

ministers coming into his works. We find him then eschewing the ministry, giving up law, and then studying medicine till that profession was lost in literature.

Meanwhile he who became the Autocrat of the Breakfast Table and the Professor also had not to invent the professorial title for himself, for it soon became his of right. After spending two years at the Tremont Medical School, which he helped to found and then to hand over to Harvard University to be merged in its medical department, we find Holmes professor of Anatomy and Physiology in Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, one of the leading New England colleges of the second rank. After two brief years here we find him in 1841 firmly planted in Boston which was to be his home for the next fifty three years and in whose streets and houses he was so well known a figure: nor could any one person be said to be more characteristic of Boston in the best sense during the past half century than Holmes. For thirty-five years from 1847 he was Professor of Anatomy in Harvard and he contributed largely to the philosophy of medicine. Amongst his works may be named "Homœopathy and its Kindred Delusions" in 1842, "Currents and Counter-Currents in Medical Science" 1861, "Border lines of Knowledge" 1862, "Mechanism in Thought and Morals", this last a Treatise on the Functions of the Brain. In these works Dr. Holmes heated that difficult and unexplored region in which physiology and psychology seem to be neighbours. He delighted to dwell on some problem on the borderland of mind and matter and the inter-relation of the physical frame and the moral character. Some may think his theories somewhat affected with a materialistic bias, but Dr. Holmes was no materialist. In speaking of his literary works apart from his scientific treatises we note three distinct portions (1) his Poems, (2) his Essays or the Autocrat Series, (3) his Novels. In the Autocrat he is most himself and least like others. Hence he will be remembered most as the Autocrat.

Herein it is no doubt helped by the happy title which is a taking one. To discuss in detail all Holmes' literary work would be too ambitious a programme for us, hence we shall content ourselves with a few desultory remarks and with a personal reminiscence of the man. In a Magazine like this we should be anxious to know something of the attitude of Holmes