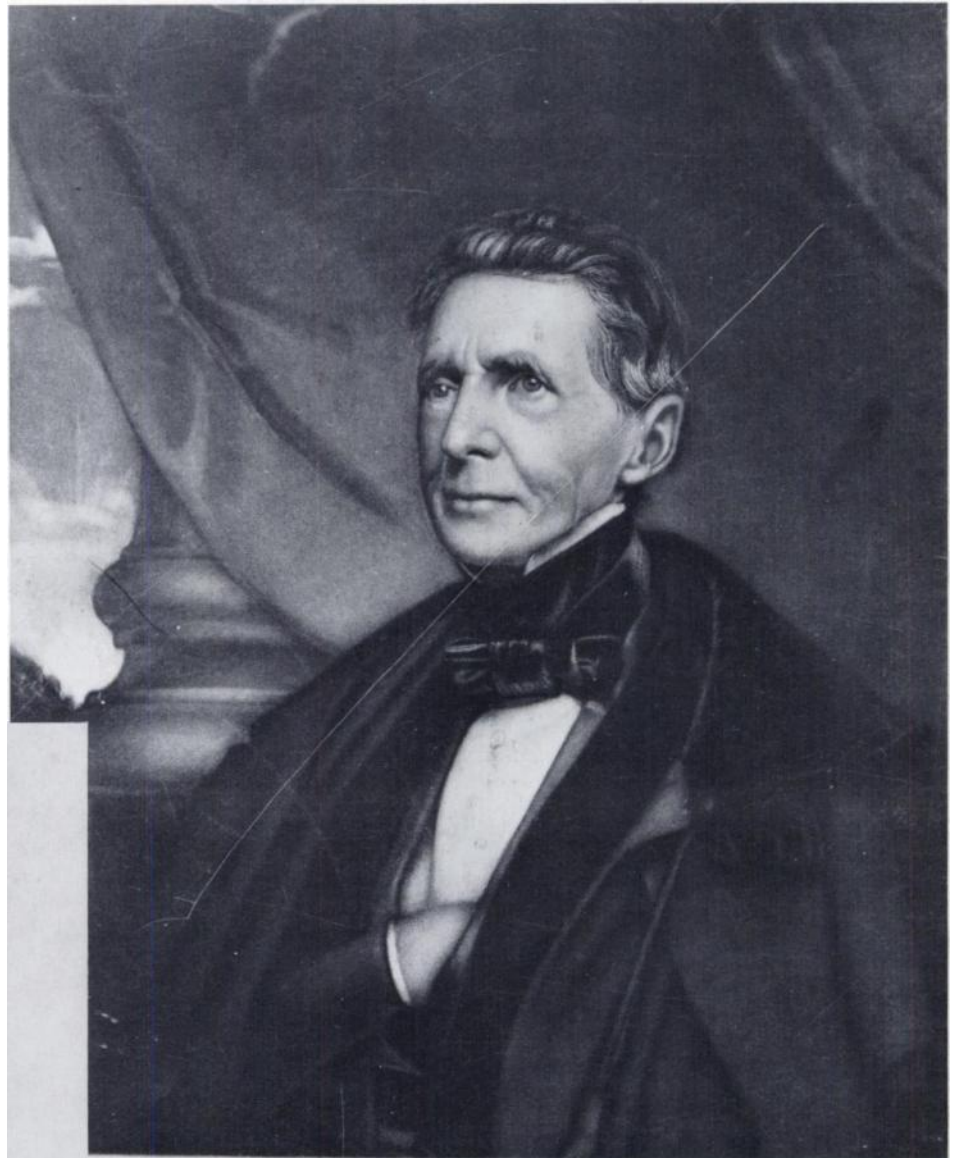




# Cancer Research

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**SURGICAL OBSERVATIONS**

**TUMOURS,**

**CASES AND OPERATIONS.**

BY

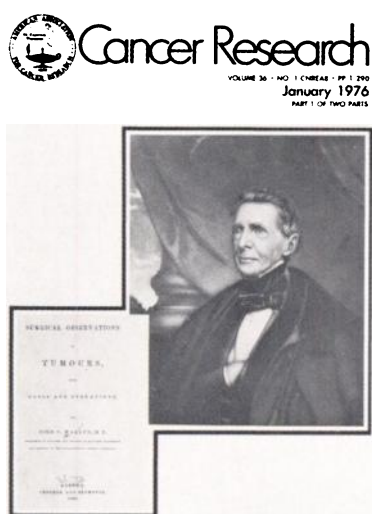
**JOHN C. WARREN, M. D.**

PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY AND SURGERY IN HARVARD UNIVERSITY,  
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BOSTON:  
CROCKER AND BREWSTER.  
1887.

# COVER LEGEND

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The first book on tumors published in the United States of America was *Surgical Observations on Tumours with Cases and Operations*, by John C. Warren, printed by Crocker and Brewster in Boston in 1837.

John Collins Warren (1778–1856), of the illustrious medical family of Boston, was the second professor of anatomy and surgery at Harvard University. His education included study under Astley Cooper in London and Dupuytren in Paris. He was a founder of the Massachusetts General Hospital and of the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, now the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Warren

was a principal in an incident that took place at the Massachusetts General Hospital on October 16, 1846. There he removed a vascular tumor from the left neck of a patient put to sleep with ether by William Thomas Green Morton. "Gentlemen, this is no humbug," exclaimed Warren, as he ushered anesthesia into history.

Warren's *Observations* are a collection of case reports, carefully presented in 607 pages with 16 color plates. This was before the histological era of tumors. As such, it includes entities that would not be considered under neoplastic diseases by presently accepted criteria. The book eschews theorization and is a good example of descriptive compilations of cases that issued from the post-Hunterian surgeons. It was reprinted in England by J. Churchill and translated into German by H. Bressler in 1839. It received good reviews and was well known to contemporary pre-Listerian surgeons. The work is now obsolete, except as a historical record.

The illustrations are from the National Library of Medicine. The information is from Warren, E., *The Life of John Collins Warren, M.D.*, 2 vol., Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1860, and Garrison, F. H., *History of Medicine*, Ed. 4, Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Co., 1929, pp. 499–500 and 505–506. Also see Truax, Rhoda, *The Doctors Warren of Boston*, Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1968, and Polloy, M., *The First American Book on Tumors*, Thesis, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 1955 (in manuscript).

M.B.S.