We teach and teach
Until like drumming pedagogues we lose
The thought that what we teach has higher ends
Than being taught and learned.

It ought to be impossible, even in satire, to say "Those who can, do; those who can't, teach."

The strong teacher must ever have the best of the priest about him in the fervor of his faith in the healing power of truth. Let our teaching be sane, fearless and enthusiastic, and let us not, even in moments of despondency, forget the dignity, the opportunity, the power of our calling. The teacher is the foremost servant of society and the state, for he is moulding their future leaders. Sound learning, wisdom and morality are the foundation of all order and progress, and these it is the aim of the college to foster. If we can send into the world a yet larger number of strong young men—men clean in body, clean in mind and large of soul, men as capable of moral as of mental leadership, men with large thoughts beyond selfishness, ideas of leisure beyond idleness, men quick to see the difference between humor and coarseness in a jest—if we can ever and in increasing numbers send out young men of this sort, we need never fear the question —"Can a young man afford the four best years of his life to go to college?"

DR. WILLIAM WIGHTMAN

In Science of June 4 last there appeared the following brief item:

"Dr. William Wightman, of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, died at Guayaquil, Ecuador, on May 17, from yellow fever."

As a rule, only the claim of conspicuous achievement can arrest any wide attention at the passing of a unit of the race; yet the circumstances of the life and death of William Wightman merit an attention wider than the circle of his acquaintances, and may offer some inspiration for all who labor for the betterment of the race.

It is a subject of common, if rather vague, remark that America is beginning to exert a wider influence on the welfare of other peoples of the world, especially on that of our less favored sister nations of the same continent. This influence is constantly wielded through diplomatic efforts, through the labors of educational or religious bodies, through the movements of commercial expansion, but in no way more certainly and more beneficially than through the striking achievements and the example of our medical profession. The sanitary measures employed at Panama and extended to points of the west coast of South America for the better protection of the Canal Zone, have been of such evident advantage as to win a hearty recognition and an effort of cooperation from the South American countries. The indirect results in these countries will form a significant chapter in history, even though the names should be forgotten of those who labored at the beginning. Nevertheless, the foundation of an achievement of which the nation will be justly proud is laid by those who do the pioneer work under circumstances which demand not only a high degree of determination, but rare patience, tact and honor, or even an unassuming heroism. Of such pioneers was William Wightman, an American by adoption, by affection and by devoted service.

In the early part of 1906, as a young surgeon in the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, who had served efficiently on our western coast, Dr. William Wightman was detailed to Callao, Peru, to act as quarantine agent attached to the American Consulate. For two years he served his country at this port, manifesting not only professional ability, but inflexible devotion to his duties, and unfailing courtesy and tact. It is not too much to say that he won the respect, and even the affectionate esteem, of most of those whose private interests suffered from the rigid measures of disinfection. Certainly he held a high place in the affection of the American and English residents and visitors of that region,

while he gained the confidence of the Peruvian surgeons and other officials with whom he was brought into contact. Undoubtedly, his presence, his sympathy and his counsel gave aid and inspiration to the native officers who labored for the cause of good health.

In the spring of 1908, when the government of Ecuador undertook the monumental task of eradicating the bubonic plague and yellow fever from its chief port, the city of Guayaquil, Dr. Lloyd, then in the quarantine service of our government at that city, was chosen by the Ecuadorian authorities to direct the difficult campaign of sanitation. This led to the removal of Wightman from Callao to Guayaquil to have charge of the important quarantine work at that place.

In Ecuador, even more than in Peru, Wightman was not content with the mere performance of official duties, but gave himself to professional service according as the need arose and so far as his limited spare time permitted, contending with the diseases of smallpox, bubonic plague and yellow fever. It was in such professional activity that he contracted the disease which so sadly terminated his short career.

There is no wish to attach an undue glamor of heroism to a simple and conscientious service. A principal charm and virtue of Wightman's was the mobility of his temperament, the ease with which he adapted himself to persons and conditions. While contributing to the health and pleasure of those about him, he found a sincere enjoyment, not only in his professional duties, but in the best society, native and foreign, that his surroundings afforded. There was no discontentment, no evident sacrifice. Only the closest friends could gain an intimation of the real sacrifice entailed by the enforced separation from a loved wife and child, whom he feared to take into an unhealthful climate, or by the exposure of a constitution of whose weakness he was aware to so prolonged a stay in a tropical region. It was these considerations, and chiefly the former, which made his transfer to Guayaquil a reluctant one, though accepted without complaint. The personal exposure to infectious diseases was, of course, accepted unreservedly as the lot of his profession.

The sacrifice involved in such a case is the greater from the fact that our government, strangely, offers no assurance or hope of a just provision for the families of those who may risk and give their lives in such patriotic and humanitarian service.

A life devoted steadfastly to the country of his adoption, and finally sacrificed all too early by the voluntary extension of this service for the good of fellow men of another nationality —in this is an appeal to the pride of all Americans. A wide and sincere sympathy will be felt for the wife and child that are bereft.

We pride ourselves that the American flag goes out over the world as the emblem of peace, of health and of prosperity, but the men who most loyally carry it and who, unknowingly, add to its honor are such as William Wightman.

ROBERT E. COKER

THE HARPSWELL LABORATORY

THE Harpswell Laboratory at South Harpswell, Maine, was opened for the tenth season from June 10 to September 9, 1909, every room being occupied by investigators. No considerable changes have been made in the equipment, but the library has been increased, chiefly by gifts of separata from authors. Of these there are over 500 new titles, while friends kindly gave subscriptions to several American journals. To all these the thanks of the laboratory are due.

The following persons worked at the laboratory, most of them for the entire season:

George A. Bates, professor of histology, Tufts Medical School. Histology of the teeth.

Frank S. Collins, Malden, Mass. Studying the marine Algæ of Casco Bay.

Ulric Dahlgren, professor of biology, Princeton University. Comparative histology of various vertebrates and invertebrates.

Charles H. Danforth, instructor in anatomy, Washington University, St. Louis. Structure of the head in a recently hatched *Amiurus*.

Pauline H. Dederer, tutor in zoology, Barnard College. Pressure experiments on developing eggs of *Cerebratulus* and spermatogenesis in *Platysamia*.