In Memoriam

Bache McEvers Emmet

BACHE McEVERS EMMET was born at Hyde Park, N. Y., on May 23, 1843, and died at his home, Ridgefield, Conn., May 27, 1921, four days before his seventy-eighth birthday. His early education was obtained in Geneva, Switzerland. Later he studied medicine and attended the hospitals in Paris, where his father resided for several years. He naturally became a proficient French scholar. Returning to America after the close of the Civil War, Dr. Emmet graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York in 1867. He served as interne in the Woman's Hospital with our esteemed Fellow, Dr. George Harrison, in 1870-71, where he was much liked by the patients on account of his unflinching tact and gentle consideration. With Dr. Harrison he was later appointed Assistant Surgeon to Dr. T. A. Emmet, whom he served loyally until the latter's retirement, when he became Attending Surgeon and remained in that position until 1913, when he was appointed Consulting Surgeon. He was for many years Professor of Gynecology at the New York Post Graduate Medical School and Gynecologist to the Hospital, resigning these positions in 1913 when he retired from practice.

Dr. Emmet was elected Fellow of the American Gynecological Society in 1887, Vice President in 1894, and Honorary Fellow in 1912. He was also a Fellow of the British Gynecological Society. His membership in local societies included the New York Academy of Medicine, New York Obstetrical, New York State Medical and County Societies.

After his retirement he spent his winters in California and the South and his summers at his home in Ridgefield, where he entered into his final rest after a painful and lingering illness of nearly three years, through which he was cheered and sustained by a devoted wife.

Dr. Emmet's life was so quiet and unobtrusive, overshadowed as he was by the prominence of his famous relative, that he neither desired nor attained any greater reward than the esteem and respect of his confreres, which he enjoyed in full measure. His friends were many; of enemies he had none. His personality was singularly attractive. Always modest and unassuming, dignified and high-bred, he had a gentle, kindly face which won confidence and affection alike from rich and poor. His attitude towards women, high and low, was that of a gentleman. Conservative in his profession and practice, a loyal follower of his great chief, he was faithful to the traditions of the institution which

he served so long and so well. It was granted to few to know him intimately and the writer counts it a great privilege to have enjoyed his friendship and appreciated the beauty and purity of his character for forty years. We use too lightly the good old term "gentleman"—one who does gentle deeds. It has a deeper significance than the halo conferred by heritage or social position. As we recall the daily life of our lost friend, his invariable courtesy, his pure and kindly heart, and his patient endurance until the end, we can pay no higher tribute to him than to call him the finest type of a Christian gentleman.

"Nothing in his life
Became him like the leaving it."

We laud the heroes of the war. I have looked into the fearless eyes of many a brave youth, as they closed in the hour of victory, but no nobler or more gallant spirit have I known than he who, calmly and unafraid, faced the last enemy, *Erat homo*.

DR. EMMET'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDICAL LITERATURE

Intrauterine Medication, Trans. Alumni Assoc. Woman's Hospital, ii. Retroperitoneal Cysts of the Female Sexual Organs; a study of their treatment, Am. Jour. Obst., 1890, xxiii. Case of Extrauterine Fetation, New York Med. Jour., Jan., 1882. Lacerations of the Cervix and Perineum, Mann's System of Gynecology, 1887. Management of Contagious Eruptive Diseases, Buck's Hygiene and Public Health, 1879. Amputation of the Cervix, New York Obst. Soc., May, 1887. Paper on Laceration of the Cervix, Trans. Am. Gynec. Soc. Galvanism in Gynecology, Post. Grad. Med. Jour. Outline of Uterine Therapeutics, Especially Massage and Electricity, Keating and Coe's System of Gynecology. Removal of the Uterus in Disease of the Adnexa, Trans. Am. Gynec. Soc., 1894. Injury to the Ureter in Abdominal Surgery, Am. Jour. Obst., 1895. Multiple Myomata in the Abdominal Cavity; a Study of the Genesis of Fibroids, Am. Jour. Obst., July, 1897. Cure of Procidentia Uteri, Post. Grad. Med. Jour., March, 1901.

Instruments Devised by Emmet: Steel Button for Vesico-vaginal Fistula, Perineal Wire Scissors, Trocar for Pelvic Abscess, Broad Ligament Clamps for Vaginal Hysterectomy, Uterine Forceps for Laparotomy, Various Retractors.

HENRY C. COE, M.D.