SIR THOMAS SMITH CLOUSTON.

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In the death of Sir Thomas Clouston on April 19, 1915, Scotland has lost her great-hearted, painstaking leader in psychiatry. This descendant of the Norsemen, born in the Orkneys, bore himself proudly and freely in his relations with men, prizing more than the knighthood with which he was honored a few years before his death, the freedom of Kirkwall, the capital town of Orkney, which he received in 1908, and the Norse galley in silver presented to him at the dinner given him by his assistants past and present, when he retired from the office of physician superintendent of the Royal Edinburgh Asylum after thirty-five years of service.

His fresh vigorous nature received an impetus to thorough honest work at the grammar school of Aberdeen, which has turned out so many famous men, and he profited by the teachings of the brilliant circle of men who in the middle of the last century heralded the dawn of a new conception of mental disease. His student days already marked him as a man of distinguished attainment and signal honors. His first gold medal was won through his graduation thesis on the nervous system of the lobster. The presidency of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, of the Edinburgh Medico-Chirurgical Society and of the Medico-Psychological Association were among the later honors bestowed upon him.

His contributions to psychiatric foundations were of the descriptive type but his descriptions of adolescent insanity have formed a basis for later development in the conceptions of dementia præcox. They included also a study of general paresis in children.

These contributions were the result of that method of careful and original observation which he sought successfully to make a part of the work of the asylum, for it was due to his efforts that the psychiatric laboratory became a part of the Scottish asylum. His work was also distinctly propagandist and to this end he strove to give psychiatry an equal standing with other branches of medicine. His own appointment to lecture at the University of Edinburgh was the first of its kind and he had the satisfaction of seeing there the establishment of a separate chair of psychiatry, while it was also largely the result of his efforts that an academic diploma in this branch was granted.

His work was always closely bound with teaching and he sent forth a large band of trained men. His "Clinical Lectures on Mental Disease" became extensively known and have widely promulgated his methods of treatment and his conceptions of mental disease.

His long administration of the Royal Asylum displayed his ability to grasp essentials and was demonstrated particularly in the building of Craig House, a department for private patients. His insistence on the medical idea of hospital administration firmly established the supremacy of modern scientific methods of treatment.

He was always deeply interested in questions of public moral welfare and lectured to large eager audiences laying down sound practical advice in matters of eugenics, marriage and divorce, which this country is assimilating to-day. He bore a prominent part in the establishment of a council of public morals for Scotland.

His staunch adherence to former associates and their teachings, which had once influenced him, was illustrated by the tenacity with which he held to opinions of Laycock and Skae, which however he was willing to modify to a considerable extent. A certain aloofness prevented the making of many close friends among his acquaintances. His time was moreover well filled with his public as well as his professional duties.

Success with his patients was assured by his good judgment, ready intuition, a broad sympathy which understood and took into account all circumstances, and his advice extended to the entire welfare of the patient. These qualities with his wide experience made him an ideal consultant.

He was in all things a man who brought things to pass. "He was a spring from the north land bringing fresh waters while carving new channels.

JELLIFFE.

The Los Angeles Society for Neurology and Psychiatry has been organized with Dr. H. G. Brainerd as president and Dr. E. H. Williams as secretary.

The State Hospitals' Medical Association of the State Hospitals of Illinois wish to announce their next meeting at the Anna State Hospital, Anna, Illinois, May 25-26, 1916. All physicians are cordially invited.