

Addresses.

MEMORIALS TO ARTHUR TRACY CABOT, M.D.*

I.

BY HENRY P. WALCOTT, M.D., CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

ARTHUR TRACY CABOT was born in Boston in the year 1852, the third son of Dr. Samuel Cabot, a well known physician of this city and a visiting surgeon of the Massachusetts General Hospital. His mother was Hannah Jackson, daughter of Judge Charles Jackson, and a member of a family distinguished in every walk of life that has led to success and the esteem of their fellows in this community.

He was graduated at Harvard College in 1872; entered at once upon the study of medicine and took the degree of M.D. in 1876, having served during the last year of his studies as surgical interne at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

He spent a year in graduate studies abroad, at Vienna, Berlin and London.

He entered upon the practice of medicine in Boston in 1877 and spent here the rest of his life.

He was a lecturer and teacher at the Medical School upon several subjects in surgery until the year 1896 when he was elected a member of the board of President and Fellows of Harvard College, and a teacher of the best quality was lost to the Medical School.

He was for several years surgeon at the Carney Hospital, assistant surgeon and visiting surgeon at the Children's Hospital from 1879-1889; surgeon to out-patients at the Massachusetts General Hospital, 1881-1886; visiting surgeon 1886-1907.

Beginning professional life as a general practitioner of medicine, he early followed the bent of his inclinations and limited himself more and more to the practice of surgery.

His achievements in this field will be adequately presented by another speaker on this occasion.

The honors bestowed upon him, not only by his associates in his own department in surgery, but by the whole body of the medical profession, give evidence of the esteem in which he was held. He was a member of the American Surgical Association, the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons, and of several foreign Societies of specialists in his chosen line of work.

He was Honorary President of the American School Hygiene Associations, and President of the Massachusetts Medical Society in the years 1905 and 1906, and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

During his active professional life he enjoyed a reputation second to none in all the qualities that go to the making of a great surgeon. My

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own intimate acquaintance with Dr. Cabot goes back to the year 1891, when I became a trustee of the Massachusetts General Hospital. The two junior visiting surgeons of that day were Arthur Cabot and Maurice Richardson, and never in any year of its glorious history was that institution more ably served than by these two men—appointed upon the same day. Intimate friends, they lived side by side, one rendering to the other any needed service; unlike in many respects, but alike in all the high qualities that make up the good physician.

They reached the goal of life together—the one in all his magnificent strength and apparent capacity for continued service, even with his characteristic and most generous disregard of himself; the other, mortally hurt, lingered through days of disabling weakness, and maintained to the end the simple dignity and courage which we all had rightly attributed to him.

Dr. Cabot had early in his connection with the hospital attracted the favorable notice of Henry J. Bigelow and had been unhesitatingly assisted by that great master to the performing of important operations not ordinarily transferred to a junior in service. The pupil justified the confidence placed in him and became the legitimate successor of Dr. Bigelow in the special field which Cabot had made his own.

I cannot attempt in this presence to make any statements as to Dr. Cabot's real place as a surgeon. I believe, however, that no man in the long list of names honored in that hospital gave to it a more unselfish or productive service than did he.

He had from the beginning the confidence of the trustees. He did not volunteer his opinions, but he did not avoid the responsibility of expressing them upon proper occasions, and they had always a foundation in conclusions fairly reached by clear thinking. He did not allow himself to be led astray by personal prejudice, and was so careful in allowing for a possible bias that I do not remember an instance when he failed to do justice, whatever his personal relations may have been to the individual concerned.

If he thought the occasion required an expression of opinion upon the administration of the Hospital, he was frank and outspoken in his remarks, which, however, were more likely to be intended for the benefit of an associate than for himself. It seemed to me that no man there had a more precise knowledge of the nature of his work and that with him no emergency could arise which would find him unprepared and disarrange his well-formed plans. His capacity for clear thinking had the assistance of a cool head and steady hand.

It was always evident, however, that he did not find it easy to bring his naturally quick temper into subjection, yet he only relinquished his control of it in the presence of what seemed to him a cowardly or unworthy act.

The story of the life of a great surgeon would

ordinarily end here; not so with Dr. Cabot. He had beyond most of the members of our profession tastes which provided congenial occupations for his retirement from the activities of a lifetime, and he had acquired interests in the great questions of the public measures for the prevention of disease which are only now receiving the attention they deserve.

He had a great and well cultivated interest in the fine arts. He was a trustee of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and took an active share in the affairs of that institution. He was the sole member of a committee of the Corporation of Harvard College in general charge of the Fogg Art Museum at Cambridge, and his associates on that board were always content to accept his judgment upon all matters relating to that department.

As usual with him, his conclusions were never the result of some momentary appeal to the sense of sight, but were carefully built up from principles of taste which have lived through all the vicissitudes of time and fashion.

During the years 1905-6 he was President of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and in the exercise of one of the functions of that office visited in turn the various district societies of the state. The text he took for his addresses on these occasions was that of the duty of our profession to instruct the public upon the measures that can be taken for the control of tuberculosis. He saw clearly that the influence of the medical profession would be absolutely essential to a correct decision upon the value of the measures which an ill-informed but well-meaning and enthusiastic public sentiment might induce the authorities to adopt. He procured the formation of local associations of physicians for consultation and appropriate action. General meetings were held at the time of the annual meetings of the State Medical Society and the sympathetic interest of the profession was secured.

A not unfriendly critic remarked that this interest on Dr. Cabot's part in the preventive side of medicine was not the usual attitude of mind of the surgeon. I must confess that to me at any rate it seems the logical condition of mind for the modern surgeon.

Dr. Cabot entered upon the practice of his profession fresh from listening to Lister's application of the discoveries of Pasteur. Is there any preventive measure in the whole realm embraced within our art greater or more beneficent than the improvement in the treatment of wounds brought about by the labors of this greatest benefactor of our day?

Dr. Cabot's successful efforts in rousing the interest of the community in measures for the prevention of tuberculosis led to his appointment by Governor Guild as a member of the board of trustees of the Hospitals for Consumptives.

When the board came together for organization he was elected chairman and served in this

capacity to the end. Upon no work of his life did he spend more time or energy than upon this. No detail in the selection of proper sites, in the construction of the necessary buildings, or in the administration of the hospital was too minute to escape his attention nor did it fail to receive sufficient care.

The result has been that the treatment of this disease by State agencies has brought to Massachusetts a well earned distinction from all those whose opinions are of much value. Dr. Cabot had probably never appeared before a committee of the Legislature until his service upon this board made his appearance there essential. No man could have made a better impression, quiet, dignified, self-contained, fully informed upon his subject, frankly meeting every criticism, whatever its nature might be, disarming even the noisy demagogue by some plain statement of fact. If he did not obtain everything he wished for the cause he represented he always gained the respect and good will of the body he addressed, and did receive more consideration than ordinarily falls to the lot of those who seek new legislation. The history of State control in connection with tuberculosis would be incomplete if it omitted due notice of Dr. Cabot's intelligent, persistent and generous activities in this cause.

A closely allied subject of public interest for Dr. Cabot was the hygiene of school life. He recognized the fact that the public when it made school attendance compulsory assumed the duty of caring for the tuberculous children who were inevitably to be found in the school population and not yet physically so disabled as to be unfit for school attendance. Hence his interest in the work of the School Hygiene Association.

A congress of those interested in this subject was held at Nuremberg in 1904. It was attended by about 1500 delegates representing nearly all the civilized countries and its influence was early felt in the literature, laws and regulations of many lands concerning health and education. Dr. Cabot was an associate in the second congress of School Hygiene, which was held in London in 1907. Sir Lauder Brunton presided and had, previous to the meeting, written to Dr. Cabot seeking his influence to secure delegates from the United States.

The assembly in London had a success so marked that plans were formed for the purpose of bringing the fourth congress to this country. Accordingly it was decided at the third congress, held in Paris in 1910, to meet in this country in the year 1913.

The city of Buffalo volunteered to serve as the host for the meeting, and measures are now taking to bring this congress together in August of the present year. Dr. Cabot was made chairman of the executive committee of arrangements and some of his latest efforts were bestowed upon this troublesome piece of business. The labor was willingly undertaken by him, for

he had been largely instrumental in obtaining the consent of his friend, Charles W. Eliot, to serve as president of the congress. As the result of Dr. Cabot's correspondence and subsequent interview with Dr. Brunton, it was agreed that there was need of an organization in this country which should be devoted to the promotion of the interests of school hygiene.

Steps were at once taken for the formation of an American School Hygiene Association. The organization was effected at Washington in 1908, with the declared purpose "of bringing into effective service the large amount of practical knowledge concerning school hygiene that has been developed by scientific means during the last few years; of fostering the increase of knowledge upon this topic; and of bringing into helpful relations the scientific investigators and the men occupying administrative positions with reference to education."

He was the leader in the movement, but with characteristic modesty procured the election of an absent friend to the presidency of the Association. He supported his creation most liberally by money and better still by his clear head and unselfish heart.

It would be a work of supererogation here to dwell upon the vital importance of bringing all our knowledge of sanitary questions to bear upon the school life of our children.

While the great leader in the whole movement for reforms and improvements in our educational methods is speaking from his place at Buffalo, we shall inevitably think of the silent friend who labored so earnestly, and, I believe, most profitably for the accomplishment of the same high ends.

There was published in the *Atlantic Magazine*, bearing date of November, 1912, an article which bore the title "Tuberculosis and the School," by A. T. Cabot. It was his final declaration of his belief in the reality of the measures which he had urged most strenuously and which without doubt will prevail.

In 1896 he was chosen a Fellow of Harvard College and became a member of the Corporation. There was already a member of the medical profession upon that board and, important as it was at that time of development in the Medical School to have the aid of Dr. Cabot's interest in scientific medicine, I feel sure that he owed his election fully as much to the qualities of the man as to his rank among surgeons.

He possessed all the good qualities required in this place of many responsibilities. A man of science and cultivated taste, of clear head and honest mind, bold when occasion required it, *firm but not obstinate*, he always showed a due consideration for the opinions of his associates and was devoted at all times to the interests of the University. The minute placed upon the records of the Corporation shows the regard which his associates had for him.

"Arthur Tracy Cabot, a member of the Corporation since 1896, died at Boston on November

4, 1912. He had reached the highest rank in his profession when elected to this body. He had obtained this success by abundant knowledge, by clear thinking, by great industry, and by absolute control of all his faculties in the presence of great perils.

"At this board he showed the same capacity for seeing plainly through any disturbing circumstances, the end to be attained.

"Accurate, firm, courteous and devoted to all the interests of the University, he gave to the questions of its administration the same unselfish care which made him, even to the last, a great leader in the public work of protecting human life."

His slight figure and somewhat grave and thoughtful expression of countenance were imperfect signs of the physical ability and character of the man. He made a strenuous use of his active and well-knit frame; and when he revealed himself to his intimates—how many of us will ever forget the charm of our association with him?

Though a bold rider on the polo field and skilled in many out-door games, he took but little interest in the public spectacles of the stadium and found slight attraction to the athletic exercises which require a professional training or exceptional strength; his concern was more with the well-ordered use of the average body.

When he realized that the end had come of his own participation in the out-door life of the game club, which had given to him some of the most enjoyable diversions of his life, he sold his shares in the property and turned over the proceeds to a body of trustees for the town of Canton for the purchase and maintenance of playgrounds there.

He had an intense love of out-door life and found his highest enjoyment in its simple and primitive form, that of the hunter and fisherman, but here he never yielded to the ignoble desire to capture or destroy animal life beyond just measure. He believed in vivisection, for he knew how much it had done to protect human life, and that experiment must of necessity be made upon the human patient if the use of an animal could not be had.

He viewed with aversion all forms of cruelty to animals wherever unnecessarily practiced, but had little patience with the sentimentalism which seeks to abolish the biological laboratories. His own familiarity with them had taught him that cruelty in the majority of instances defeats the proper objects of the experiment, and here, at least, is forbidden.

Cherry Hill in Canton had been the summer residence of his father, and the old tavern on the highway, turned to a private use, had been with its ample fields, the scene of his own youthful country life. In his later years Dr. Arthur Cabot had built an attractive house for himself upon a portion of the property withdrawn from the ever-increasing noise and dust of the high-

way. All of the surroundings contributed to make the place most grateful to one of his tastes. When you looked from its western porch across the pleasant garden in front, and through the over-arching trees at the quiet landscape, beyond where there was nothing to suggest the great city only a few miles away, you felt that here at last might be spent the evening to a busy and toilsome life in occupations still helpful to his fellows and full of enjoyment for himself. It was not to be.

Hoping against hope, he resigned himself to the skilful hand of the friend of a lifetime, whom unseen fate was even then leading to the other world which both were so soon to enter.

In the disposal of his property he kept in mind the interests to which his life had been devoted; he made provision for a fund of \$100,000 to be placed at the disposal of the President and Fellows of Harvard College, the income of one-half of this sum to be used for the purchase of books upon the fine arts and allied subjects, for the College Library and the Fogg Art Museum, the income of the other half to be used for the general purposes of the Medical School. He also remembered the interests of the Massachusetts General Hospital, which he had so steadily promoted through life, and gave for the support of the hospital laboratories the sum of \$20,000.

Dr. F. C. Shattuck and his wife on August 9, 1912, gave to Harvard College the sum of \$25,000 for the establishment of the Arthur Tracy Cabot Fellowship in Surgery, in testimony of affection for the man, grateful admiration of him as a surgeon, and appreciation of his services to medicine.

This gift to the College from his much valued friends was a source of great satisfaction to Dr. Cabot. It came at the time when he knew that his own work was done, and he saw in it a happy and permanent memorial of his own activities in this department of medicine.

II.

BY PAUL THORNDIKE, M.D., BOSTON.

ARTHUR TRACY CABOT was a man of such activity of mind and such catholicity of interest and sympathy that even a brief chronicle of his efforts and accomplishments is for no one person to attempt, and it is of Arthur Cabot the Surgeon that we would speak.

Born in 1852, the third son of Dr. Samuel and Hannah (Jackson) Cabot, he passed his boyhood in Boston, his undergraduate life in Cambridge with the class of 1872, and studied medicine at the Harvard Medical School, from which he graduated at the head of his class to serve as surgical interne at the Massachusetts General Hospital. From there he went abroad and remained away from August, 1876, to October, 1877, studying chiefly in Vienna and Berlin, but nowhere, as he says, "seeing any-

thing adequate in the way of antiseptic treatment." He continues: "I passed one month in London, visiting King's College Hospital, to which Lister had just been appointed, and I listened there to his inaugural address when installed. I got there a better idea of antiseptic dressings as Lister understood them."

On his return to Boston in 1877, he began the practice of his profession, and from the first his surgery was clean surgery, at first antiseptic in technic and later aseptic, and always was he found the leader in the band of men who were gradually making modern surgery what it is today. So, although the earlier years of his professional life were occupied with general practice, it is evident that he was at heart a surgeon from the first and he became ere long an eminent one, gradually withdrawing from all but surgical practice.

Shortly after he began to practice he was appointed surgeon to the Out-Patient Department at the Massachusetts General Hospital and he became a full visiting surgeon in 1886. Here he remained, doing brilliant work, for twenty-one years, resigning in the spring of 1907, to be at once placed upon the Hospital's board of consulting surgeons.

He was surgeon to the Carney Hospital for a number of years and was on the surgical staff of the Children's Hospital for the ten years from 1879 to 1889. At the death of Dr. Thomas B. Curtis, in 1881, who had identified himself with the teaching and practice of genito-urinary surgery in Boston, Dr. Cabot avowedly allied himself with this work, although he never ceased to consider himself a surgeon and to practice general surgery. In the field of genito-urinary surgery he attained great distinction and universal recognition, and he practically succeeded Dr. Henry J. Bigelow as the leading advocate and exponent of litholapaxy, an operation which Dr. Cabot utilized and championed always, even after the suprapubic operation for stone was disputing the supremacy of the older procedure.

In 1886 he was the Boston representative of a little band of surgeons who gathered in New York to form the nucleus of what is now the American Association of genito-urinary Surgeons, and he was one of its first presidents. Some of the others associated with him in the organization of this society were Sir William H. Hingston of Montreal, Drs. Edward L. Keyes and Fessenden N. Otis of New York, Drs. S. W. Gross and J. William White of Philadelphia, Dr. Roswell Park of Buffalo, Drs. Moses Gunn and Nicholas Senn of Chicago, Dr. John P. Bryson of St. Louis, and Dr. George Chismore of San Francisco. He always had the interests of this society very near his heart, and his important contributions to its work, his constant loyalty to all its interests and his attractive personality made him perhaps its most influential and sought after member over a period of years.

In 1905 he became president of the Massachusetts Medical Society, holding office for two years and he did such distinguished work in the fight against tuberculosis that he was appointed in the following year (1907) one of a commission to locate and build three hospitals for tuberculous patients in Massachusetts. Soon after he was elected chairman of this board.

An appreciation of Dr. Cabot, published in a recent number of the BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL, speaks as follows of the character of his work for this great cause: "Only those on the inside fully know how much of the conspicuous success of this new departure was due to the compelling wisdom and unrelenting labor of Dr. Cabot. In this, as in all his other work, its quality was only matched by his modesty. . . So deeply did he become interested in this line of work that in the spring of 1910 he retired from all practice and its emoluments that he might husband his strength for public work alone." Today there are few citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts who do not recognize and thankfully acknowledge the value of that work.

Dr. Samuel Cabot performed in 1874 and 1875 the two first successful laparotomies at the Massachusetts General Hospital, although the operations performed upon Hospital patients were conducted in a neighboring house on Allen Street. Dr. Arthur Cabot assisted his father in these operations. He, himself, did the first successful abdominal operation within the Hospital walls in 1884, upon a long strangulated umbilical hernia. A description of the circumstances and difficulties attending the performance of this operation, as described in the recent appreciation in the BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL, gives the younger surgeons of today an insight upon the surgery of a quarter of a century ago.

In the spring of 1876 he succeeded in getting a thoroughly aseptic result in a compound fracture of the lower leg which he dressed with cotton batting wrung out in a strong carbolic solution and then dried.

About 1886, he, with his brother Samuel, a Boston chemist, established a fund at the Massachusetts General Hospital to pay a pathologist, who should be present on each operating day to make such examinations as the surgeon required. This was probably the first effort to make a pathological study and a surgical operation go hand in hand. The fund so started was soon raised to \$10,000 by Dr. Cabot and his brother, and is now the Samuel Cabot Fund for Pathological Research. It was largely through Dr. Cabot's efforts that a clinical laboratory in pathology and chemistry was added to the equipment at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Dr. Arthur Cabot was a prolific writer upon surgical topics and one of the chief values of his writing was due to his ability in making clear the pathological importance of the clinical

facts with which he was dealing. Had he chosen to devote his energies to pathological science he would have gone far and accomplished much.

Of his contributions to medical literature it may be proper to mention a few that he himself regarded as interesting and, so far as his modesty permitted him, important. In 1880 and 1883 he made a full report of a series of cases of empyema which he treated after operation with a water-proof dressing, so obtaining a very perfect valvular action, which greatly aided the expansion of the lung during convalescence. During 1884 and 1885 he began the use of posterior wire splints in the treatment of fractures of the lower leg, and from that time the old fracture box, which had been the surgeon's main dependence in the treatment of such cases, was doomed to oblivion. In genito-urinary surgery, as has been said, he was a leader and his influence was widely felt for many years. He was a constant champion of litholapaxy. His publications on "Rupture of the Bladder" in 1891, and on "Rupture of the Urethra" in 1896, were milestones on the road of surgical progress. In 1893, when Dr. J. William White of Philadelphia so warmly advocated castration for the relief of obstruction due to hypertrophy of the prostate, the surgical world was stirred to its depths with excited hope and anticipation of a great new panacea for these cases at that time so often desperate and impossible of palliation. Dr. Cabot was appointed by the American Association of genito-urinary surgeons as one of a commission to collect evidence concerning this procedure, sift it and report to the society a year later. His tireless industry, his wise judgment in digesting the material after its collection, and his clear, just and convincing summary of the conclusions reached was as absolutely characteristic of the mental qualities which made him what he was as any work he ever did. He was also one of the earlier advocates of the more modern operation of prostatectomy, although his publications on this subject came a few years later, after his experience with it had matured.

In the history of surgery his name will long be remembered and his work has made for him an enduring place. His was a versatile and many sided nature. Of its interests and enthusiasms many lie outside of the intended scope of this brief consideration of him. His appreciation of all things beautiful in nature and in art, his love for animals, his joy in wholesome sport, and his sincere affection for his many friends, an affection that he was better and better able to express as the years with their mellowing passed by—all these it would be pleasant to consider but here we must leave him as he was—Arthur Tracy Cabot—eminent surgeon, with brain and hand always ready to do the best work known to his art; wise counsellor, with judgment always keen and never impetuous; faithful friend, ever ready with affection, sym-

pathy and understanding; true-hearted gentleman in every thought and every act. Many men respected his ability; many men loved his personality; many men will find it hard to bear his loss.

III.

BY JOHN B. HAWES, 2ND., M.D., BOSTON.

My intimate acquaintance with Dr. Cabot began in the fall of 1907, when he asked me to act as secretary of the recently appointed Board of Trustees of Hospitals for Consumptives. At the first meeting of the Board Dr. Cabot was elected chairman and immediately took active charge of our work in selecting sites and making plans for the three sanatoria we were asked to build. Although many of my friends had told me that my position as secretary under Dr. Cabot would be no sinecure, I soon found out that as long as I did my work promptly and well I need not worry. We naturally did not agree on all points; when the question was a medical one and one concerning which I thought my own opinion of some weight, if it did not happen to agree with his, I did not hesitate to say so. I must frankly confess, however, that during the early years that we worked together he was nearly always right and I usually wrong. He had a remarkable memory for details. Again and again he would refer me to some action taken at a preceding meeting, concerning which I had not the slightest recollection and would say so, only to find on looking it up that he was correct in every particular.

We spent many pleasant hours together looking over the country for sites for hospitals. One after another was examined and discarded, sometimes for reasons that did not at first appear clear to me. After the locations for the three new sanatoria were finally selected, the Board began work on plans, specifications and contracts. In this Dr. Cabot put great reliance on the opinions of two members of the Board, Alvah Crocker of Fitchburg and William C. Godfrey of Springfield. Each of these men was at the head of a large manufacturing plant and well acquainted with the details of construction. It was a constant source of wonder to me to note how often Dr. Cabot's opinion as to the most technical of details agreed with that of these gentlemen. Dr. Cabot took an intense personal interest in the building of each institution. He was chairman of the Board in fact as well as in name. He had himself placed on the building committee of each institution while in the process of construction and later on each visiting committee as well. From the very start he gave a great deal of his time to the work, although for the first few years he carried on an extensive surgical practice. He knew every detail of construction and management, and demanded the same knowledge of each superintendent. Nothing irritated him more during the early days of

construction and later in the administration of the completed buildings than to talk with one of the superintendents and find him vague or forgetful in regard to the smallest details of his work. There was nothing superficial about his visits to the sanatoria; he did not say much but he took in everything; he never made any criticism in public, while nurses, attendants or patients were around, but always waited until later, when in the office or sitting-room he would quietly and judiciously go over the situation and call attention to certain matters needing improvement.

It was his pride to keep the cost of the three hospitals within the appropriation granted for this purpose. Although this was a difficult task, he accomplished it by the most painstaking efforts in economy and watchfulness. At an early date he determined that the workings of the Board should be kept out of politics; up to that time it had seemed as if admission to certain State institutions had not always been on a basis of pure merit. Dr. Cabot found great obstacles at once thrown in his way when he made it the policy of the Board that patients be admitted to the four state sanatoria purely in order of their application. As secretary of the Board and the one who decides as to what institution patients shall be admitted and in what order, nothing gave me more satisfaction when talking to this or that senator or representative interested in some constituent, than to feel that Dr. Cabot and the Board were strongly back of me in ruling out all political influence as a factor in admission of patients. It was by no means an easy task to do this. So strong was the feeling at the State House that it was right to grant certain favors of this kind to members of the Legislature and to others in authority that at first many stormy interviews resulted. I did my best not to bother Dr. Cabot with such matters as these, but in those few instances in which I was forced to refer the case to him, he invariably supported me in every way and ended by saying, especially when he saw I was intensely irritated, "Hawes, don't let these things bother you; simply tell them you'll do the best you can." This simple formula I have since used many times, with excellent results.

One of Dr. Cabot's important duties was to represent the Board at hearings concerning our appropriations and other measures before legislative committees at the State House. He was not a ready or a fluent speaker; he was slightly deaf but did not like to be reminded of the fact, and the slightly built man, with the thoughtful and often gloomy countenance, the somewhat hesitating manner of speaking and a somewhat quick temper did not at first make a very marked or favorable impression on many members of our Great and General Court. On the other hand, they were apt to be deeply impressed by certain persons possessed of a grandiloquent style of oratory who regularly

appeared in opposition to most of the measures introduced by our Board. Gradually, however, Dr. Cabot's real worth made itself felt. Legislative committees, State boards, and others before whom he appeared came to realize that he was a big man; that he was giving invaluable services to the State; that his opinion was always based on facts, and that he never favored any project nor asked for any appropriation until he had made it a subject of painstaking and prolonged study and investigation and believed it to be necessary for the welfare of the State. He never said much about this change in point of view, but I am sure it was as gratifying to him as it was to me. Last winter, the last in which he appeared at the State House, I saw no one whose words were listened to with greater attention and respect than were those of Dr. Cabot.

His interest was not confined solely to the work of our Board. He was chairman, and I again secretary, of the Tuberculosis Committees of the Massachusetts Medical Society. This brought him in touch with many physicians all over the State and drew him into tuberculosis problems of all kinds. School inspection, outdoor schools and fresh air rooms deeply interested him; welfare work in factories was a project he was constantly working at. Much of the best health work of this kind in Massachusetts is directly due to his personal influence with boards of directors, presidents and other officials of large concerns.

He gave an increasing amount of time to the work of the Board up to his last illness. When he was not traveling over the country visiting the sanatoria, he was usually to be found at our office on Joy Street. He rarely used the elevator, but came up the stairs quickly and quietly; many times the first thing to make me aware of his presence in the office was his grave voice asking me about certain matters. These occasions were at first a great source of embarrassment. He sometimes stayed for hours not speaking, but apparently thinking things over in his mind. I did not know whether to sit and wait until he chose to speak or to keep on with my work. Gradually, however, I became more at ease, and at such times went on with what I had to do, writing or dictating, until he was ready to talk things over.

He was always a hard worker. Most of our annual reports he chose to write himself, in long hand, with much labor and effort, for he was afflicted with writer's cramp. After he had written anything it rarely needed correction, although up to the last he and I could never agree on the subject of "split infinitives," of which he was very fond and which I had been taught to abhor. My own method of writing, the reverse of his, which was to think a subject over in my mind and then to dictate it to my stenographer, as fast as she could take it down, I think irritated him a little. I constantly tried

to make the work easier for him by relieving him of details which I could perfectly well attend to; this was a very difficult task, for when interested in any one piece of work no detail was too small to absorb his entire attention. The result was that the work was well done, but at considerable unnecessary cost to him. He despised all forms of "red tape"; he insisted that the machinery of our Board should be as simple as possible and that no useless formalities should stand in the way of attaining any worthy end.

I can imagine no greater monument to a man than such a one as has been erected to Dr. Cabot. In 1907, when he first took hold of the work there was much chaos and little or no order or system in the anti-tuberculosis forces of this State. There was great and urgent need of a firm guiding hand to direct and control all that was being done. Dr. Cabot gave the State such a guiding hand and master mind. Before his death he saw three great sanatoria added to the one already established; he saw local tuberculosis associations grow and multiply; he saw municipal hospitals for sick and dying consumptives increase, and the death-rate from tuberculosis diminish; he put school inspection on a proper basis by the introduction of school nurses; he was influential in establishing fresh air rooms and schools for children; he persuaded manufacturers that to keep their employees well was better economy than to let them get sick, and he made them see that a nurse and medical inspection for their employees was a necessity and not a luxury. He developed a united spirit against tuberculosis in the medical profession, and he more than any one man I know of in this State, has been responsible for the great strides made in eliminating this disease during the last six years. Neither he nor any of us will see the completion of the work that he began so wisely and so well. But I am very sure that it was a deep sense of joy to him to witness the advances that have been already made. To me, my experience as a young man thrown into most intimate contact with Dr. Cabot for these years has been one of the greatest privileges of my life. Now that he has gone, and much of what he was doing is thrown on my shoulders, I can only hope and strive to act as I think he would have acted were he still with us.

ROBBERY OF A CENTENARIAN.—Peter Morrison, of Albany, N. Y., who is locally reputed to have been born on March 11, 1813, went recently to San Francisco, Cal., to celebrate his supposed centennial anniversary with some relatives in that city. Unfortunately on March 7, it is reported, he fell among thieves, and the thieves sprang up and robbed him of \$87, his entire worldly supply of cash. Men who would perpetrate such a deed on a defenceless centenarian, might be expected to rob the very dead.