



DR. DAVID S. MAYNARD IN 1865.

DAVID SWINSON MAYNARD.

His Birth, Ancestry, Education.

MARCH 22d, 1808, a child was born at or near the town of Castleton, Rutland County, in the State of Vermont, to whom was given the name David Swinson Maynard, the middle name being the family name on the side of his mother. The Maynards and the Swinsons were of strong American stock. The two families had long been acquainted, having lived in the same neighborhood, fought in the same wars, educated and reared their children together, intermarried, and otherwise associated in the many ways incident to the life and times of the eighteenth century, first in the British Province and later in the young American possession and State in which their lots had been cast. It is related that one of the young Maynards and one of the young Swinsons, both of whom became progenitors of the boy referred to in the opening sentence, were impressed on a British ship, commanded by Capt. Burgoyne, at the outbreak of the Revolutionary war. When they signified their desire to go on shore they were forcibly detained, and were told that King George needed their services, and intended to have them, in putting down the rebellion recently inaugurated by their countrymen in Massachusetts and other Colonies. Swinson and Maynard counseled [sic] together and at length succeeded in leaving the ship in the darkness, with nothing but their underclothing, barefooted, getting on land wet, cold and all but exhausted. A Scotch woman, who could talk Gaelic only, befriended them, and with her help they were enabled to reach the camp of General Washington, where both enlisted in the Continental army, in which they remained to the end of the long struggle then in the days of its beginning.

David S. Maynard had three sisters. All three educated as well as the schools of the day permitted. With the Sisters, however, this memoir has no more to do. When his course in the schools had been completed, young Maynard began the study of medicine. Dr. Woodward was his instructor, the boy serving the doctor's office and giving general help while acquiring the information needed for the practices of his chosen profession. Upon completing his time and course the young physician was given a diploma, and for forty-four years following was in more or less active practice. Presumably his services were not much sought or richly compensated in the community where he had been

reared, for he soon after moved west, settling in Lorain County, Ohio and doing business in and near Cleveland, then a place of four or five thousand inhabitants, now a city with on hundred times as many.

BEFORE going to Ohio, tho, the student and doctor had adventures and troubles such as usually fall on the lot of active, promising young men. In his first love affair there was a misunderstanding and a fallout. The young lady is said to have been most winning and lovable. In nowise discouraged, Maynard promptly paid court to another girl, and in 1828 on the 28th of August at twenty years of age, he and Lydia A. Rickey were married. Shortly afterwards they left Vermont for the place on Lake Erie that has since become the seventh city in population in the United States. At the new home, a few miles west of Cleveland, two children were born to them-a son, Henry C., and a daughter, Frances J., who subsequently became Mrs. Patterson, and is still living.

There the couple dwelt more than a score of years. He was energetic, and he made efforts and investments in various directions. Of these the most notable was the establishment of a medical school in which at one time were one hundred and fifty students. With him in this enterprise were Doctors Mauzey and Ackley. Beginning about that time and extending up to the period of the civil war, there was much trouble with the currency, and in 1837 occurred a great financial crash and crisis in which the business of the nation was rent and broken as never before, the effect upon the people being direful indeed. The banks were nearly all closed, few ever again being reopened, and the banks that succeeded them for twenty years had smaller deposits than had the banks that had failed in 1837. And this while Ohio was rapidly increasing in population. The resultant loss of confidence, the lack of money and the bad trade conditions generally prevalent made it exceedingly difficult for men to carry on their commercial undertakings. Especially was this true of men like Maynard who were free and open-handed, helpful of others, careless of the morrow, and who were heavily leaned upon by acquaintances in the support of their schemes. Maynard became responsible for another man to the extent of \$30,000. The business failed, and in the wreck Maynard was financially ruined. It was impossible for him there to recover and he began to look longingly towards California as the region of future hope and wealth. In 1840 there had been a great rush of men by water and land to the

new region of gold. In this he had been unable to join, but he now resolved to be among those who would go the following year. In coming to this determination he was moved also by the disaffection of his wife, whose nagging and faultfinding had become well-nigh unendurable. He collected such moneys as he could, simplified his affairs, and fixed his wife and now two grown children as comfortably as possible, leaving everything to them but the merest pittance. He might have gone to California more easily and quickly by steamer, but it would have cost him about five hundred dollars, and he felt that he could not afford it either on his own account or that of his family. He believed that he could work his way across the continent without money, by making himself useful to other immigrants, and that under the circumstances, it was his duty to go this way if he went.

Interesting Narrative of a Long and Perilous Journey.

OF the five months' journey to the Pacific the Doctor left account in his diary, which is used in the pages following. It was evidently inconvenient for him to write, as the daily spaces were small, three to the page, and there was much to do on the way, but between the lines and the times much can now be seen and read that does not appear in letters and words upon the paper. The first entry is that of Tuesday, April 9, 1850, here given: