

A devoted son and brother, his mother's death a few years ago was a great blow to him. His own death occurred on January 12th, after several weeks of great pain and suffering borne with wonderful patience and fortitude. He was unmarried. He leaves a sister to mourn his loss, and to her I am indebted for much of the information here recorded.

P. C. COOMBS.

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Dr. J. BARFIELD ADAMS.

The short illness and sudden death, at the age of sixty, of Dr. J. Barfield Adams on February 20th, 1920, while returning from some professional call, came as a great shock to his medical brethren in North Bristol, where he had practised in general medicine for over thirty-five years. About eight years previously he had had to take a rare and enforced holiday in Holland and Belgium and Northern France owing to a first attack of angina pectoris, but he returned to his duties quite as devotedly and almost as strenuously as before, and carried on ever since. Though he had repeated warnings of the same kind, and his heart must have latterly begun to fail seriously, none of us who saw him in the last few weeks and even on the day of his death, going about much as usual, had any suspicion of impending danger; the more so as he had always been a man of great reserve where he himself was personally concerned.

He received his medical education in the Edinburgh University and Extra Mural Medical School, and obtained the Edinburgh Triple Qualification in 1882. From the interest he took and the knowledge he displayed in matters medico-psychological I think he must have had asylum experience, though I have no record as yet as to where he did duty. For the last dozen years he held the responsible post of Medical Officer to the Bristol Colston's Girls' School. He became a member of the Medico-Psychological Association in 1913, and about the same time obtained the Certificate in Psychological Medicine of the Association. While his chosen life-work was to be a general medical practitioner of the best type, he was one of these medical men (all too few as yet) who take an intense interest in psychiatry as bearing on their daily work in medicine. Long and happily married, he left no children to mourn his loss.

In the last few years, and more especially during the war, he undertook regular work for the *Journal of Mental Science*, and contributed valuable critical epitomes of current medico-psychological literature, irradiating his views with sympathy, humour, and occasionally with gentle dissent. Himself a literary artist and a master of style, he also contributed two original delightful critical studies to the *Journal of Mental Science*, namely "Zola's Study of Heredity" (July, 1916), and a complementary "Zola's Studies in Mental Disease" (April, 1917). A discriminating admirer of one whom he dubbed "Master," he freely points out where he thinks Zola failed to be quite true to nature in some of his cameos of insane and degenerate characters. In a third contribution to the Journal, "The Orientation of Human and Animal Figures in Art" (October, 1917), he successfully broke new ground, revealing a wealth of erudition and a playfulness of humour worthy of De Quincey, combined with an insight into pictorial art, and a personal acquaintance with experimental pedagogics quite remarkable. In the same vein about the same time he contributed two essays on Zola to other journals entitled "The Doctors in Zola's History of the Rougon-Mackquart Family," and "Dr. Pascal Rougon: Zola's Study of a Savant."

He told me once that after graduating he had toured on a bicycle throughout the highways and bye-ways of Northern France, with a view mainly to a study of French ecclesiastical architecture. Each cathedral was to him no mere local lion, but an organic whole, showing in the details of its structure within and without its own particular history and that of the ages it had weathered. He was a finished French scholar both in speech and in literary knowledge. In later years he took up the study of Italian ("The Doctors in the Decameron"), Spanish, and even Welsh ("Medicine and Surgery in the Mabmogion"). Whether he ever studied the "gentle German language" is not very apparent; if he did (as is possible) he allowed no pestilent whiff of latter-day Teutonic kultur to obscure his clear vision into Gallic *esprit*.

He took great pleasure in studying what Charles Reade called the "poor dear doctors" themselves (and incidentally some of their patients) as mirrored in literature, and more especially in that of his beloved France.

Others (friends and patients of this quiet, many-sided man), who knew him more intimately, could doubtless say much of him from their several points of view. It suffices here to say that to those of us, his professional brethren, who met him only occasionally on our daily rounds, he was a dignified, kindly man of the highest personal and professional ideals, wise in counsel, and a stimulating listener, who in any subject of conversation was willingly allowed to make the deciding judgment. One might apply to him the remarks he makes himself on one of his favourite characters in Zola, "the savant," Dr. Pascal Rougon: "He had a profound contempt for all that was mean or ignoble—the few who were admitted to his friendship loved him for his honesty and goodness of heart, and admired him for his devotion to work."

W. COTTON.

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DR. ELMER E. SOUTHARD,

*Bullard Professor of Neuropathology, Harvard Medical School.*

THE death in New York on February 8th, 1920, from pneumonia after an illness of two days of Dr. Elmer E. Southard, of Cambridge, America, will be learned with much regret by readers of the Journal and members generally of the Medico-Psychological Association.

Dr. Southard was born in Boston on July 28th, 1876, and graduated in Arts at Harvard College in 1897, and at Harvard Medical School in 1902. After studying at Frankfort and Heidelberg he entered the City Hospital, Boston, as Interne and Assistant in Pathology in 1901, and three years later he became Instructor of Neuropathology at the Harvard Medical School. In 1906 he became Assistant Physician and Pathologist of the Danvers State Hospital, and in 1909 he was made Bullard Professor of Neuropathology at the Harvard Medical School and appointed Pathologist to the Massachusetts State Board of Insanity. Since 1912 he had been Director of the Boston Psychopathic Hospital. He was also Pathologist to the Massachusetts Commission on Mental Diseases. He was associate editor of the *Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases* and assistant editor of *Epilepsia*. In 1917 he was attached to George Washington University, and during the war was a major in the Chemical Warfare Service.

He collaborated in the production of a recent work on *Shell Shock and Neuropsychiatry*, and made many valuable contributions on neuropathology and mental hygiene to current American psychiatry, and his wide knowledge and influence as regards these and allied subjects were recognised both at home and abroad.

The respect and trust his countrymen reposed in him is shown by the fact that he was a member of the Board of Associated Charities of Boston and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He had been President of the Boston Society of Psychiatry and Neurology and President of the American Medico-Psychological Association.

He was stricken when fulfilling a series of important engagements before several medical bodies, and the day before had addressed the National Committee for Mental Hygiene at the Academy of Medicine, New York.

He was one of America's foremost amateur chess players and a member of St. Botolph and Boston Chess Clubs.

His loss was much mourned in America, and the memorial service held at Appleton Chapel, Cambridge, was attended by Harvard professors, students, members of the State Board of Health, and many others. He had reached the stage of maturity and greatest usefulness, and a brilliant future was before him. His great patterns were Prof. Royce and Prof. James, whose ideals were reflected in much that he did. An enthusiastic writer, with a cheerful and attractive personality, his whole thought was how best to serve humanity. It is for others now to continue in his footsteps, and his many friends and admirers, who owe so much to him, will see that his teachings are not lost to posterity but continued and amplified as if he were yet with them.

His helpmate in life was Dr. Mabel Fletcher Austin of Boston, whom he married in 1906.

J. R. L.