



State University of New York

Upstate Medical University



## Sarah Loguen Fraser, MD

College of Medicine,  
Class of 1876

*One of the nation's first African-American Women Physicians  
and the first to graduate from the predecessor of  
SUNY Upstate Medical University*



*"My home and family have always been a beacon to light the way for the poor, oppressed, and hunted of our race... God knows we need to build strong and healthy bodies. The light that was kindled by Father and Mother must burn on, and I must carry the torch."*

-Sarah Loguen Fraser, MD  
1850-1933

Sarah Loguen Fraser, MD graduated in 1876 from what was then Syracuse University College of Medicine. In 1950 the college became part of the State University of New York system and is now part of Upstate Medical University.

Born in Syracuse in 1850, Dr. Loguen Fraser was the daughter of former slave and leading abolitionist, Reverend Jermain Wesley Loguen, bishop of the AME Zion Church. One of the first women to graduate from the medical college and the first African-American woman to do so, the Syracuse newspapers acknowledged at the time of her 1873 enrollment, "This is 'woman's rights' in the right direction."

After graduation, Dr. Loguen Fraser interned in Philadelphia and Boston and practiced medicine in Washington, D.C., and Santo Domingo (now the Dominican Republic).

She was married to pharmacist and landowner Charles Fraser, whom she met through Frederick Douglass, from 1882 until his death in 1894. The Frasers had a daughter, Gregoria Alejandrina. Mother and daughter lived in Syracuse from 1901 until 1907, when they moved to Washington, DC, where Dr. Loguen Fraser lived until her death in 1933. She is buried in Lincoln cemetery and her papers, including an unpublished biography written by her daughter, are housed at Howard University.

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To learn more about Sarah Loguen Fraser, MD,  
visit Upstate Medical University's medical alumni website,  
[www.hscsyr.edu/~medalumni](http://www.hscsyr.edu/~medalumni).