

**An address delivered by the President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in Norwich Cathedral on the occasion of the unveiling of the William Cadge memorial window on the 6th of December, 1904.**

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**An Address** delivered by the President of the  
Royal College of Surgeons of England in **NORWICH**  
**CATHEDRAL** on the occasion of the Unveiling of  
the **WILLIAM CADGE MEMORIAL WINDOW**  
on the 6th of December, 1904.

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# THE WILLIAM CADGE MEMORIAL WINDOW, NORWICH CATHEDRAL.



*From a photograph by Mr. A. E. COE (Norwich).*







**T**HE occasion which brings us together is at once sad and consolatory. We mourn the loss of a distinguished professional brother; and we assemble to commemorate his worth. The Memorial Window, the unveiling of which we inaugurate with all the solemnity and circumstance of religious ceremonial, has, with the sympathetic sanction of the Dean and Chapter of this ancient Cathedral, been inserted and dedicated to the loving memory of **William Cadge**, by his professional brethren in many lands. Here it will take its place among other records and monuments commemorative of noble lives and noble deeds which this hallowed building contains, and will keep the good name of **William Cadge** ever fresh in the minds of the citizens of Norwich, and will be an abiding testimony to the esteem in which he was held by members of his profession throughout the World.

It is indeed an agreeable thought that the contributors to this Memorial are not the professional friends and associates of Mr. Cadge in East Anglia only, nor are they entirely medical men in the



United Kingdom, but they include physicians and surgeons, some of them of the highest eminence, practising in the Colonies and in many foreign countries : in Australia and in Canada, in India and in the West Indies, in the United States of America, in France and in Germany, in Italy and in Sweden, in Belgium and in Russia.

Greater honour can no man have than this : That "his brilliant talents as a Surgeon, his great sympathy with suffering, his invariable kindness and courtesy" gained for him the good opinion and confidence of his companions and his peers while he lived, and their affectionate remembrance in death.

This is not the time nor is this the place to attempt an appreciation of the technical side of Mr. Cadge's standing as a Surgeon ; but it may be not inappropriate to notice its personal and ethical aspects. The great French Surgeon, Guy of Chauliac, writing in the early part of the fourteenth century, and enumerating, after Arnaldus of the thirteenth century, the requisites of a Surgeon, says:—"The Surgeon should be kindly disposed : he should be bold when sure, cautious in danger ; kind to the sick, friendly with colleagues and associates ; chaste, sober, pitiful and compassionate ; not covetous and not greedy of gain." How completely Mr. Cadge fulfilled all these moral and intellectual requirements you all know.

There is another phase of his professional activity to which I may be allowed briefly to refer. In the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, where it was my privilege to know him best, Mr. Cadge was always zealous in everything that concerned



the dignity and the advancement of Surgery and the welfare of the Surgical profession. He was wise in counsel, temperate in judgment, and, though himself the soul of honour, he ever leaned, in matters of discipline and censure, to mercy's side. His experience in affairs, his knowledge of men, his insight into character, his familiarity with the trials and temptations, and anxieties of professional life, taught him to make a large allowance for human frailty. In judging of the character and of the conduct of men he never forgot that :

"What's done we partly may compute,  
But know not what's resisted."

But Mr. Cadge was not a Surgeon only. He had a due sense of his civic responsibilities and shared the interests of the community in which he lived, although his public work may not have loomed large in the public eye. He had none of the "vanity of variety." Constitutionally of a reserved disposition, he shrank from everything that might suggest ostentation, or obtrusion, or even prominence. Rather in secret did he delight to practise "the luxury of doing good." Simplicity, sincerity, and strength were his characteristics. There was no finesse, no reservation, no balancing of self-interests, no wavering in anything Mr. Cadge said or did. He thought clearly and he acted deliberately, fearlessly accepting the full responsibility of his acts and deeds.

"Large was his bounty and his soul sincere." Whatever his hand found to do he did it with his might. All the powers and faculties of his mind and body were devoted to the service of God and humanity. His knowledge, his experience, and his skill were



freely at the disposal of all who stood in need of them; and he spared neither himself nor his substance in promoting the health, and happiness and melioration of his fellow men.

Generous by nature, he acquired amid the struggles of a strenuous life the *habit* of benevolence. Good-will co-operated with good-intent, and well-doing became almost an instinct. Unceasingly he cultivated all the charities of life, as citizen and friend, philanthropist and physician.

**William Cadge** has fulfilled his destiny on earth: he has finished "the work given him to do." He rests from his labours, and, leaving behind him an example of high purpose and worthy endeavour, has joined the glorious company of whom it is written—*Opera illorum sequuntur illos.*

JOHN TWEEDY.

