WILLIAM HORTON

Was born in Goshen, New York, on the old homestead, May 16, 1796. His early education was obtained at the schools in Goshen. At the age of eighteen he entered the junior class of Union College, from which institution he was graduated. After his collegiate course he studied medicine and attended medical lectures at the University of New York during the palmy days of Mitchell and Hosack. He commenced the practice of his profession at the residence of his father, but soon afterwards moved to Goshen, where he continued the practice of medicine. He died on the homestead, December 1, 1844, at the untimely age of forty-seven. In an obituary notice of Dr. William Horton taken from the Goshen True Whig, we find the following: "He was a true surgeon, but was still more celebrated as a physician. By his skill and honorable bearing he early secured the confidence of his medical brethren, and was frequently called in consultation with the aged and experienced physicians of his day. He was remarkably successful in the treatment of fevers, and prepared a work relative to them, which, however, was never published. His pamphlet on dysentery and his geological reports are his only published works, and these are sufficient to establish his reputation as a profound thinker and a clear and powerful writer. In the midst of his career of usefulness as a physician he turned his attention to the study of botany, mineralogy, and geology, and soon became one of the most noted men of his day in these sciences. His great delight in these studies led him, at the age of thirty-seven, to relinquish the practice of medicine and devote himself wholly to these subjects. Dr. Horton was always rigidly moral, and never sacrificed principle to expediency."

He married April 9, 1817, Maria Ryneck, of Schenectady, and their children are Silas Ryneck, who married Sarah Jane, daughter of Jacob J. Decker, of Ulster County. He inherits something of his father's taste for geology and mineralogy, and a few years since discovered a new and rare mineral, which has since been named by Prof. George J. Brush, of Yale College, "Hortonalite;" Eugene, who married Anna T. Haley, and follows agricultural pursuits on the old homestead, being the fifth generation; William, a physician at Craigville, N. Y.; Egbert, died young; Emily, married J. J. Dolson; Margaret, married Jesse E. Moffatt; and Gertrude, married Brower C. Ward.

FROM History of Orange County, N. Y. page 145
E. M. Ruttember & L. H. Clark
Everts & Peck
Philadelphia 1881.
"William Horton was a descendant of Barnabas Horton, 1st of Southold, L. I. He was born in 1796 and at the age of 18 he entered the junior class at Union College from which institution he was graduated. He studied medicine at the University of New York and practiced his profession at Goshen, N. Y. He was married by Rev. Dr. Yates to Matia Ryneck of Schenectady on April 9, 1817. He died in his new home near Craigville, N. Y. in 1844. In an obituary notice is this "He was a surgeon and physician - he published a pamphlet on dysentery and was preparing a work on fevers when he died. He was one of the noted men of his day in botany, geology and mineralogy." He had the largest collection of minerals in this section of the state and was an assistant of Dr. Lewis Beck.

July 23, 1816 - Minutes of the Faculty: The Faculty recommended William Horton to the Board of Trustees for admission to the first degree in the arts. Mr. Horton entered as a junior in 1815."
UNION COLLEGE ALUMNI RECORD

1. Name in full: Dr. William Horton
   Class: 1815-1816

2. Born on May 16, 1796, at Esopus, Orange Co., New York
   (Give date and place in full)

3. Residences before entering college

4. Prepared for college at
   (If entering from another college, so state)

5. Entered: 1815
   (Give year, month and class if not freshman) Course

6. Left college: 1816, was graduated A.B.
   (Give approximate time of leaving)

7. College life: Under each head state kind of activity, any office held, and college year in which active or held office, thus (1) freshman, (2) sophomore, (3) junior, (4) senior.
   a. Athletic teams (class or varsity)
   b. Other activities (member or officer debating team, musical or dramatic association, press club, Concordians or Garnet boards, etc.)
   c. Fraternity, literary or social organizations of which a member
   d. Class offices
   e. College prizes and honors


10. Class reunions attended

11. Class reunions attended

12. College reunions and dinners attended

13. Member of: alumni association (if officer state office and date held)

14. Postgraduate office held in class or college organization (member or officer Graduate Council, Trustee of Union, class president or secretary, etc.)

15. Relatives (own or wife's) at Union (name, relationship, and class): Dr. John Horton of Schenectady. Was related to his wife. Do not know if they attended.

16. Parents' names in full (with country of ancestry, college, occupation, residence, date of birth and death, and other important facts):
   a. Father: William Horton, born in 1771, died in 1820, son of Silas Horton, a soldier in the Revolution and a descendant of Barneaud
   b. Mother: Phoebe Rummel of Schenectady, born in 1768, died 1851, daughter of Dr. Wm. Horton's great-great-grandfather. Sarah Wills, the planter, maid.

17. Brothers and sisters: (name, date of birth and death, college if other than Union)
   a. Matthew, two sisters died young

18. Married: Maria Ruprech, of Schenectady on 9 April 1817
   (name of wife, date and place of marriage; if wife dead, date of death)
   Died: 1879

19. Children (name, date of birth, college, if other than Union)
   a. Four children, Silas Ruprecht, 1820, was a chemist, observed Uranium, Eugenic 1824. Was a farmer named "Hortonite"
   b. Joseph, born 1827, was graduated from Westport, R.I., was intern at 1831, was subsequently killed in Newport, 1832
20. Business and professional career, business or professional connections and positions held. (Give each in order with dates when held and place.)

He began practicing medicine in town of Goshen, and his obituary states he who called on to perform all the difficult surgical operations in the village of Goshen and surrounding country. He was said to be skillful and successful in the hospital of St. John. He was president of the medical society of Orange County 1883, and one of the council. Member of Hudson Valley Medical Society. Treasurer of First Presbyterian Church of Goshen.

21. Public positions held in civil life (with dates) (Include such positions as trustee, director, vestryman, etc.)

Vice President and Director of the Goshen Library. President of the Medical Society of Orange County 1883, and one of the council. Member of Hudson Valley Medical Society. Treasurer of First Presbyterian Church of Goshen.

22. Military history and titles (with dates). (If in army or navy, enter under 20.)

23. Professional and scientific organizations of which a member (see above) and occupied by the Norton family. With some of the original names have been altered. Dated.

24. Social, civic, and literary organizations of which a member.

25. Literary productions (with date of publication and name of publisher). Sample of a survey of geology and geological reports. Made during a lifetime of fifty years. The title was "Life of a Glorious Immortality." Dated.

26. Religious denomination.

27. Political preference. Whig or Republican.

28. Recreations.

29. Other facts or remarks.

Dr. Norton's descendants are now scattered over the U.S. Some were in the World War. He was the son of Dr. and Mrs. Norton. His grandson was the late Dr. Eugene Norton of New York. His son, Dr. Norton, was a very successful surgeon.

30. Addresses; residential (a), business (b), with (c) dates when occupied. (Check the address to which mail should be sent.)

a. b. c.
   a. b. c.
   a. b. c.
   a. b. c.
   a. b. c.
   a. b. c.
   a. b. c.
   a. b. c.

Forwarding address, by which may always be reached.

31. Sources of information. A—self; B—History; C—Genealogy of Orange Co.; D—Records; E—Family.
1816  WILLIAM HORTON

Married:—On Wednesday evening last, by the Rev. Dr. Yates, Mr. William Horton, of Goshen, Orange County, to Miss Maria Rynex, of this city.

The Cabinet,
April 16 (Wed.), 1817
CLASS OF 1816.

WILLIAM HORTON.

MARRIED: On Wednesday evening last, by the Rev. Dr. Yates, William Horton, of Goshen, Orange Co., to Miss Maria Rynex, of this city.

The Cabinet
Schenectady
April 16, 1817.

WILLIAM HORTON, 1816, of Goshen, N.Y., was a member of the Adelphic Society.
Adelphc Catalogue 1830 (Died: 1846)
Dr. Charles M. Culver:

My dear sir:

Thank you for your interest you are taking in my grandfather's record. His name was William Horton; sometimes he added Jr. as he was a son of William Horton. He was a descendant of Ebenezer Horton 1st of Southold, L.I. "He was born 1796; at the age of 18 he entered the junior class at Union College, from which institution he was graduated. He studied medicine at the University of New York. He practiced his profession at Goshen, N. Y. He was married by Rev. Dr. Yates to Maria Ryneck of Schenectady on April 6, 1817. "(?) This was about the time he graduated. Doubtless he was graduated in the class of 1817. He died in his new home near Craigville, N. Y. in 1844. In an obituary notice is this: "He was a surgeon and physician -- He published a pamphlet on dysentery and was preparing a work on fevers when he died. He was one of the noted men of his day in botany, geology and mineralogy. "He had the largest collection of minerals in this section of the state. And, as I told you, was an assistant of Dr. Lewis Beck. He had a son Dr. William Horton to whom he left his medical works and records of college work &c. - and those have been nearly all lost since the death of his son, years ago. There is no one living now of the older generation. My grandmother lived until 1879, and she knew much of the early history of Schenectady, as her people were among the first settlers.

What I am anxious to know is something of my grandfather's college record at Union, who were his classmates, what was his standing in his class? Did he belong to any fraternity? He was a friend of Wm. Henry Seward. He must have known the Clintons. He had a picture of Dr. Nott and a book of his sermons or lectures. I have the of a poem 'Tripoli' a poem by Luther Halsey, Jr. delivered at the Adelphi Anniversary at Union College 1813 (1812).

This is a copy made by Wm. Horton. Dr. Halsey was pastor of Blooming Grove church when the church was built, in 1823, the same church I attend now. One story my grandmother often told me when she was a girl she was looking over the list of names of the new students at Union with her cousin Evey. Afterwards married M. Van Guysling, the father of Mrs. (Col. Robert Furman of Schenectady). When they came to the name Wm. Horton Grandmother said 'I will take that one, he has the best name on the list.' Then some one knocked and a young man at the door said he was looking for a place to board while he was at college; his name was Wm. Horton - and so they were married when he graduated. -- Pardon me for these olden days I recall just now, I shall be very grateful to learn something of my grandfather at Union.

Very sincerely

(Mrs. W. V.) Margaret H. Seaman
Washingtonville, N.Y.

October 19, 1925.

Dr. C. W. Culver,

My dear Sir -

Thank you many times for your interest in getting information about William Horton, Jr. I am enclosing copy of letter sent me and hope roof of Walden will help. I have a son, Raymond Valentine Seaman, who is much interested in his great grandfather as he hopes to take a medical course some day. At present he is principal of the High School at Gilbertsville, N.Y. He learned there were a number of young men entered Union where grandfather was there and during the next few years - perhaps from 1817 to 1825, and he wonders why they all entered Union (they are all from this neighborhood) but there is no one to tell him.

I thank you again.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Margaret Seaman