



Christian Holmes

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Christian Holmes.

By HOLGER MYGIND.

In C. Holmes, who died on January 9th, and who has for a long series of years practised as ear- and eye-specialist in Cincinnati, American otology has lost one of its most prominent sons.

C. Holmes was born of Danish parents in the Danish town of Vejle in Jutland, but went as a boy to America. He had to go through great hardships before he was able to go to the University and eventually take his degree as a M. D.

In 1892 he finished his otological studies in Europe, visiting especially Prof. Schwartze's clinic in Halle, famous at that time for the mastoid operations performed here. Holmes chiefly devoted himself here to the surgery of the ear, and in 1897 he published in »Zeitschrift für Ohrenheilkunde» a paper: »On Stacke's Operation modified by Schwartze»; it was most lucid and accompanied by excellent illustrations and contained his own first 12 operations. After his return from the continent Holmes was appointed ear- and eye-specialist to the Cincinnati Hospital and Professor of otology at the Miami Medical School in Cincinnati.

In 1907 Holmes wrote his candidate's thesis for the membership of the American Laryngological Association: »Erysipelas and its Relation to Purulent Inflammations of the Nasal and Aural Cavities», with an exhaustive bibliography of the subject. After that, Holmes wrote a series of articles in different American Journals and also frequently contributed

to the discussions in the American Societies for Otology and Laryngology. Holmes also took part in the discussions of the First Scandinavian Oto-laryngological Meeting in Copenhagen in 1911.

The work in which, however, Holmes was principally interested during the last part of his life, was the building of a large General Hospital in Cincinnati. With his usual energy and thoroughness he travelled in 1911 all over the continent and inspected hospitals, and it is principally owing to his efforts that this hospital became a model of a modern hospital.

Holmes was an unusually straight-forward, harmonious and manly character. He was a faithful friend, and many will remember his beautiful house in Cincinnati, where he and Mrs. Holmes were the most delightful hosts imaginable.

All who knew Holmes will keep him in loving memory.
