

In Memoriam.

HENRY J. WOTHERSPOON, D.D.

By the sudden passing away of the Rev. Dr Henry J. Wotherspoon, on the 28th of January, the Society has been deprived of the services of one who for many years did much in Scotland, and beyond it, for the furtherance of the objects for which the Society stands.

It was an unceasing matter for wonder to those who knew him how, during the years he was in the active ministry and discharging its duties with such fervent zeal and tireless devotion, Dr Wotherspoon found time to accumulate those stores of learning of which in his published works he made such brilliant use. In many branches of theological learning he was a finished scholar. In dogmatic theology, in ecclesiastical history, in Biblical interpretation, as well as in liturgics, his scholarship was wide. He possessed, moreover, a singular gift of imparting knowledge, a gift which he used unsparingly and withal so modestly. He had not only a retentive but a fertile brain, a keen and subtle intellect, and a wonderful analytic insight which enabled him to see at once the bearing and implications of questions which often perplexed others.

Like all strong men, Dr Wotherspoon held strong convictions, but when he felt bound to differ from those who thought otherwise it was always with a gracious courtesy that made all feeling of bitterness impossible. The explanation of this was the unobtrusive piety of the man, a piety which was begotten of the whole-hearted and firm grasp with which he held the Christian Faith. There was about him that air of refinement, of consideration for others, and that thoughtfulness for those he came in contact with which characterise a Christian gentleman.

Dr Wotherspoon's writings were numerous. His 'Ministry in the Church' and his 'Religious Values in the Sacraments' are regarded by scholars on both sides of the Border as works of permanent value, and his 'Life of James Cooper' is an excellent example of discriminating biography. It is, however, in the field of liturgics that the Society owes to him a debt of particular value. His

scholarly edition of the 'Second Prayer Book of King Edward the Sixth' is unique among such works; and his 'Divine Service,' a Eucharistic Office from primitive sources, adapted to the usage of the Church of Scotland, is widely used and has been drawn upon in similar publications; while his 'Kyrie Eleison, a Manual of Private Prayers,' stands perhaps alone as an aid to devotion and spiritual guidance.

DAVID MILLER KAY, D.S.O., D.D.

Scotland and the Church of Scotland are immeasurably the poorer for the loss of Professor Kay, and so are all who knew him and came beneath his influence. To the Church Service Society in particular the loss is great, for he was one of its honoured Vice-Presidents, and he did a notable work towards fostering the spirit of worship by instituting Daily Service for the students of St Andrews.

His was a unique and strong personality, and, modest though he was, no one could be much in his company without feeling the wealth and many-sidedness of his character and gifts, his ripe wisdom, his rich humour, his knowledge of human nature, and his profound scholarship.

But the greatest notes of his character were his devotion to duty and his deep personal sense of the Eternal and Unseen. His devotion to duty was manifest through all his life, in his mastery of many tongues that he might be of the greater service to others, in his work alike as a Missionary in the East and as a Professor at home, in the self-discipline and simple consecration of his life, and supremely in his answer to the call to serve his country in her hour of need, and in his inspiring service as a Chaplain throughout the war in France, Gallipoli, and Macedonia. Not for one heroic act alone, but for all his work of sacrifice, he truly deserved the Distinguished Service Order.

But deepest of all was his pure and simple personal religion. To him the Unseen Things were the things most real to his soul. He had the power of lifting men into the presence of God, and infusing their hearts and minds with the sense of the Eternal. The "great multitude" was to him a vivid reality. And to us, because

he has joined it, it has become more real than ever before. He has fought a good fight and finished his course and kept the faith. May it be ours to follow him in faith and duty, and in loyalty to our heavenly King.

DAVID BRUCE NICOL, M.C., B.D.

Deep sorrow has been aroused throughout the whole Church by the death, in the prime of life and in the midst of a great work dear to his heart, of David Bruce Nicol. Son of a greatly respected Professor who was Moderator of the Church of Scotland in 1914, he was educated at Aberdeen University, and his first charge was that of Skelmorlie, a parish which has been served by many distinguished men. For his war service in Palestine and France he was awarded the Military Cross. In 1920 he came to Edinburgh to undertake the charge of S. Margaret's in the East End of the city, an appointment which carried with it the Wardenship of the Pastoral Institute, established for the training of Divinity students in practical work. Here he rendered six years of fine service, the memory of which is cherished by parishioners and students alike. In 1925 he was translated to S. Mark's, Dundee, from which, only last year, he was called to the charge of Govan, the famous church once served by Dr John Macleod. In many ways he seemed the ideal man for this post. He threw himself into its work with his accustomed energy, and, had he been spared, his ministry there would have undoubtedly exercised a powerful influence for good in that densely populated district of Glasgow. Besides his pastoral work he found time for a number of other activities. He was one of the two Secretaries of the Scottish Churches Council, formed to enable the Churches to take common action on public questions; and since 1927 he was Secretary of the Church Service Society, the aims and objects of which he had very much at heart. To the last number of this Annual he contributed a valuable paper on Confirmation, and he had in preparation a manual on the Principles of Divine Service. Devoted, forceful, and withal extremely lovable, David Bruce Nicol leaves a fragrant memory in the Church he loved and served.