residence in Washington, D. C. For many years it was his custom to spend a part or the whole of the summer on his Woodstock estate, comprising several hundred acres of magnificent pine forest bordering on a beautiful lake. Dr. Mathewson was married in Washington, D. C., in 1870, to Harriet Silliman, daughter of Thomas and Emily (Silliman) Blagden. Mrs. Mathewson died a number of years ago. Two sons and a daughter survive.

Dr. Mathewson, while in Brooklyn, was a member of the Church of the Pilgrims (Congregationalist). Although dignified in bearing, yet he was modest and unassuming. His strong, sturdy nature always reminded me of an oak tree, and when the news of his death was received, the exclamation came to my lips, "a noble oak has fallen."

GEORGE THOMAS STEVENS, M.D., Ph.D.

ALEXANDER DUANE, M.D.,
New York.

Dr. George Thomas Stevens was the son of Rev. Chauncey Coe Stevens and Lucinda Hoadley Stevens. He was born in Jay, Essex County, New York, on July 25, 1832, and died at his residence, 350 West 88th Street, New York, on January 30, 1921.

His childhood and early youth were spent in Elizabeth-town and Crownpoint, New York, where his father was a Congregational minister. He received his early education in the schools of the county and through studies with his father, who was a man of high literary attainments.

He received his medical education at the Castleton Medical College, Vermont, where he graduated in medicine in 1857. He commenced the practice of medicine in Wadhams Mills, Essex County, New York. On April 17, 1861, he married Harriet Weeks Wadhams, of Wadhams Mills, New
York. Their children were Frances Virginia Stevens, who married Professor George Trumbull Ladd, of Yale University; Dr. Charles Wadhams Stevens, who is now practising ophthalmology in New York city; and Georgina Wadhams Stevens, who died in childhood.

At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861 he was commissioned an assistant surgeon in the Seventy-seventh Regiment, New York State Volunteers. He was later made surgeon, and for two and one-half years was operating surgeon of his division. He served in all the campaigns of the Army of the Potomac, and for a time was Medical Inspector of the Sixth Corps.

At the close of the war he resumed the general practice of medicine in Albany, New York. Early in his career he began to devote special attention to ophthalmology, and while still in Albany had become widely known as an enthusiastic student of the subject and as an operator. In 1870 he was appointed Professor of Physiology and Diseases of the Eye in the Albany Medical College, the Medical Department of Union University. In 1877 he was given the honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy by Union. He became a member of the American Ophthalmological Society in 1873.

Being desirous of confining his work solely to ophthalmology, he moved to New York in 1880. He continued in active practice there up to the time of his last illness, about two years before his death, and retained his steadiness of hand and ability to perform delicate eye surgery into his eighty-sixth year.

In 1881 he presented and described at the International Medical Congress in London his recording perimeter, probably the first of its kind.

In 1883 he received the highest award in a competition instituted by the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium for an essay on Functional Nervous Diseases.
Soon after this he performed one of the first operations done in this country for removing a foreign body from the eye with a magnet. The foreign body, visible with the ophthalmoscope, was located in the retina. The writer of this paper had the opportunity of seeing the case at least twenty-five years after the operation, and found the eye perfectly normal except for a cataract.

Dr. Stevens was, indeed, a natural operator—dexterous, careful, and cool, and with some it was a matter of regret that he did not give more attention in his later years to general ophthalmology, in which his skill would have made him preëminent. But comparatively early he turned from general ophthalmic work to the study of motor anomalies, and to this study he devoted almost exclusively the last forty years of his life. Strongly convinced of the dependence of many nervous conditions (chorea, epilepsy, migraine) on ocular conditions, and particularly on disorders of the ocular muscles, he wrote much concerning these inter-relations, and constantly exemplified his faith in his practice. It was his life work, which he pursued with the zeal of a missionary almost to the day of his death. Particularly he advocated operations on the eye muscles as a means of relieving these conditions.

Apart from his writings on these topics, presented with admirable clearness and great force, we may say that his main contributions to the subject were these: First, he propounded a nomenclature of motor anomalies, which is now firmly established and universally employed; second, he devised the phorometer, clinoscope, clinometer, and tropometer, instruments that form an important part of the armamentarium of ophthalmologists who are at all interested in the study of motor anomalies; third, he suggested and practised a variety of new operations on the muscles, which required a delicacy and skill that his numerous imitators have not always been able to command; fourth, for conducting
these operations he invented a set of instruments which are among the best that we have.

As is well known, his radical views and his uncompromising way of presenting them aroused much antagonism. He was a born fighter and, possessing strong convictions, expressed them in no uncertain tones. He had consequently many opponents as well as many adherents. Not a few regarded his views as ultra-radical, mistaken in principle and dangerous in practice. This opposition at times waxed bitter, and in conducting it many forgot the considerable services that he had rendered to ophthalmology and quite overlooked the essential sincerity and integrity of the man.

It is on this last point that the author would specially speak. It was his fortune to be associated with Dr. Stevens for some eight months in the beginning of his own work in ophthalmology. It was by such close personal contact that he learned to know Dr. Stevens as a man genial, courageous, virile, and sincere, a man of warm attachments and with a host of friends. Although engaged a good part of his life in controversies, he was the reverse of bitter in his antagonisms, and rarely, if ever, let slip an expression indicative of a personal animus. It was a characteristic trait that he was very fond of children and animals.

Dr. Stevens was a man of great industry, ingenuity, originality, and genius. His was a many-sided character. A skilful artist, he made excellent sketches of the fundus and, as one of his hobbies, made extra-illustrated books.

He was a lover of good books and had a large general library. He was also an ardent student, not only of all branches of his profession, but also of natural history in all its forms. His principal recreation was the study of botany. His extensive herbarium included plants and flowers from all parts of America and Europe. His Guide to Flowering Plants, mentioned below, was published in his seventy-eighth year. It was illustrated with hundreds of drawings made by
him from nature with great accuracy and remarkable skill. Of nature, indeed, he was always a great lover and an enthusiastic student.

In politics he was a Republican; in religion, a member of the Congregational Church. Always interested in current events, always, as one of his friends said, intensely alive and of remarkable intellectual vitality, he retained his interests and his mental vigor to the very end of his eighty-eight years.


ADOLF ALT, M.D.

WM. F. HARDY, M.D.,
St. Louis, Mo.

The death of Dr. Adolf Alt occurred June 28, 1920, after two and a half years of invalidism the result of a myocarditis. Throughout his long illness the gentleness and patience which were his characteristics in health were never absent. If he entertained doubts as to his restoration to health, he carefully concealed them from his friends and those he loved in order to spare them pain.

If, simplicity, honesty, and candor are attributes of greatness, then Adolf Alt deserved that distinction. Whether in private or public life, in professional or literary activity, these qualities were ever dominant. To create a false impression by word or deed in his professional relations with