

DR. SIMON BARUCH, LONG ILL, DIES AT 80

**Pioneer in Scientific Hydro-
therapy in America Was
Father of Financier.**

SURGEON IN SOUTHERN ARMY

**Originator of Free Public Baths
Here Gave Valuable Services in
Camps During the War.**

Dr. Simon Baruch, one of America's distinguished physicians, authority on hydrotherapy, and father of Bernard M. Baruch, financier, died shortly after 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon at his residence, 51 West Seventieth Street, after suffering for several months from an affection of the lungs that was complicated by heart disease. Funeral services will be held at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning at the West End Synagogue, 160 West Eighty-second Street. The ceremony will be a simple one in accordance with Dr. Baruch's wishes.

Dr. Simon Baruch's activities as consulting physician and writer on medical subjects extended over a period of nearly sixty years. He was widely known as a specialist in chronic diseases and in hydrotherapy.

Dr. Baruch was born in Schwesens, Germany, on July 29, 1840. He got his preliminary education at the Royal Gymnasium in Posen, Germany. In his youth he came to the United States and completed his education at the Medical College of Virginia, from which he was graduated in 1862.

Surgeon in Confederate Army.

When the Civil War started Dr. Baruch joined the Confederate Army under General Robert E. Lee and was assigned as a surgeon in the field, with the rank of Captain. In the battle of Bull Run the brigade to which he was attached was sent to aid Stonewall Jackson's corps, which had gotten into the rear of Pope's Army of the Potomac. When the Confederate troops withdrew Dr. Baruch was left in charge of threescore wounded men in a church at Boonsboro and was captured, with the wounded men, by the Union troops.

After several months' imprisonment there was an exchange of prisoners and Dr. Baruch took the field again with the Confederate Army. On the third day of the battle of Gettysburg he was again taken prisoner while attending to the wounded. He was sent to Fort McHenry.

During the sixteen years that followed the close of the war Dr. Baruch practised medicine in Camden, S. C. Throughout that period he served as President of the South Carolina Medical Association and as Chairman of the State Board of Health. In 1867 he discovered the decolorizing effect of the hyposulphites upon tincture of iodine.

Dr. Baruch removed to this city in 1881, where he became a consulting physician of wide repute in chronic cases. In 1889 he diagnosed the first recorded case of perforating appendicitis successfully operated on, an achievement that was reported by Dr. Sands in The New York Medical Journal. Professor J. A. Wyeth stated before the Academy of Medicine that "the profession and humanity owe more to Dr. Baruch than to any other one man for the development of surgery of appendicitis."

Introduced Public Baths.

It was through Dr. Baruch's efforts that free public baths were established in this city, shortly after his investigation of the public baths in Germany, in 1889. There were no public baths in the United States when he wrote in that year a plea in the form of an editorial in a medical journal, The Times and Register. He was then Chairman of the Committee on Hygiene of the New York Medical Society. It was not until 1895, however, that the Legislature came to his assistance with a bill making it possible for Boards of Health to order a certain number of public baths. Much opposition arose, but in 1901 the Rivington Street bath, first of its kind in the country, was established. The bath demonstrated its usefulness at once and others were soon established. Sixteen years later a bronze tablet commemorating the work was placed in the Rivington Street bath.

Dr. Baruch is also regarded as the pioneer of scientific hydrotherapy in America. He became professor of hydrotherapy at the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Baruch lived to see wonderful things accomplished through hydrotherapy, the cure of disease through the use of water. He became a worldwide authority on this subject, and his book, "The Principles and Practices of Hydrotherapy," in three editions, has been translated and published in France and Germany. He is also author of "The Uses of Water in Modern Medicine."

During the war Dr. Baruch did much valuable work for the United States Public Health Service. He visited Camp Devens several times in connection with the hydrotherapeutic plant installed there and Camp Upton to demonstrate the water treatment for pneumonia, and spoke to physicians and nurses at many other camps on the vital importance of water, rest, air, food and exercise in battling with disease. Many of his lectures were given in Washington, in army and naval hospitals and before the army and navy medical schools.

During the war Dr. Baruch, in a newspaper article, drew a comparison between the military and sanitary history of the country to show there were "pacifists" in medical affairs as well as in military affairs.

Medical Pacifists Condemned.

"We find in medicine," he wrote, "the same maudlin opposition to war against disease as you find today among pacifists. The former are moved to tears by the alleged cruelties to guinea pigs, rabbits, dogs and other negligible animals which are used for the purpose of studying antidotes to infectious diseases, but they are oblivious to the suffering of those afflicted by those diseases and the sorrows of those whom death has deprived of relatives and friends through the large mortality of those diseases and also to the economic losses resulting from the latter."

"The nonmedical opponents protest against war on smallpox, saying that we introduce disease into the human body, just as the civilian pacifists say today that universal military training would stimulate a warlike spirit among our peaceful citizens. You know that smallpox has almost been abolished by vaccination, and yet these maudlin reformers continue their tirades upon vaccination. Vivisection, which horrifies them, has enlightened the medical profession upon the cause and treatment of

many fatal diseases, and thus prepared the way for abolishing them."

When the prohibition question was before the country Dr. Baruch asserted that he favored a law against the importation, manufacture and sale of distilled liquors, but that he believed in the production of beer of low alcoholic percentage.

Dr. Baruch married in 1867 Miss Isabel Wolfe of Winnsboro, S. C. In 1917 they celebrated their golden wedding at Sherry's, with more than 1,000 guests attending. Receiving with Dr. and Mrs. Baruch were their four sons, Bernard M. Baruch, Chairman during the war of the Council of National Defense; Dr. and Mrs. Herman B. Baruch, Mr. and Mrs. Hartwig N. Baruch and Mr. and Mrs. Salling W. Baruch. Eight of the nine grandchildren were in the family group.