

made it so evident that he was willing to assist in anything likely to advance psychiatry in our country. His death at such an early age must be looked upon as a calamity, when as never before, psychiatry requires the aid of men who can rise superior to the frills and fads which have hampered this branch of medicine of late years.

### **SIR WILLIAM OSLER, BART., M.D., F.R.S., ETC.**

**C**ANADA and the world, especially the medical profession, lost, on December 30th, 1919, in the death of Sir William Osler, one of its most prominent men.

Sir William Osler was born at Bond Head, Ontario, in 1849. His father was the Rev. F. S. Osler, M.A. (Cantab.), a Church of England clergyman. Sir William was educated at Trinity College School, Toronto; Trinity College; Toronto University; and McGill University, Montreal, where he graduated from Medicine in 1872. He then went abroad for two years and studied in London, Vienna and Berlin. On his return to Montreal in 1874 he was appointed to the Chair of Medicine at McGill University and held this Chair for ten years.

In 1885 Dr. Osler was called to Philadelphia to the Chair of Clinical Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and in 1889 he accepted the Chair of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University, where he remained until 1904. While at Johns Hopkins he wrote his celebrated text-book on "The Practice of Medicine", which achieved immediate success and up to the present day is the most valuable single text-book in medicine ever written.

In 1904 Dr. Osler was called to Oxford University where he was Professor in Medicine until his death. He was made a baronet in 1911 and besides received many honours from home and foreign lands, being the honorary member of many foreign societies. He was also an F.R.S. and F.R.C.P. of London.

As a clinical teacher Dr. Osler was probably at his best. For not only was he an accurate diagnostician and a clear expositor, but he treated his hospital patients most kindly as human beings and not as mere cases. His influence on medicine has been unique for it has been exercised both on this continent and in Europe so that his death will be felt seriously over the whole world. He was an author on subjects not exclusively medical as is shown in his works entitled "Counsels and Ideals" and "The Alabama Student and Other Essays". As a writer he had an excellent style, terse and to the point, every word telling, short sentences and no obscurity. He said what he wanted to say and then stopped—a rare quality in a writer. Mental hygiene as well as general medicine has lost a great friend as Sir William Osler had taken a keen interest in the mental hygiene movement in Canada.