many of them enjoyed his personal friendship, and his well remembered face passes in memory before them today.

After a practice of 42 years, Dr. Wendell suddenly died of disease of the heart, at his residence on Elk-street, Oct. 31, 1849.

Transactions of the Medical Society of New York.  
Historical Address by Sylvester D. Willard, M.D.  
Delivered Nov. 11, 1856 before the Med. Socy. of the County of Albany  
pp. 39-40  
1857

1805

PETER WENDELL.

Died: Yesterday morning, Oct. 29th at his residence in this city. Peter Wendell, M. D. in the 64th year of his age. The friends and acquaintances of the deceased, and of the family are invited to attend his funeral, from No. 7 Academy Park, to-morrow (Wednesday) afternoon, at 2 o'clock.

Daily Albany Argus. Oct. 30, 1849. (Tues.)

PETER WENDELL.

We are called to add another to the list of obituary notices, so frequent of late, of eminent fellow citizens. With deep sympathy with his family and friends we announce the death of Dr. Peter Wendell.

He died somewhat suddenly yesterday morning, in the 64 year of his age. He had been unwell about a week. but good hopes of his recovery were entertained until a few minutes before he expired.

Dr. Wendell was a descendant from the ancient and respectable family of this city, and live to spent an active and useful life.

In his private character he exemplified the estimable virtues of a good citizen. He was eminent in his profession as a Physician, and for more than (40) years was extensively engaged in practice. At the time of death, and for many years previous, he occupied the honorable situation of Chancellor of the Regents of the University.

Dr. Wendell was distinguished not less by his qualities as a citizen, a gentleman, a christian, and a politician, than by his professional fame.

The longest in practice of any of our resident physicians, the sphere of his usefulness was a wide one, and full of honorable mementos. Direct, manly, upright, in all his relations, public, professional and social, which during a long life he has sustained with unblemished worth and honor, his example was as eminently worthy of imitation, as it has been of the praise it has received from all his cotemporaries. As a politician, he was a consistent democratic republican, expressing his opinions with a liberal frankness and candor, and adhering to them with firmness but in a tolerant spirit. He was chosen a presidential elector in 1836. and gave his vote for Van Buren and Johnson. And at the last election, he was a candidate for presidential elector on the Cass and Butler electoral ticket.

This bereavement will be felt far beyond the limits of our city, and more intensely by those within it, who enjoyed a particular acquaintance with him, and were thereby enabled to appreciate his worth. To his numerous friends,

1805

PETER WENDELL.

and indeed to our whole community, his death is a loss of no ordinary character \_\_\_\_ to his family it is irreparable. To all he has left a source of consolation in the reflection of a well- spent life. Though his career of usefulness is terminated, his memory will be cherished and honored by his fellow citizens.

(From the Evening Journal.)

Death of Dr. Wendell. -- We regret to state that the city has lost its longest resident practitioner of medicine, and, with one exception, (Dr. Wm. Bay.) its oldest. His death occurred this morning between 2 and 3 o'clock, after a brief illness of some few days.

Dr. Peter Wendell was a native of this city, born in 1787, and of course, at the time of his death, in the 64th. year of his age. He received the best education that the city then afforded, and at the usual time entered the office of the late Dr. Wm. McLellan, then one of the principal physicians here. During his term of study, he attended two courses of lectures at the University of Pennsylvania. On his return he commenced the practice of medicine. This was in 1807, and we need scarcely add how extensive and lucrative this proved during the long period of 42 years.

Dr. Wendell received the honorary <sup>or</sup> degree of Doctor of Medicine from the University of Pennsylvania since 15 years or more after he had attended it as a student.

In 1823 he was chosen by the Legislature a Regent of the University, of which body he became Chancellor in 1842, and to which last office he had since been annually re-appointed.

To his large family of sons and daughters, his death, after so brief an illness and following so rapidly, after a life of great activity and nearly uniform health, is a very severe and painful shock.

Their sorrows are renewed, while scarcely assuaged, in this losing their surviving parent. They have to console them - the memory of his many virtues - his devoted attachment and affection for them and the respect and esteem in which he was held by his fellow citizens.

( From the Atlas.)

Death of Dr. Peter Wendell. - We are pained to announce the sudden death of Dr. Peter Wendell, of this city. Dr. Wendell had been confined to his house for a week past - was yesterday so much better as to encourage his family with the hope of recovery, but this morning gave way to a recurrence of the disease, which manifested the fatal symptoms of an organic affliction of the heart.

Dr. Wendell was a native born citizen of Albany, as a descendant of one of the old Dutch families who originally settled in this city. He exhibited, in his life, the best attributes of the national character - integrity, tenacity of purpose, prudence and energy. He acquired a high reputation in his profession, and an ample fortune in its pursuit. He was, through-out life, an active and zealous member of the Republican party, though never accepting office at its hands, Except to receive from the State Legislature, the honorary office of Regent of the University, of which body he was, on the death of the Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer, chosen Chancellor.

## University of the State of New York,

At a meeting of the Regents of the University, held Oct. 30, 1849, in consequence of the death of Peter Wendell, M. D., senior Regent and Chancellor of the University, it was unanimously.

Resolved; that the Regents have learnt with deep sorrow of the death of their fellow member, whose ~~long~~ services, unvarying and constant attention to the duties of his office, and unwearied exertions to promote the cause of sound learning through-out the State, have commanded their respect and esteem.

Resolved; as a tribute justly due to the memory of the deceased, that the Regents will attend his funeral.

Resolved, as well to enable the officers of their respective institutions to join in the funeral ceremonies, as to further signify their sense of their loss sustained, that the Regents hereby direct that the rooms of the library and of the State Cabinet of Natural History be closed on Wednesday afternoon.

Resolved, that a copy of the above resolutions be communicated to the family of the deceased, and also published in the journals of this city.

T. Romeyn Beck, Secy.

Daily Albany Argus. Oct. 31, 1849.

## Albany County Medical Society.

A special meeting of the Albany County Medical Society was held at the Common Council room in the City Hall, on Tuesday afternoon, at 5 o'clock. The President announced to the Society the death of Peter Wendell, M. D., and made some appropriate remarks on the many estimable qualities of the deceased. Where upon, the following resolutions were offered by T. Romeyn Beck, M. D. and unanimously adopted.

Resolved, that this Society receive with great regret, the announcement of the death of one of its earliest and most eminent members.

Resolved, that while the members most sincerely sympathize with his family and friends, in the severe loss they have experienced, they are still consoled by the recollections that the life of Dr. Wendell has been spent in the exercise of one of the best of human pursuits, and that his career has been distinguished by unwearied attention to the welfare of the sick, and by honest and successful endeavors to uphold and advance the usefulness and dignity of his profession.

Resolved, as a just tribute of respect <sup>to</sup> his memory, that this Society will attend the funeral ceremonies in a body, and wear the usual badge of mourning for 30 days.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be communicated to the family of the deceased, and also be published. By order.

Jas. McNaughton, Pres't.

B. A. Sheldon, Secretary.

Daily Albany Argus. Oct. 31, 1849.

Dr. Wendell was a descendant of one of the ancient Dutch families in the city of Albany. He was born on the 3d. of June, 1786, and acquired his early and classical education in the same place, having chosen medicine as his profession, he became a pupil of the late Dr. William McClelland, then one of the most eminent practitioners in Albany, and the first president of the State Medical Society. During the period of Dr. Wendell's pupilage, he attended two courses of lectures at the university of Pennsylvania, at a time when the professional chairs were filled by Shiffen, Wistar, Rush, Barton, and Woodhouse. The lectures of Rush were listened to by him with enthusiasm; they constituted the guide of his practice in after years, and such was the veneration for his character, that he named one of his sons after him.

Dr. Wendell returned from Philadelphia in the Spring of 1807, obtained a license to practice, and immediately opened an office in his native city. After a lapse of a very few months, no doubt could be entertained of his success. At this period, there were scarcely more than five practitioners of eminence in Albany, and all of them advanced beyond the meridian of life. Active and vigorous in his treatment, and extremely attentive to all his patients, he soon acquired the confidence of many, and with the advance of years, his practice extended to such a degree as to become very extensive and lucrative, probably, for a series of years, the most so of any in the city.

Dr. Wendell was chosen a permanent member of this society on the 7th of February, 1821, having previously served as a delegate from the Medical Society of the County of Albany. He was shortly after elected one of the censors, and held that office almost uninterruptedly until within a few years before his death.

continued

At the instance of the late Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer and several other of his friends, the trustees of the University of Pennsylvania conferred on him the honorary degree of doctor of Medicine, <sup>at</sup> some period between 1820 and 1830

Dr. Wendell was elected by the Legislature of the State as regent of the university, on the 23d. of February, 1823. To the duties of this office, he paid the attention that characterized all his public transactions, attending every meeting, and then becoming intimately conversant with all the details of the business. He gradually rose, through the death or resignation of older members, to be with one exception, (the Hon. Elisha Jenkins, ) the senior member of the board; and, on the death of James King, esq., he was accordingly chosen Chancellor of the University, on the 13th of January, 1842. This post he filled until his death.

During his term of office he bestowed much time and great attention towards the improvement and increase of the State Library and the State Cabinet of Natural History, both of which establishments were placed under the care of the Regents, after his appointment as Chancellor.

Dr. Wendell died at his residence in the city of Albany, on the 31st. of Oct. 1849, after a short illness.

Trans. of the Med. Society, of the State  
of New York. fw 1850 p-230

Peter F. Wendell

1805

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Peter F. Wendell 1805