

**MEMORIES OF EDMUND
SYMES-THOMPSON,
M.D., F.R.C.P. A
FOLLOWER OF ST. LUKE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649647446

Memories of Edmund Symes-Thompson, M.D., F.R.C.P. A Follower of St. Luke by Elizabeth Watkins Symes-Thompson

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ELIZABETH WATKINS SYMES-THOMPSON

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EDMUND SYMES-THOMPSON

M.D., F.R.C.P.

A FOLLOWER OF ST. LUKE



MEMORIES OF
MUND SYMES-THOMPSON

M.D., F.R.C.P.

A FOLLOWER OF ST. LUKE

BY HIS WIFE

PREFACE BY
THE LORD BISHOP OF WAKEFIELD

FORTITER
FIDELITER
FELICITER

"O ye holy and humble men of heart,
Bless ye the Lord."

LONDON
ELLIOT STOCK, 62, PATERNOSTER ROW, E.C.

1908

689
108

PREFACE

IT is an honour to be associated in any way with so noble a character as Dr. Symes-Thompson, and I gladly pay my tiny tribute to the memory of one whom, in common with many others, I owe so much of help and encouragement.

This little book is only intended to be a brief sketch of a many-sided and duty-loving life. Many who could not read a long biography will be grateful for these touches by a loving hand. It is helpful to struggling, tempted workers even to have a glimpse of a picture of one who was a leader against the strongholds of human ills. Such a picture we have here: the portrait of a conscientious and distinguished medical man, who was not only eminent in his own profession, and a specialist in his own line, but was known and appreciated by a wide circle for his broad sympathies, his multiplied interests, his well-stored mind, his deep moral enthusiasm, and, above all, his convinced Christian witness.

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And behind all his public activities was the background of a supremely happy home-life.

His name will always be associated with the Hospital for Consumption, with the Gresham Lectureship, and with the Medical Guild of St. Luke—a Guild for those who believe that Christianity and Science are not antagonistic, but revelations of the same Mind. To thousands who have consulted him in his wide practice there will be an undying memory of kindness beyond words, of thorough painstaking inquiry and advice, and of that rare combination of strength and tenderness which, when found (as it is so often found) in an eminent physician, is indeed a lovely thing.

The book can only give a slight idea of his unwearied activities. He literally wore himself out in ceaseless ministries of help to his fellow-men.

G. R. W.

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FOREWORD

"Can we forget one friend?
Can we forget one face
Which cheered us toward our end,
Which nerved us for our race?
One presence which has made us know,
To God-like souls, how deep our debt;
We would not—if we could—forget!"

CHARLES KINGSLEY.

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WHAT is it that makes us all like a good novel? The incidents? Yes, in part; but chiefly the unfolding of character—the God-like acts of some, the evil deeds of others, and a chromatic scale of motives and actions in between. The author seizes points from real people, and his own genius and imagination finally create each vivid personality. When all is said and done, and our emotions have been aroused, we feel like the child at the theatre, who was comforted when his mother said: "Never mind; don't cry! It's all make-believe."

But when we turn to a biography we are reading the life-history of a real man. If we have children of our own, we long to know how early years showed signs of promise, what influences entered into the