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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES.*

I.

FRANCIS BISHOP HARRINGTON, M.D.

By HERMAN F. VICKERY, M.D., BOSTON.

FRANCIS BISHOP HARRINGTON was of old New England stock, being descended in a direct line from Robert Harrington, who was one of the selectmen of Watertown, Massachusetts, for fifteen years, beginning in 1679. Robert's grandson received the degree of A.B. at Harvard in 1728. Four generations later came the subject of our sketch. He was born in Salem, August 15, 1854. Within six years his father died, at the early age of thirty-three, leaving three sons to be reared by his widow. In this she received substantial aid from her husband's brother, but the little household had frugal ways. In wartime the children were not allowed both molasses and butter on their bread. The mother was a remarkable woman, with the highest sense of truth, honor, and justice, wise and absolutely unselfish. The children of such a mother were fortunate and it was natural that she received to the end the greatest love and veneration. Their home was on the outskirts of the town, purposely so located by the invalid father, and Dr. Harrington never forgot the happy existence he led as a boy, summer and winter, except for the interruption of school hours, in the open fields and rocky caves of Salem. We can see then that various favorable influences acted on young Harrington: his ancestry, a love and opportunity for outdoor sports, the good schools of Salem,

* Read at the meeting of the Boston Society for Medical Improvement on November 23, 1914.

the modest worldly circumstances desiderated by Solomon, and above all, a perfect mother.

He entered Tufts College in 1873 and was duly graduated A.B. in 1877, standing as to scholarship about seventh in a class of seventeen. "He quickly won the respect and confidence of his teachers and of the whole student-body." In athletic pursuits he showed general excellence and in the newly-introduced game of football, in which he had had no special training, he was preëminent. A classmate, Professor William M. Hooper, says: "In the great victory won by Tufts [over Harvard] on Jarvis Field, in the autumn of 1875, he was not only unquestionably the best player on our eleven, but proved to be practically invincible to the attacks of our opponents. With the ball safely tucked under his left arm and his long right arm swinging in front like the boom of a derrick, he would tear down the field to a touchdown, leaving in his path a line of Harvard men on their backs." During his college career, he made as has been said, a favorable impression upon the faculty, and in later years he was more than once consulted by the authorities as to matters of college policy.

On leaving Tufts he entered the Harvard Medical School, living for the first year in the College Yard with his cousin, the late Dr. Charles Harrington. During 1880-1881 he served as surgical house pupil in the Massachusetts General Hospital, and in 1882 he received the degree of M.D. He played football on the varsity eleven the first year he was in the Medical School but his whole heart was not in the game. His profession had inspired a deeper and worthier love. Still throughout his life he enjoyed greatly outdoor recreations: tennis, golf, skating, tobogganing, camping, and fishing for trout and salmon in the Adirondacks and New Brunswick. Often he joined in games with his children, as young

in his spirits as they. Those who were matched against him in any game did not find it wise to think he was beaten till it was entirely over. He did not particularly enjoy sailing but he visited Europe and Bermuda and the Panama Canal. His excursions showed his wonderful recuperative powers and gave a literal meaning to the word "recreation". For example when he started for Bermuda last spring, he had high blood-pressure, and was worn down with work and agonizing abdominal pain, yet in a few days he was so comfortable and joyous and active that it was not easy to believe that his previous symptoms could have had an organic cause.

Throughout his life he read constantly, keeping well abreast of all professional advance and also of the world's progress in general. He had good musical ability. He had a keen sense of humor and caught the diamond flash of a joke wherever it might be; but for him to enjoy it, fun had to be clean and kindly. He faced the truth fearlessly but also he was brave and hopeful and did not forget that the prophecy of a physician may carry with it its own fulfilment. He did not think it wise that the patient should bear the burden of all the untoward possibilities of his condition and he was willing in a critical case to throw his own reputation into the balance if that might help to incline it in the right direction.

In 1882, he began the general practise of medicine in Boston; and in October of the same year he married Miss Abbie Josephine Ruggles of Fitchburg. Of this marriage I cannot omit to say that throughout his life it brought him happiness and inspiration. In 1884, he was appointed physician to out-patients in the Massachusetts General Hospital. Two years later, at the request of others and in accordance with his own preference he was transferred to the surgical side. His subsequent promotions, appointments, and honors have been enumerated in the BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL of July 16, and in the *Harvard Graduates' Magazine* of September, 1914. They need not be rehearsed now. Our purpose is to discourse, like the storm-tossed Trojans, about our departed comrade. "*Amissos longo socios sermone requirunt.*" What sort of a man is it whose loss we mourn, or rather for whose example and companionship these many years we rejoice? He was big and strong, singularly well proportioned, and handsome. His blue eyes were keen but friendly. His countenance revealed strength, intelligence and refinement. His smile gave warmth and cheer. He had modesty, dignity, common-sense and unusual sagacity. He was high-spirited but he kept his temper. Under provocation, his voice became lower and gentler. He did an immense amount of work faithfully. He was efficient in emergencies but he did not wait for the rare occurrence of unusual needs, to serve others. The little duties and the little kindnesses were constantly and most graciously performed. One inferred his religion from his life.

He was a first-rate physician as well as surgeon, and he would have been eminent in his profession if he had never operated. The time came however, about fifteen years ago, when it was physically impossible for him to continue in general practise, so that he occupied himself with surgery exclusively, with brilliant success. His methods have been discussed elsewhere from a technical standpoint. What impressed the ordinary professional observer was his good judgment and thoroughness and the usually successful outcome. And, as was said of him at the meeting of The Massachusetts Medical Society on the day of his funeral, every patient became a friend.

His classmate, Prof. Hooper, describes him well, in the words of President Eliot: "A man of quick perceptions, broad sympathies, and wide affinities; responsive but independent; self-reliant but deferential; loving truth and candor, but also moderation and proportion; courageous but gentle; not finished but perfecting."

The world is better because he lived.

II.

THOMAS MORGAN ROTCH, M.D.

By CHARLES HUNTER DUNN, M.D., BOSTON.

THE death of Dr. Rotch on March 9, 1914, was a great shock to all of us whose close association with him had made us particularly interested in seeing his plans attain their full completion. His death marked the passing of one of that group of men who played conspicuous parts in the modern revolution of the practice of medicine. The pioneer workers in Pediatrics were but a small group of men, and among these, both as a teacher and a writer, Dr. Rotch had a wide influence upon his profession.

Dr. Rotch was born in Philadelphia on December 9, 1849; received his academic degree at Harvard in 1870, and his medical degree from the same institution in 1874, and served a term as house pupil at the Massachusetts General Hospital in the autumn of 1873. In 1874 he married Helen Rotch, the daughter of William J. Rotch and Emily Morgan of New Bedford. They had one son, Thomas Morgan Rotch, Jr., who was born on May 21, 1878.

At that period no young man's medical education was supposed to be complete without study in Europe, and Dr. Rotch spent two years studying in Germany, Paris and London. When he returned, there was no one in Boston whose practice was devoted exclusively to the diseases of early life. Disease in infancy and in childhood was not regarded as presenting differences from disease in adult life of sufficient importance to call for special knowledge. Dr. Rotch began his career as a general practitioner, but was soon attracted by the interest of the problems encountered in the struggle with disease as