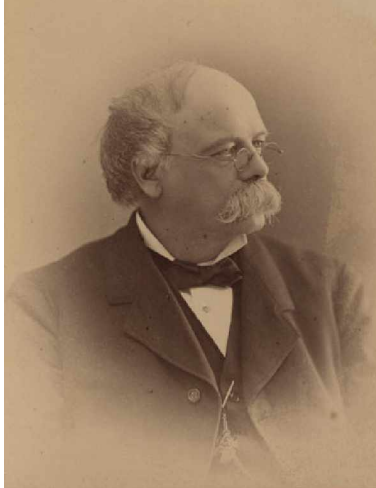


Dr. Roger Williams Pease

Compiled by R.'W.'. Gary L. Heinmiller
Director, Onondaga & Oswego Masonic Districts Historical Societies [OMDHS]
www.omdhs.syracusemasons.com
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Dr. Roger Williams Pease, [7C3R], b. in Cazenovia, NY, 31 May 1828; d. 28 May 1886, Syracuse, NY; bur. Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, Sect 14 plot 110; son of David Pease (1785-) and Dorcas Ayers (1787-1853); m. Hannah Fuller, b. 30 Apr 1829, England; d. 13 Nov 1893).



The home of Dr. and Mrs. Pease, situated on Montgomery Street where the Masonic Temple stood, was widely known for its hospitality. Not only the friends of host and hostess were welcomed but every visiting celebrity for many years was entertained in their home. Dr. Pease was the founder of St. Joseph's Hospital and during the early days of that institution gave freely of his time and skill to patients needing his help. He and his family were ardent abolitionists. It was Dr. Pease working with Dr. Samuel J. May in the Jerry Rescue, who attended the fleeing slave when he was injured. Early suffragists found a sympathetic welcome in the Pease home, the daughters of the house assisted in their entertainment.

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSln=pease&GSiman=1&GScid=65510&GRid=55651667&>

Children:

- i. Frank Williams Pease b. 21 Jan 1859; d. 13 Aug 1859
- ii. Dr. Henry Hale Pease b. 26 Apr 1860; d. 15 Mar 1909
- iii. Amelia Fuller Pease b. 17 Dec 1871; d. 13 Aug 1941
- iv. Mary Lydia Pease b. 20 Nov 1864, Baltimore, MD; d. 10 May 1887, Syracuse, NY; m. Dr. Scott Owen, b. 13 Oct 1862; d. 3 Jan 1899.

In 1855, Company F was formed on Pompey Hill as the Pompey Guard. A German company was organized in 1857 as the Hawley Guard. J. Dean Hawley became major in 1858, and **Dr. Roger W. Pease, adjutant.**

PEASE, ROGER W. - Age 34 years. Enrolled [12th NY Inf. Vols.], 13 May 1861, at Elmira; mustered in as surgeon, same date, to serve three months; resigned, 27 Aug 1861; subsequent service as surgeon in Tenth New York Cavalry; commissioned surgeon, 4 Jul 1861, with rank from 7 May 1861, original.

PEASE, ROGER W. - Age 33 years. Enrolled [10th NY Cav.], 20 Nov 1861, at Elmira; mustered in as surgeon, 20 Nov 1861, to serve three years; mustered out, 30 Oct 1863, at Baltimore, MD; appointed assistant surgeon, U . S. Volunteers. Commissioned surgeon, 7 Jan 1862, with rank from 20 Nov 1861, original.

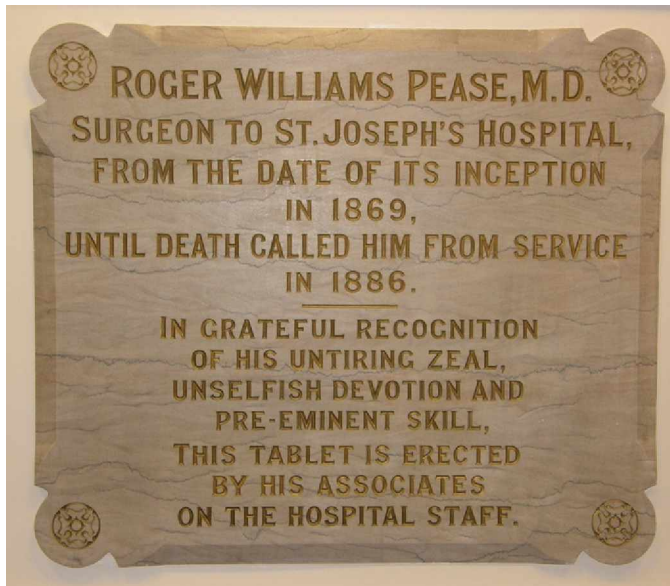
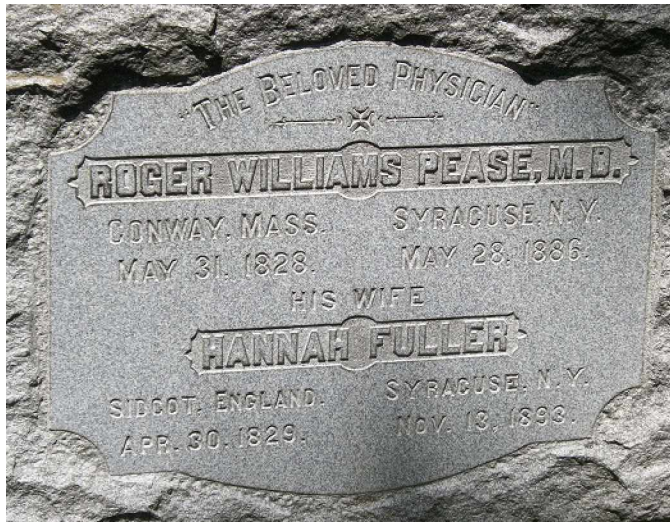
Surgeon Pease, of the Onondaga regiment, (who by the way, is a physician and gentleman of very high standing,) writes from Washington:

"This war must be conducted on more intelligent principles, or still greater disasters await it. When will men clothed in a little brief authority cease to play fantastic tricks? An idiot ought to know that we can not march twenty miles in six hours, eating but two or three crackers and an ounce or two of raw pork, and then put forth constant, unremitting effort for eight more weary hours—such hours and such work as were assigned to the Twelfth Volunteers on the terrible 18th."

<http://www.ebooksread.com/authors-eng/annie-c-maltbie/picturesque-oakwood--its-past-and-present-associations-volume-2-tla/page-6-picturesque-oakwood--its-past-and-present-associations-volume-2-tla.shtml>

Picturesque Oakwood : its past and present associations (Volume 2), by Annie C. Maltbie.

Perhaps there is no more strikingly-picturesque illustration given in this volume than that of the massive and elegant monument erected to the memory of Doctor Roger W. Pease. Doctor Pease was born in Conway, MA, May 31, 1828. He studied medicine and surgery at Geneva, NY, graduated in 1848 and located in Syracuse. The greatest work of his life is perhaps to be found in the military records of the war of the Rebellion. He enlisted early as surgeon of the Twelfth New York Volunteers. Many a volume of "Hospital Sketches" could be written of the almost marvelous work he accomplished during his service. Transferred from place to place, never had man better opportunity for displaying his ability and seldom had man been better equipped for such a test of skill and physical endurance. After nearly three years of most heroic service he was mustered out at Baltimore with the rank of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel. He was similarly honored by this State for his "zeal, fidelity and courage." An enthusiast in his profession, a lover of all the sciences, genial, wholesome and delightful, when he died he left a great void in the community but a greater one in the home he loved. He died May 28, 1886.



Tablet is displayed in a hallway at St. Joseph's hospital in Syracuse, NY.

Dr. Henry Hale Pease



Dr. Henry Hale Pease, did indeed occupy the address of 320 Montgomery Street prior to the demolition of his home for the building of the Syracuse Masonic Temple. A Masonic membership has not been found for Dr. Pease (b. 26 Apr 1860, Syracuse) at this writing, but it is quite possible that he could have belonged to one of the several lodges in the City at the time. He was the son of **Roger Williams Pease** and Hannah Fuller.

< 320 Montgomery Street, ca 1880, residence and office of Dr. Henry H. Pease

Roger W. Pease is listed as member no. 43, GL no. 55847, in the Register of **Syracuse Lodge No. 501**:

Initiated 28 Jun 1855; Passed 6 Sep 1855; Raised 11 Oct 1855; he affiliated to Syracuse 501 from **Syracuse Lodge No. 102** on 20 Mar 1861. Physician. Suspended 24 Apr 1867. He is the only Pease in the Syracuse 501 Register.

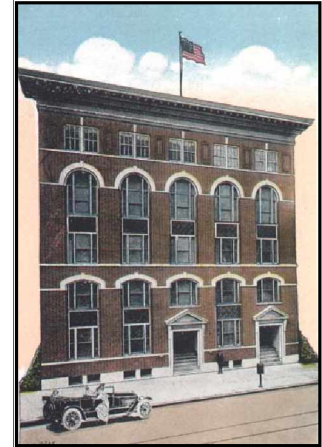
Brother Roger W. Pease was born 31 May 1828 in Conway, MA; d. 28 May 1886 in Syracuse, NY; m. Jan 26, 1858 in Syracuse, Hannah Fuller. She was the daughter of James C. Fuller the noted Abolitionist of Skaneateles, NY. Roger W. Pease graduated from the College of Medicine and

Surgery in Geneva, NY, 25 Jan 1848, and practiced in Syracuse. During the Civil War, he was a surgeon with the 12th New York Infantry, connected to the Army of the Potomac in May 1861. This Regiment was at the battle at Blackburn's Ford 18 Jul 1861, among others.

Masonic Temple [1917] on the former site of the residence of Dr. Henry H. Pease >

< This has since been redeveloped into the Masonic Lofts

The architect of this Temple was Bro. Thomas Walker Gaggin, raised in Central City Lodge 305 on 25 Mar 1913. Further details about the Masonic Temple may be seen at <http://syracusetheandnow.org/Dwntwn/MontgmySt/MasonicTemple.htm>



After a brief retirement, Doctor Pease joined the 10th New York Cavalry as a Major Surgeon in Nov 1861, and spent the winter in Gettysburg. In Apr 1862 he organized the 1200 bed Patterson Park US Hospital at Baltimore. The following year, he was at the battle of Fredericksburg under Major General Burnside. On 25 May 1863, Surgeon Pease was made Medical Inspector of the Cavalry Corps by General Stoneman, and organized a field hospital at Aquia Creek. In the expedition of General Philip H. Sheridan towards the Virginia Central Railroad, Pease transported over 400 wounded

soldiers nearly 200 miles to the White House using only twelve ambulances, and any vehicle he could obtain. He also participated in the Battles of Richmond, Old Tavern and Cold Harbor. The results of exposure in all of the battles impaired Surgeon Pease's health, forcing him to resign from the field. He was placed in command of the Newton US General Hospital, and later, the Charlestown, West Virginia Hospital. He was mustered out as a Brevet Lieutenant Colonel, 7 Oct 1865. After the War, he resumed his practice in Syracuse.

ref: <http://archiver.rootsweb.com/th/read/PEASE/2000-09/0969911460>

Roger W. Pease, Tenth Cavalry, whose services were so highly appreciated that he was promoted to be Medical Director of the Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Potomac . . . (from "Honors of the Empire State in the War of the Rebellion," by Thomas Seaman Townsend, 1889, page 49)

In the yearbook of Syracuse University, "The Onondagan," of 1886, Roger W. Pease, is listed as: Professor of Operative and Clinical Surgery, residing at 36 Montgomery Street, Syracuse, NY (pg. 21)

In 1872 the Geneva Medical College was transformed into the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Syracuse University; Roger W. Pease served on the Committee which brought this transformation about. (pg. 57).

A Genealogical and Historical Record of the Descendants of John Pease, Sen, by S. Bowles, 1869. page 331.

<http://books.google.com/books?id=0FVJAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA331&dq=%22roger+w.+pease%22&hl=en&sa=X&ei=i3VIT9DFIam90QGc-tCUDq&ved=0CFUQ6AEwBg#v=onepage&q=%22roger%20w.%20pease%22&f=false>

1546. **Brevet Lieutenant Colonel ROGER W. PEASE, M. D.**, 7 (David,6 David,5 Cummings,4 Isaac,3 John,2 Robert,1) brother of the preceding, was born at Conway, MA, 31 May 1828; m. Hannah Fuller, d/o James C. Fuller of Skaneateles, NY, 26 Jan 1858. He graduated at the College of Medicine and Surgery at Geneva, NY, 25 Jan 1848, and soon after commenced the practice of a physician and surgeon at Syracuse, NY.

Dr. Pease was among the first to respond to the call of his State and his country during the late war for the suppression of the rebellion. He left a large and successful practice which his skill and industry had gained him at Syracuse, and joined the 12th Regiment of NY Volunteer Infantry, as surgeon. This regiment was connected with what was afterwards called the Army of the Potomac. It was in the Fourth Brigade of the 1st Division of McDowell's Corps, and was in the advance at the commencement of the

first campaign of the Army of the Potomac, and participated in the first day's fight with the enemy at Blackburn's Ford, 18 Jul 1861, three days before the disastrous fight at Bull Run. The contest was a sanguinary one, and it is claimed for our kinsman that he had the honor of dressing the first wound caused by the enemy in that army, though the wounded soldier was not a member of the Twelfth New York Regiment.

It appears that the division was checked in its advance on that day by the fire of the enemy's batteries. To silence them, General David Tyler, commander of the division, ordered forward the Fourth Brigade, including Captain Bracket's squadron of the 2nd US Cavalry, and two twelve-pounder howitzers commanded by Captain Ayres. The first shot from the enemy's guns struck Sergeant Rowhan of Captain Bracket's squadron. As it was surgeon Pease's fortune to be standing near the wounded soldier at the time, he had the satisfaction of dressing his wound, and probably the first made on that day. Soon after this the skirmishing became general.

Immediately after dressing Sergeant Rowhan's wound, Surgeon Pease established a field hospital in a ravine directly under the fire of the enemy. At this place he dressed the wound of the heroic Lieutenant Lorain of Sherman's battery. The 12th NY Regiment was not engaged with the enemy on the 21st, yet there was abundant work found for its surgeon on that memorable day. Owing to the severe labors of this short campaign and the poisonous atmosphere of the Potomac marshes, Surgeon Pease was obliged to resign his position August 30, following, and return home.

After a few months of rest his health became restored and he returned to the army, 19 Nov 1861, as surgeon of the 10th NY Cavalry. He spent the following winter at Gettysburg, Pa. He was detached from his regiment, 19 Apr 1862, and ordered to report to Major-General Dix at Baltimore, MD. Here he was assigned to the Patterson Park United States Hospital which he organized with twelve hundred beds. In November following he again returned to the field and participated in the battle at Fredericksburg, December 13, under Major-General Burnside.

25 Feb 1863, Surgeon Pease was made Medical Inspector of the cavalry corps then being organized by General Stoneman, and was placed on his staff. When General Stoneman was relieved from command by General Pleasanton, he was retained in the same position by the latter. During the celebrated Stoneman raid and Major-General Hooker's campaign, Surgeon Pease was ordered to organize a Cavalry Corps Hospital at Aquia Creek. This was maintained as a field hospital during the entire existence of the cavalry corps, and as such it maintained a high reputation.

The performance of this last order did not prevent Surgeon Pease from being present and participating in the engagement at Chancellorsville. He was with his corps in the battles at Gettysburg, July 1st, 2d and 3d, and joined in the pursuit of the enemy at Boonsboro, MD. At this place he was ordered by Surgeon Pancoast, Medical Director of the cavalry corps, to take charge of the field hospitals and to concentrate them at Boonsboro. When this was done he joined the army at Salem and participated in the engagements which drove the enemy across the Rapidan.

After this Surgeon Pease was transferred to the corps of surgeons of volunteers, and was ordered to report to the General commanding the Middle Department at Baltimore. 2 Dec 1863, he was ordered to relieve Surgeon Pancoast and he again returned to the field as Medical Director of the corps which he had so long served as Medical Inspector. During the winter of 1863 and '64, the cavalry corps was reorganized and General Philip H. Sheridan was placed in command, without any change in its Medical Director.

Our space will not allow us to mention the many bold and daring adventures and hard fought battles of the cavalry corps under its new commander during the successful campaign of 1864, and while our kinsman was connected with it. The whole responsibility of the medical and surgical department rested on the Medical Director. He must provide medical stores, hospitals and means of transportation for the sick and wounded. Surrounded on every side by the enemy in an enemy's country, as the cavalry corps often found themselves, this latter responsibility was the most difficult. In the expedition of General Sheridan towards the Virginia Central Railroad, and after the engagement with the enemy, June 12, and 13, at Trevillion Station, Surgeon Pease had four hundred wounded soldiers to transport to the White House, a distance of nearly two hundred miles and he had only twelve ambulances to do it with. But by scouring the enemy's country and seizing every available vehicle that could be found, and with the aid of thirty baggage wagons all were conducted safely beyond the reach of the enemy and the consequent sufferings of those who had the misfortune to become prisoners of war to the enemy.

During the early part of the campaign against Richmond in 1864, - Surgeon Pease at one time became so disabled as to be unfitted for riding in the saddle, and he was obliged to ask to be temporarily relieved and to be put on other duty. He was accordingly given in charge one of the first trains of wounded soldiers (three thousand five hundred in number) which were taken from the battle-fields of the Wilderness and removed to Fredericksburg. He remained at Fredericksburg for a short time as Inspector of Hospitals, but again returned to his corps in time to participate in the battles of Old Tavern and Cold Harbor.

In consequence of exposures in the field for nearly two years and a half, Surgeon Pease's health became so much impaired that he was compelled to ask to be permanently relieved from his position. His request was granted, and on the 8th of August he was ordered to Baltimore again and was placed in charge of the Newton United States General Hospital. About one year from that time he was ordered to Charlestown, West Virginia, to close the hospital in that place and dispose of the property. This being done, Dr. Pease again returned to Baltimore and was mustered out of service, 1 Oct 1865, with the rank of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel.

Since Dr. Pease's return to his practice in Syracuse, NY, he has received a commission from the Governor of his State with the rank of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel, bearing date 6 Sep 1866. The commission states that it is "for faithful and meritorious services in the late war, and as a testimonial, for zeal, fidelity and courage, with which you have maintained the honor of the State of New York in her efforts to enforce the Laws of the United States."

His children were:

- 3106. 1. Frank W., b. at Syracuse, NY, 21 Jan 1859; d. 13 Aug 1859.
- 3107. 2. Henry H., b. at Syracuse, 26 Apr 1860.
- 3108. 3. Amelia F., b. at Syracuse, 17 Dec 1861.
- 3109. 4. Mary E., b. at Baltimore, MD, 20 Nov 1864.

http://www.sjhsyr.org/sjhhc/pdf/pub_CareConnSum08.pdf

St. Joseph's Caring Connection – Vol. 5, No. 2; Summer 2008

There's a story about Roger W. Pease, MD, a founding member of St. Joseph's Hospital's medical staff, that is hard to verify given the lack of any primary sources, but it may well be that his later behavior is all the confirmation needed.

Details are scarce about his early life, but he lived in Cazenovia, NY, and attended the Cazenovia Seminary, now Cazenovia College, before enlisting in the 12th New York Infantry on May 13, 1861. The 12th melded into the 10th New York Cavalry with Dr. Pease as its surgeon. As part of the Army of the Potomac, the 10th fought in scores of major and minor battles until it was dissolved in Syracuse in early August 1865.

Dr. Pease had seen the horrible aftermaths of Gettysburg and Chancellorsville. The lesser battles, with names like Deep Bottom, Sailor's Creek and Cold Harbor took casualties, too. But it was the Battle of Trevilian Station, VA, that imprinted Dr. Pease's character for the remainder of his life.

The story is told that, following the battle, Dr. Pease gathered 500 wounded and marched them to swampy, mosquito- and fever-ridden Washington, DC, to find rest. On his orders, those who were able also carried the wounded who wore the gray wool of the Confederacy as well as their brethren in Union blue. The lawn of the White House had served as a hospital early in the war, and many public buildings became hospitals as the number of wounded blossomed. Dr. Pease, it is said, convinced Abraham Lincoln to open the White House itself to his wounded. Perhaps Dr. Pease was moved for the rest of his life by what he saw there. Perhaps he was influenced by what he read later in Walt Whitman's *Drum Taps*, inspired by the poet's service as a Civil War nurse to both sides in and around Washington.



Dr. Pease was brevetted out of the service as a Lieutenant Colonel in August 1865 in Syracuse. It was four years later that he joined with the Sisters of St. Francis as St. Joseph's Hospital's first surgeon. As chief of surgery for the hospital until his death in 1886, he was dedicated to serving the unserved from Syracuse's streets.

In an 1874 newspaper article covering a public meeting aimed at raising money for St. Joseph's, the reporter wrote: "With the exception of the House of the Good Shepherd, it is the only hospital that Syracuse has. If a man breaks his leg, there is no other place for him to go but there." It may have been the philosophy of the sisters who founded the hospital, but they had a willing cohort in surgeon Roger Pease.

Besides serving as chief surgeon, he devoted his energy and persuasive skills to keep the hospital on a sound fiscal footing. His wife, Hannah, often referred to as "Mrs. Dr. Pease," was a leader of the hospital's "Ladies' Aid Society." His daughters, Minnie and Lily, even starred in a production of *Cinderella* during a fund-raising fair for the hospital.

Dr. Pease also found time to teach his skills to others at what is now the Upstate Medical University from 1872 until his death. Wrote the college's dean: "He was the least selfish man and the least self-centered man I ever knew.... As a surgeon, he was a diagnostician of unusual keenness, and an operator whose exquisite skill I never saw equaled in any clinic in any medical center."

Perhaps Dr. Pease's obituary in the June 1, 1886, *Syracuse Journal* summed up his life and confirmed his actions during the war as a caregiver to both sides better than anything: "In whatever capacity he found himself able to assist the hospital, whether in placing it upon a strong financial basis or ministering to the wants of the poorest sufferer asking aid, were it midday or midnight, his work was always done most cheerfully and thoroughly."

In recognition of St. Joseph's medical staff and Dr. Pease's legacy, St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center's Physician Engagement Team created the Dr. Roger Pease Award. The award will be given annually to a physician who is nominated by his or her colleagues for exhibiting clinical expertise, social responsibility and leadership. Nominations for the first award will be accepted this October [2008], with the award being presented in January 2009 at the annual medical staff meeting.