human race, but because they make an irresistible appeal by reason of an inner beauty. Some of the greatest investigators indeed have been fascinated by problems of immediate utility as well as by those that deal with abstract conceptions only. Helmholtz invented the ophthalmoscope and thus made modern ophthalmology possible, and at the same time did work of the highest order in theoretical physics and wrote on the nature of the mathematical axioms and the principles of psychology. Lord Kelvin took out patents on great improvements in the compass and on oversea telegraphy, and also made contributions to our knowledge of the ultimate constitution of the atom and the properties of the ether. From this point of view the investigator is a man whose inner life is *free* in the best sense of the word. In short, *there should be in research work a cultural character, an artistic quality, elements that give to painting, music and poetry their high place in the life of man.*

Ladies and gentlemen, I have attempted in this hour to point out some recent advances that have been made in the study of the blood and of the organs of internal secretion, and have cited the beneficent effects of even these small advances—a very few bright stars in a darkened sky—in order to emphasize the great rôle that chemistry is destined to play in biology and medicine. I have strongly urged that those who are to be medical teachers and investigators should not content themselves with a mere smattering, but endeavor to acquire a really sound training in one of the fundamental sciences.

You, my colleagues, working with open-minded and generous trustees, must see to it that the men selected for important posts shall be those that are capable of training and inspiring the young men who in their turn will furnish the leadership of the future.

In our country many agencies combine to foster the higher learning. It is to the lasting honor of men of wealth that they have appreciated the need for institutes of research and in a number of notable instances have placed large sums at the disposal of science. They have responded nobly to that appeal of Pasteur which I have already cited in which he calls laboratories "the temples of the future, of riches and of comfort."

John J. Abel

The Johns Hopkins Medical School

CHARLES WILLIAM PRENTISS

Charles William Prentiss, professor of microscopic anatomy in the Northwestern University Medical School, died at Chicago on the twelfth day of June. Born in Washington, D. C., August 14, 1874, he spent many of his early years at Middlebury, Vermont.

His undergraduate work was done at Middlebury College, where his father, Dr. Charles E. Prentiss, was librarian. He was graduated with honors in 1896 but remained there another year as a graduate student. During the next three years he was at Harvard University in the department of zoology. Here he received the degree of doctor of philosophy in 1900. The following year was spent at the Harvard Medical School as instructor in anatomy. He was then awarded a Parker Traveling Fellowship and studied in Europe for two years. Although the greater part of this time was spent at Freiburg and Naples his work with Bethe at Strassburg had the more important influence on his career.

On his return to America he held appointments successively in the zoological departments of Western Reserve University and the University of Washington, Seattle. While in the latter place he first developed the symptoms of duodenal ulcer from which he suffered for the last eight years. He came to Northwestern University Medical School as assistant professor of anatomy in 1909 and was made professor of microscopic anatomy in 1913.

Professor Prentiss was a member of the Society of Naturalists, the Society of Zoologists and the Association of Anatomists. He was the author of many papers presenting the results of his own investigations in the fields of zoology and anatomy among the more important of which may be mentioned:

1. "The Otocyst of Decapod Crustacea," *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, 1901.
   This was his thesis for the doctorate and was a well-rounded piece of histological and physiological work.
2. "Polydactylism in Man and the Domestic Animals," *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, 1903.
3. "The Neurofibrillar Structure in the Ganglia of the Leech and Crayfish with Especial Reference to the Neurone Theory," *Jour. Comp. Neur.*, 1903.
4. "The Nervous Structures in the Palate of the Frog," *Jour. Comp. Neur.*, 1904.
5. "The Development of the Hypoglossal Ganglia of Pig Embryos," *Jour. Comp. Neur.*, 1910.
6. "The Development of the Membrana Tectoria with Reference to its Structure and Attachments," *Amer. Jour. Anat.*, 1913.

Dr. Prentiss's "Text-book of Embryology" published in January, 1915, less than six months before his death, met at once with a very favorable reception. It is an example of text-book-making at its very best. The wealth of excellent illustrations and the clear concise text make it indispensable for the student of embryology. In it there are also may contributions of an original character not published elsewhere.

Professor Prentiss's scientific work was characterized by a scrupulous attention to detail and by the perfection of his technical methods. He handled with great success and on difficult material the most delicate of neurological methods—the methylene blue stain. His dexterity was shown again in remarkable dissections of embryos, drawings from which appear in his book. He brought to all his work an unusually clear mind and a keen insight into fundamental problems.

Reticent, almost shy, by nature, and prevented by the condition of his health from often joining his colleagues at the regular Christmas meetings Dr. Prentiss was intimately known to only a chosen few. To them he was endeared by reason of his unfailing good humor, generous motives and loyalty to high ideals and to his friends. Admired and respected by all conscientious students and loved by those who came into close contact with him, he helped greatly toward the establishment of high standards of scholarship and manhood in the student body.

In his death we lose a comrade whom we esteemed most highly, a generous and faithful friend.

S. WALTER RANSON

CHICAGO,
June 24, 1915

FRATERNITAS MEDICORUM

THE following appeal has been addressed by the distinguished committee whose names are appended to members of the medical profession. Every physician is entitled to membership in the Brotherhood (Fraternitas Medicorum = F.M.); there is no fee attached to this membership. However, in order to be able to maintain the organization, distribution of appropriate literature, etc., voluntary contributions will be welcome. Enrollment of membership as well as contributions are to be sent to The Medical Brotherhood, care of Dr. S. J. Meltzer, 13 West 121st Street, New York City.

AN APPEAL

To the men and women engaged in medical practise and the advancement of the medical sciences.

The present horrible war among civilized nations has brought out impressively certain sad facts; that although there are civilized *individual* nations, we are still very far from having a civilized humanity—there is an abyss between *intra*national and *inter*national morality; that, no matter how cultured and enlightened nations may be, they still settle their international differences by brute force, by maiming and killing their adversaries; and, finally, that the present high development of science and invention in individual nations only serves to make the results of this war more destructive than any other in history.