

John Gordon Harrower, M.B., Ch.M.(Glas.), D.Sc.(Edin.),
F.R.C.S.E.

JOHN GORDON HARROWER was a native of Glasgow, and at the date of his untimely death on April 9, 1936, had only attained his forty-sixth year. After leaving Allen Glen's Higher Grade School, to which he had won a Scholarship from his Primary School, he served a five-years' apprenticeship as an engineer, and at the age of twenty became a shift engineer in the Power Station of the Glasgow Corporation Tramways. He continued his studies in Higher Mathematics and Electricity in the evening classes of the Royal Technical College, and became fired with the ambition to become a medical electrician and radiologist. His aim was made possible, from the financial point of view, by an arrangement with his chief, by which he took evening and night shifts instead of day shifts. This arrangement lasted throughout his curriculum, but in spite of the handicap he graduated in 1913 with Honours and won the Brunton Memorial Prize as the most distinguished graduate of the year. His service at the Power Station was reckoned indispensable, and he was retained at home by the authorities during the War.

In 1919 he joined the staff of the Anatomical Department of the University of Glasgow as Demonstrator, and was appointed Senior Assistant a year later. In 1922 he was selected for the Professorship of Anatomy at Singapore Medical College. There he built up an excellent department, and his services were highly appreciated by students and authorities alike. He was a successful teacher, and in spite of difficulties resulting from isolation and the lack of technical assistance he was able to produce some original work which received favourable recognition. His training in mathematics fitted him specially for biometrical anthropological work, and his study of Hokien and Tamil skulls, published in the *Transactions* of the Society (vol. liv, part iii), and two papers published by Professor Karl Pearson in *Biometrika* (vol. xx, B, part iii), are recognised as valuable contributions to physical anthropology. In addition to these larger memoirs, he published a considerable number of shorter contributions to anatomy and surgery. Among his anatomical papers may be mentioned an interesting one on "Variations in the Region of the Foramen Magnum," which appeared in the *Journal of Anatomy* (vol. lvii, 1923, pp. 178-192).

He was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1926.

T. H. B.