

OBITUARY NOTICES.

John George Adami,

C.B.E. ; M.A., M.D. Cantab. ; M.A., M.D. McGill ; Hon. M.D. Belf. ; Hon. LL.D. Toronto ; Hon. LL.D. New Brunswick ; Hon. LL.D. Manch. ; Hon. Sc.D., T.C.D., F.R.C.S. Eng. ; F.R.C.P. Lond. ; F.R.S.E. ; F.R.S. Canada ; F.R.S.

By the death of Dr Adami on 29th August 1926, at the age of sixty-five, the University of Liverpool lost its Vice-Chancellor. He was born at Manchester on 12th January 1862. "Coming originally of Italian descent, his ancestors had for several generations been medical men, but not his father;" his mother was a sister of Dr Daniel Leech, Professor of Therapeutics at Victoria University. Adami was first educated at Manchester Grammar School and Owen's College; he then became Scholar and Darwin Prizeman of Christ's College, Cambridge, and took first-class in the Natural Science Tripos. After studying in Paris with Pasteur and Roux, in Breslau with Heidenhain, and in Cambridge with Michael Foster and Roy, he won the John Lucas Walker studentship at Cambridge, and in 1892 became Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology at McGill University, Montreal. He received the F.R.S.E. in 1898 (his sponsors included Batty Tuke and Noel Paton), the F.R.S. in 1905, and the Fothergillian Gold Medal of the Medical Society of London in 1914. He gave the Middleton Goldsmith Lectures in 1896 on the "Relationship between inflammation and sundry forms of fibrosis," and the Croonian Lectures in 1917 "On adaptation and disease." He was an Honorary Fellow of both Jesus and Christ's Colleges, Cambridge, and at one time President of the Association of American Physicians and also of the Royal Society of Canada. In the Great War Adami became Assistant Director of Medical Services to the Canadian Army and received the C.B.E. in recognition of his work. He was Chairman of the Committee on Bacteriological Procedures, Medical Research Committee, and an active member of the Consultative Committee of the Board of Education which reported in 1923 on "The differentiation of curriculum of boys and girls respectively in Secondary Schools."

Adami was a great pathologist, though not a laboratory man in his later years. While at Montreal, owing to his inspiration, as Sir Humphry

Rolleston has written, "a continuous stream of papers" issued "from his laboratory dealing with all branches of pathology and its application to other sciences." Professors C. Klotz, C. W. Duval, and W. W. Ford were among his pupils. The *Principles of Pathology* was Adami's most masterly work, though it might be better appreciated in this country. The *General Pathology* published in 1908 was, as the Preface states, "not a mere attempt to analyse those phenomena in an ordinary manner." The book is especially notable for his exposition of inflammation, his original and helpful classification of neoplasms upon an embryological basis, and for his judicial assessment of the work of other pathologists. The small, popular, students' textbook of pathology was published four years later, with his friend John McCrae of McGill University.

Adami's other contributions include studies in physiology and pathology of the mammalian heart, with Roy; glomerular activity of the kidney; madura foot disease in America; myelin bodies and fluid crystals, with Aschoff; the relation between a diplococoid form of colon bacillus and cirrhosis of the liver; latent infection and subinfection; various papers on heredity and immunity; diphtheria and diphtheroid bacilli in open wounds, with Bowman and others. He also wrote the *War Story of the Canadian Army Medical Corps*, vol. i, and the article upon "Influenza" in the *Medical History of the War*.

Adami was very popular with the students and delighted to join in their amusements. He believed that "a rounded and complete education includes training and care of the body *pari passu* with that of the mind," and advocated in his last Vice-Chancellor's Report "compulsory medical or physical examination of all students upon admission to the University." He had a knowledge of music and pictures, and like many medical men could draw and paint. He was deeply but unobtrusively religious. His posthumous address upon the "Eternal Spirit in Nature," was read before the Church Congress in Southport, and created a profound impression.

During his Vice-Chancellorship Adami became a man of affairs. He collected large sums of money for the University. The impression he left is aptly summarised in a resolution of Senate. "During the seven years in which he held office his enthusiasm, warmth of heart, and geniality of disposition won for him the affectionate regard of all, and his readiness to support, by speech and influence, every worthy cause, whether great or small, did much to convert throughout the whole region which it serves an attitude of distant respect for the University into one of active friendliness."

Adami's first wife was Mary, daughter of J. Cantlie of Montreal, by whom he had a son and daughter. In 1922 he married Marie, daughter of the Rev. T. Wilkinson, who proved his most devoted companion.

For two years Adami fought an illness which he knew to be incurable, carrying on his duties till almost the very end. His colleagues will never forget his splendid and cheery courage.

ERNEST GLYNN.