

For the will that burst the fetters of the
 past
 And from bondage gave us liberty at
 last,
 When the seeker had the mystery
 unsealed
 And 'the human' his humanity re-
 vealed;
 For the man who overcrowded and
 overcame
 What a weaker soul might shatter or
 might maim;
 For the lightsome heart and vivid
 thought that threw
 Grace afresh about things noble and
 things true.
 Still his mind a radiance flashes on the
 page,
 Still his light shines clear, rekindling
 youth in age;
 As the ruddy glow upon the hills at eve
 Strikes a message to our hearts, and
 we believe.

D. A. S.

DR. E. S. ROBERTS.

A FRIEND and former pupil of Dr. E. S. Roberts, late Master of Gonville and Cain's College, writes of his work as follows:—

According to a widespread tradition, not easy to break down, Caius, as having been refounded by a distinguished physician, was specially devoted to medical studies. Roberts, however, early recognised that one of the chief advantages of the Collegiate system is that students of widely different departments of knowledge should be brought into contact, and one of his main objects, while encouraging the best students of the medical sciences, was to make the College also a centre for other forms of learning. In the sixties and earlier Caius had trained many mathematicians, but its classical students had not been very numerous. In Roberts's Tutorship linguistic studies made a great advance. Roberts spared neither time nor labour to do the best for his men. He was diffident about his powers as a lecturer, and lectured in public for the most part only on Greek Epigraphy, Greek Dialects, and Comparative Philology. But he was a sound scholar in pure

classics also, and, though he rarely wrote compositions himself, was a very careful and painstaking corrector of his pupils' exercises both in prose and verse. Nor were his classical pupils his only care. Finding that the less capable of the medical students experienced great difficulties with the subjects of their first medical examination, he took up the different subjects himself and worked through them, in order that he might the more thoroughly understand the obstacles in the way of his men and be able to help them, as he often did in private evening classes. Roberts, however, was always resolved that he should not be entirely immersed in Tutorial duties. In 1878 he published a translation of Pezzi's little book on Comparative Philology, which was at the time the only book of the kind at all up-to-date, and devoted the scanty leisure of many years to his *Introduction to Greek Epigraphy*. The book at once became a standard work. Although Roberts had adopted Kirchhoff's classification of the Greek alphabets, his book was no mere copy of Kirchhoff. It contained far more: the commentaries upon the Greek inscriptions were most valuable to students, and the literature of the subject was mastered and well digested for their use. The life of a Tutor in a large college is no sinecure, and a great part of this work was written between midnight and two in the morning.

When a University Lectureship in Comparative Philology was established in 1884 Roberts was appointed to it on the understanding that he should devote himself mainly to Epigraphy and Greek Dialects, while Dr. Peile undertook the more technical departments of Comparative Philology. This Lectureship he relinquished when about to become Vice-Chancellor in 1906, and he used laughingly to say that it was impossible to resume the study of Epigraphy after being Vice-Chancellor, because during the two years of tenure of that office it was impossible to read and no less impossible afterwards to overtake what perforce had been left unread. He continued however to take College classes in the philological subjects for Part I. of the Classical Tripos, and to these admitted students also from other Colleges.