

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
THOMAS ADDIS
(1881-1949)

Although he had been ill for some time with a disease which left little hope for recovery, Dr. Addis' death on June 4, 1949, came as a great shock to all his friends. For nearly forty years his tall figure had been an integral part of the medical school, and during all these years he had devoted himself unsparingly to his work. Born in Edinburgh on July 27, 1881, Addis came to this country in 1911 as a young physician to take over the clinical laboratory at Stanford Medical School under Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur. His genius for research soon made him cast off the burdens of routine work so that within a short time the laboratory was launched in which his studies of renal disease were to be carried out. In collaboration with various associates this work developed in inevitable fashion until his retirement in 1948. The physiology of the kidney, first studied, was soon followed by an investigation of disordered structure and function in Bright's Disease. This led in turn to studies of growth, hypertrophy, and protein metabolism which were being actively pursued when Addis became emeritus. No short note can do justice to the fundamental and penetrating character of these studies. Although a prolific writer, everything which Addis published was a logical and necessary part of the notable structure of knowledge which he so laboriously built up.

Nor can we in brief space begin to describe the unique features of Thomas Addis' character which stamp him, we believe, as a really great man. Broad vision, undaunted honesty, kindness to all, and a noble philosophical outlook, were some of the priceless components of his personality. Although he did not give required courses, no one at Stanford has influenced more generations of students; his fame soon became national and, indeed, international.

Addis' book with Oliver on the Renal Lesion in Bright's Disease is, of course, a classic, but the little volume on Glomerular Nephritis completed only a few months before his death seems to embody his philosophy of disease and of science in general; it will perhaps interpret the man to his followers better than anything else he has done.

In 1913 Dr. Addis married Elese Bolton Partridge, who survives him. To her and to his two daughters will go deepest sympathy from many friends and colleagues.

Arthur Leonard Bloomfield Chairman
George DeForest Barnett
Emile Frederic Holman