TIMOTHY FIELD ALLEN, A. M., M. D., LL. D.

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT FROM THE DIRECTORS OF THE NEW YORK OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.

It is not possible for us to measure with words the depth of our sorrow occasioned by the death on December 5th, 1902, of our beloved President, Timothy Field Allen, A. M., M. D., LL. D., in the sixty-sixth year of his age. Dr. Allen was a native of the State of Vermont—a graduate of Amherst College in 1858. After receiving his degree of M. D. and diploma from the Medical Department of the New York University in 1861, he entered the service of his country as assistant to Surgeon Wagner, of the United States army. Upon his return to New York City, he commenced the homeopathic practice of medicine in partnership with the late Dr. Carroll Durham. His marvelous skill in treating his patients won for him immediate and permanent success. In the midst of his growing practice he found time to write medical books, some of which are today standard works in our homeopathic medical colleges. He loved the healing art in all its departments, and his only aim as a practitioner was the cure of his patients, whether rich or poor—thus illustrating the nobility of his profession by his union of benevolence with science.

In giving expression to our sense of loss, which is shared by the
entire medical fraternity, as well as by thousands among the community at large, we deem it due to the memory of so distinguished a physician as was Dr. Allen to mention at least the following from the long list of his published works:

Encyclopedia of Pure Medica Medica, 10 Vols.
General Symptom Register of Pure Materia Medica.
Hand Book of Materia Medica and Therapeutics.
Boennninghausen's Therapeutics. Pocket Books.
Primer of Materia Medica.
Ophthalmic Therapeutics. (Allen & Norton.)
The Effects of Lead Upon the Health.
A Critical Examination of Materia Medica.
A Contribution to the Study of Human Milk.
The Relative Value of Symptoms.
Characeae Americana. In three parts.
Japanese Characeae. (45 new species), etc.
Notes of the American Species of Tolypella.
Three New Charas From California.
Observations on Some American Forms of Chara Coronata.

The vast sums, counted by millions, which are given annually by New York citizens for the relief of impoverished humanity could not be made effective without the aid of physicians in devising, equipping and conducting hospitals for the benefit of the poor; and in the public careers of New York's eminent doctors no one has used his influence, co-operation and services in this regard with more fruitful results than has Dr. Allen. He was personally identified with the founding and establishment of the New York Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital, twelve years Dean of its Faculty and three years President of its Board of Trustees. He aided and fostered the Laura Franklin Free Hospital for Poor Children, and his connection with the New York Ophthalmic Hospital was potent in placing it in the front rank of New York's most worthy charities. Dr. Allen excelled as oculist, teacher and general practitioner, and was recognized, by common consent, as the leading homœopathic physician of the world, for no other man since Hahnemann has done more to improve the Healing Art and root Homœopathy in the public mind.

Such is a partial sketch of the noble, far-famed physician whose death we deplore.

Two incidents may help to explain Dr. Allen's special affection for the New York Ophthalmic Hospital: First, because its mission is to restore loss of sight—the most pathetic ailment to which flesh is heir. Second, because of the unusual manner in which it became a homeopathic institution.

It was chartered in 1832, and conducted for fifteen years under the allopathic system with very limited success. The Board of Directors, seeing the urgent need of reform in both treatment and management, adopted the following resolutions on the 10th of June, 1867:

Resolved, That there should be in New York City at least one eye infirmary in which the principles of Homœopathy may be applied free from all charge.

Resolved, That the official duties of the consulting and attending surgeons and physicians and apothecary now practicing the allopathic system in this hospital be and hereby are discontinued from this date.

In seeking to replace the staff of retiring physicians with homeopathic surgeons, the directors were recommended by medical men of high standing to confer with Dr. T. F. Allen, who was then only thirty-four years old; and he was, with Dr. Theodor Liebold, appointed as head of the staff. On their advice it was easy to appoint their associates.

Meantime the directors had purchased the lot on the corner of Third avenue and Twenty-third street, and, with the aid of one hundred thousand dollars from Dr. Allen's friends, the commodious edifice now in use was completed and occupied by the hospital in 1872.

In spite of his renown, Dr. Allen was a man of singular modesty, who was always helpful to every poor sufferer he could relieve. He remained as chief of staff at the hospital until it had reached a high degree of usefulness, the number of its patients rising from one thousand annually, under allopathic treatment, to seventeen thousand, under the new method. At this juncture of time he retired to aid the success of the New York Homeopathic Medical College and Hospital in its newly-erected buildings on Eastern Boulevard and Sixty-third street, where it has no superior as a medical college.

Upon our earnest solicitation Dr. Allen resumed his connection with our hospital by taking the position made vacant by the retire-
ment of President Smith, in which office Dr. Allen spent the last ten years of his illustrious life.

We shall ever cherish his memory as a priceless treasure; therefore,

Resolved, That while we mourn his loss, we are thankful to the Providence that gave so many years of the wealth of his kindly nature, his wise counsel and his invaluable service to the work of qualifying the New York Ophthalmic Hospital to open many thousands of blind eyes and unstop many thousands of deaf ears.

Resolved, further, That this tribute of our respect and loving regard for the memory of Timothy Field Allen, A. M., M. D., LL. D., be spread on the minutes of this hospital, and that an engrossed copy thereof, signed by its president and secretary, be sent to the family of the deceased with the heartfelt sympathy of every director in the sorrow of their great bereavement.

George W. Clarke, President.

James Worrall Arthur, Secretary.

Our New Course of Adjuvant Therapeutics.

The year is passing and the innovations in the college curriculum are being tested. So helpful have they already proven, so pregnant with the promise that our graduates will go forth into active professional life fully equipped to stand firm in every possible emergency, that the faculty feels only the impulse to strive the harder for the full development of what is proving to be the broadest course at present given in any American medical college.

In noting, specially, the work done in the Department of Physical and Physiological Therapeutics, presided over by our Dean, Prof. William Harvey King, the same strenuous effort as characterizes all the other departments of teaching is in evidence. The object, which is being well accomplished, is to send forth our men thoroughly posted in all those extra-medicinal methods of therapeutic procedure, the development of which has occupied the master minds of two continents.

While it is recognized that a thorough knowledge of the homopathic Materia Medica forms the keystone around which all success-ful therapeutic measures must rest, extra-medicinal measures have shown themselves to be so helpful, so potent for good, that a medical education is at present incomplete without a knowledge of them. Therefore, our college, always in the van, has arranged to give each student a thorough training in the theory and use of these adjuvant measures.

Exclusive of dietetics, taught by a separate chair, this department comprises, first, electro-therapeutics, taught by Prof. King. One lecture a week is given to the Senior Class throughout the term. The course includes electro-physics, static electricity, high frequency currents, high potential currents, galvanism, Faradism and sinusoidal currents. Demonstrations are made which give a complete working knowledge of instruments and methods. Electro-physiology is very thoroughly discussed, giving the laws and the practical deductions from them, making the therapeutic application of electricity scientifically accurate. Electro-diagnosis, especially in the realm of nervous diseases and gynecology, forms an important feature of the course, and the thorough consideration of general electro-therapeutics is supplemented by its application to special conditions, the latter work being largely clinical. The X-ray and the actinic ray receive an appropriate share of attention.

The Senior Class also receives a thorough course in hydro-therapeutics. Nine lectures are given by Dr. William H. Dieffenbach, which include the history of hydro-therapeutics, the chemical and physical properties of water, the varying physiological action caused by difference of temperature, volume, impact, time, division, etc., the action on the tissues and organs, methods of application, the effects of ingestion of water, various baths, e. g., full, half, hip, sitz, hand, foot, etc.; local compresses, abdominal bandages in fever, the use of steam, ice bags (including the Chapman method), coils, gastric lavage, colon flushing, endo-clysis, enema, the special therapeutic application of water in disease, e. g., fevers (especially the modified Brand method used in the treatment of typhoid), the exanthema, etc., together with the hydrotherapy of other acute diseases, such as meningitis, insolation and croupous pneumonia, and still further, its use in chronic diseases, general malassimilation, incorrect metabolism, anemia, tuberculosis, etc., covering the entire field of application of this powerful therapeutic measure. The Neuheim Bath system in the treatment of cardiac lesions is also taught and the technique of its application in private practice thoroughly explained.