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to the  
Council  
of the  
Society

ADDRESS

OF

JOHN MARSHALL, F.R.S.,

PRESIDENT

OF THE

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL  
SOCIETY OF LONDON,

AT THE

ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 1st, 1883.



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## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

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GENTLEMEN, FELLOWS OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY,—In addressing myself to the customary duty of referring to the lives and work of those whom the Society has lost by death during the past year, I find that these losses have been so numerous and important that I must limit myself exclusively to that task, deferring to a future opportunity the devotion of a part of my address to other subjects, such as the general progress of Medicine and Surgery, or to questions relating to this Society.

The deceased *non-resident* Fellows, nine in number, include three (Drs. Hood, Hogg, and Morehead) who served with the army in India, three others (Drs. Elliot, Cross, and McEwen) who had been engaged in practice in large provincial towns, and three (Drs. Johnston, Williams, and Budd, who had retired from metropolitan practice to reside in the country. Another deceased physician, Sir James Alderson, though he had for some time past left the Society, was connected with it for many years, partly as a non-resident but chiefly as a resident Fellow.

There are eight deceased *resident* Fellows :—Drs. Lyell and Silver, Mr. Clover, Dr. Taylor and Mr. Critchett, Dr. Peacock and Sir Thomas Watson. Besides these, two Honorary Fellows have died since our last anniversary—Dr. Draper, of New York, and Charles Darwin.

If I speak of the individual members of each of these

classes in the order of the duration of their Fellowship, commencing with the youngest, this order will be found to correspond nearly always with their respective ages, influence, and position in our profession. In such portions of my remarks as are not based upon my acquaintance with the deceased, or on circumstances regarding them which have come within my own cognisance, I have been much indebted to obituaries which have already appeared in the public journals.

*Francis Edward Charles Hood*, the first and the youngest on our obituary list, died at Agra, of remittent fever, on the 15th of February, 1882, and therefore before our last annual meeting. He had been a Fellow of our Society only three years. The son of a late Fellow, Sir William C. Hood, who was formerly a physician to Bethlehem Hospital, and the younger brother of Dr. Donald W. C. Hood, who is now a Fellow, Surgeon Francis Hood served to illustrate that family inclination towards the pursuit of Medicine, which is so frequently noticed, and of which other instances will presently be referred to.

Educated at Guy's Hospital, and having obtained his qualifications in 1875, he joined the Army Medical Department five years afterwards, and went to India in the autumn of 1880. Falling a victim to climatic disease at the early age of twenty-eight, he had no time to reap such honours as would most probably have awaited him had his life been spared.

*Francis Roberts Hogg*, who died at Morar, Gwalior, on September 27th, 1882, at the age of forty-six, had been a Fellow of the Society for ten years. Having obtained his qualifications in 1857-8, and passed through the Army Medical School at Netley, he immediately entered for service with the Royal Artillery, proceeded to India, and rose to the rank of Surgeon-major (1873). At home, Dr. Hogg was employed for more than ten years as Surgeon to the Woolwich Hospital for Soldier's Wives and Families. Upon his Indian experience, he founded an interesting little

work, on 'Marriage in the Army Medically Considered' (1873), also his 'Practical Remarks on the Health of European Families in India,' and his 'Indian Notes' (1880). The period of his appointment at Woolwich was exceptionally prolonged, owing to the high esteem in which he was there held; and his comparatively early death, very soon after his going again to India, was deeply regretted by all persons, of whatever grade, who had been associated with him, or had been under his professional care.

*Charles Morehead*, a distinguished Indian Medical Officer, who died on the 24th of last August, at the advanced age of seventy-four, whilst on a visit at Wilton Castle, near Redcar, in Yorkshire, was for twenty-one years a Fellow of this Society, and for a short time was appointed a Referee.

The son of the Rev. R. Morehead, of Edinburgh, afterwards Rector of Essington, he was born in the Scotch Capital (1807), and received his early medical training, and his first professional rank (M.D.) in that city, where he had been a clinical clerk and a favourite pupil of Dr. Alison. He appears also to have studied in Paris under Louis, with whom he long continued to correspond.

At the early age of twenty-two (1829)—for service began soon in those days—he joined the Bombay Medical Department; but, promotion being slow, he was not gazetted Surgeon-major until 1860. His ability was, however, soon recognised, for he served for three years on the staff of Governor Gray, of Bombay, and in 1838 was appointed Surgeon to the European and Native General Hospital in that city. In 1840 he was chosen, for his special qualifications, secretary to the Board of Native Education, an office which he held for five years, when he was appointed (1845) the first Principal, and also the first Professor of Medicine, in the Grant Medical College of Bombay for Natives of Western India. He likewise became Surgeon to the Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy Hospital, and was, for a time, President of the Bombay Medical and Physical Society.

In evidence of his intellectual activity, and of his love of clinical observation, he wrote, besides several slight papers, an important work in two volumes, entitled 'Clinical Researches on Diseases in India,' a second edition of which, considerably modified in its opinions, appeared in 1860.

After thirty years of continuous and arduous employment in India, Dr. Morehead returned home on furlough (1859), became F.R.C.S. Ed. (1860), F.R.S. Ed., Surgeon-major in the army, and Deputy Inspector-general of Hospitals, and finally retired from active service in 1862. As special marks of distinction he was appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Queen (1861), and more recently (1881) a Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire.

Actuated by the teachings of Alison and Louis, he was an exact observer and a careful note-taker, and accordingly he excelled in diagnosis, and was a reliable instructor. He achieved a great reputation in India, where his memory will long survive as a worthy representative of our profession, not only as an accomplished physician and surgeon, but as a most efficient public servant.

*Richard Cross*, of Scarborough, the first of the three provincial brethren whom we have lost during the past year, had been a non-resident Fellow of the Society for twenty-two years. He entered the profession as a Surgeon and Apothecary in 1839-40, became M.D. of St. Andrew's in 1852, and only a short time since (1881) was made a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. He died on the 18th of last November, at the age of sixty-four, about twelve hours after he had submitted to an amputation above the knee, for a tedious and painful disease of that joint.

Dr. Cross was an admirable example of a large class of provincial practitioners, who, by their ability and skill, acquire a widely spread local reputation in their profession, and by their energy and upright character gain a correspondingly distinctive social position. Eminent in



both private and public practice, he so far secured the suffrages of his fellow townsmen as to be chosen Mayor. The great respect in which he was held, and the sympathy excited by the special circumstances of his death, were touchingly shown by the civic and popular demonstration which took place at his funeral.

*Robert Elliot*, of Carlisle, who died on the last day of 1882, at the age of seventy-one, was for upwards of twenty-one years a non-resident Fellow. Educated at Edinburgh, where he took his degree in 1836, he studied afterwards in Paris and at Heidelberg. Commencing practice at Gateshead and Newcastle, at the age of twenty-eight, he was soon after appointed Lecturer on *Materia Medica* and Hygiene in the Newcastle Medical School, speedily proving himself to be a ready and forcible speaker, and an excellent teacher.

In 1848, when he was thirty-five years of age, he was summoned to Carlisle to take part in the extensive practice established by his family in that city; the Elliots furnishing another instance of a strong proclivity to Medicine, exhibiting itself in three generations.

At Carlisle, as was natural to a teacher of Hygiene, Dr. Robert Elliot threw himself into the vortex of questions and work connected with the sanitary improvement of his native city, and with the social advancement of its citizens. He advocated and supported the public library and reading room; he lectured on ventilation, water-supply, and sewerage, some of his papers on these subjects appearing in the 'Transactions of the Social Science Congress.' His influence and popularity were testified by his election to the mayoralty of Carlisle in 1855, and by his subsequent appointment to the offices of Justice of the Peace, of Coroner for the city (1873), and of first Medical Officer of Health (1874), which two last-named positions he held until his death.

An Edinburgh graduate of 1836, Dr. Elliot became a F.R.C.P.L. in 1873. He was Physician and afterwards consulting Physician to the Free Dispensary, to the

Hospital for Chronic Diseases, and to the Fever Hospital, in Carlisle. He was at one time an Examiner in Medicine for the Durham University, and was also a President of the Northern branch of the British Medical Association. He contributed several interesting papers to medical journals. He has been described as "one of the oldest, most energetic, and most respected physicians in the North of England;" and he died full of years and honours.

*William McEwen*, of Chester, who died of paralysis on the 1st of August last, as it would appear at about the age of seventy, had been a non-resident Fellow of this Society for as many as thirty-six years. An Edinburgh licentiate of 1833, he became a St. Andrew's M.D. in 1845, a Member of the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1859, and a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1871. He contributed two papers to the 'British Medical Journal,' and an account of a case of hydatids to Churchill's 'Diseases of Women.' He held, in succession, the offices of house Surgeon to the Chester Infirmary, and of resident Surgeon, Superintendent, and ultimately, visiting Physician to the Cheshire County Lunatic Asylum. At the time of his death he was Surgeon to Her Majesty's Prison in Chester Castle. In token of the general estimation in which he was held, he had been made a Justice of the Peace for the City of Chester.

Of a most genial nature, as I have myself experienced, and of keen and quick perception, Dr. McEwen was an active and sound practitioner, and he was highly valued and thoroughly trusted in his social as well as in his professional relations. Whether individual physicians or surgeons, and whether the profession at large gain or lose by becoming engaged in civic work, are questions which can only be decided on the merits of individual examples; but the instances which we have here before us, in the cases of Dr. Cross, of Scarborough, Dr. Elliot, of Carlisle, and Dr. McEwen, of Chester, prove that when experienced members

of our profession choose to devote themselves to the discharge of public duty, they are welcomed and honoured by their fellow citizens, and may in turn be said to reflect honour on their own calling.

*William Woods Johnston*, who, until recently, resided in London, died on the 2nd of last month, at Tunbridge Wells, at the age of eighty-three. He was an Edinburgh M.D., and a Member of the College of Physicians of London. He formerly lived in Java and was in possession of considerable wealth.

I have no further particulars of his career. He has been a Fellow of this Society for about fifteen years; he was very secluded, and, before leaving London, made much use of the Society's library.

*Joseph Williams*, formerly of Tavistock Square, but lately of Holmhurst, Twickenham, is the second of the three deceased Fellows who have retired from London to seek rest in a country life. As a resident and a non-resident Fellow, he held a place in our ranks for twenty-three years. He died at Holmhurst, on the 20th of last March, at the age of sixty-seven.

Educated at Guy's Hospital Medical School, at Trinity College, Dublin, in Edinburgh, and in Paris, he joined the College of Surgeons of England in 1836, became M.D. of Edinburgh in 1839, and, much later in life (1859) a Member of the Royal College of Physicians of London. His earliest literary effort was a systematic work, on 'The Anatomy and Pathology of the Ear' (1840); but he afterwards abandoned the subject of Otology and turned his attention to cerebral disease, gaining the Lord Chancellor Sugden's prize, given at Trinity College, Dublin, for an essay on "Narcotics and other remedial agents calculated to produce Sleep in Insanity (1845). He afterwards published, besides smaller papers, an important work on 'Insanity,' which reached a second edition (1852).

Whilst resident in London, and engaged in practice, Dr. Joseph Williams was held in much respect and gave

importance to the offices of Physician to the Home for Gentlewomen, and Physician to the St. Pancras Female School, which were entrusted to him. I myself well remember him as a most amiable and enthusiastic colleague on the Committee for Establishing the Public Baths and Wash-houses in the Hampstead Road, the first which were opened in this part of London, and the second in the entire Metropolis. It is now some years since, that, finding his highly nervous temperament unsuited to withstand the wear and tear of an anxious branch of practice, he resolved to prolong his days, and enhance the pleasure of existence, by retiring to his final home and resting-place near Twickenham.

*George Budd*, who died on the 14th of last March (1882), at his country residence in Ashleigh, near Barnstaple, recalls to mind probably the most remarkable example of the devotion of numerous members of a large family to the study and practice of Medicine. Happily, too, they have been blest with lives sufficiently prolonged to enable them to reach good rank in their respective positions in our profession. From the home of a busy, trusted, and respected practitioner in the village of North Tawton, in Devonshire, there proceeded out of a family of nine sons and one daughter, seven sons who chose a medical career. Of these seven, five were educated at Cambridge, and became Wranglers. The third in this gifted fraternity, George, was entered at Caius College, and came out third Wrangler in 1831, in the same year with Dr. George Paget, the present Regius Professor of Physic in that University, who was eighth on the Wrangler's list. Awarded a Fellowship in his College, George Budd afterwards pursued his medical studies in Paris, and subsequently at the Middlesex Hospital. He was, very early in his career, attached to the Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital Ship at Greenwich, with which he was finally connected as Consulting Physician. So far back as 1836, he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society. Elected a Fellow of this Society in 1839, he remained associated with it for twenty-eight years as a

resident Fellow, and was for fifteen years a non-resident Fellow. During the former period he served on the Library Committee, as a Referee, as a member of Council, and finally, as a Vice-President (1857). In 1840, having graduated M.D. at Cambridge, Dr. George Budd was elected Professor of Medicine at King's College, on the resignation of Dr., afterwards Sir Thomas Watson, who survived his successor and junior by several months. In the same year he was appointed, with the late Dr. Todd, Physician to the newly-built King's College Hospital. In 1841, he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and in due time he was elected Censor (1845—47), and placed on the Council (1862). In 1863, after twenty-three years of valuable service at King's College and its Hospital, he retired from those institutions, with the title of Honorary Fellow of the College. A few years later (1867), warned by the approach of failing health, he retired from London, and from a large practice, which he had conducted for nearly a quarter of a century. He then visited the Continent, wintered in Italy, and, on returning to England in 1869, went to reside near his brother, Dr. Richard Budd, of Barnstaple, and participated actively, for many years, in the enjoyment of country pursuits, including even hunting. Although thus withdrawn from professional life, he was not overlooked by his old University; for, much to his delight, he was, only three years since, and on the same occasion as Sir George Burrows, made an Honorary Fellow of Caius College, the scene of his first intellectual efforts. Latterly, however, his strength gradually failed, and he died on the 14th March, 1882, after a brief illness, just a few months after the completion of his seventy-fourth year.

Dr. George Budd's early mathematical triumph at Cambridge was followed by such zealous labour in the study of Medicine, that when appointed to the Seamen's Hospital Ship at Greenwich, he was already noted as an acute clinical and pathological observer, and was enabled, from the hospital records, to contribute two valuable papers on

“Cholera,” to our ‘Transactions,’ as well as three others on different subjects.

It was on board the Dreadnought likewise, that he collected the chief data for his standard work on ‘Diseases of the Liver,’ which, between the years 1845 and 1857, passed through three editions. He also wrote a treatise on “Organic Diseases and Functional Disorders of the Stomach,” and articles on “Cholera,” and on “Scurvy,” in Tweedie’s ‘Library of Medicine.’ In addition to the reputation dependent on these important literary labours, his lectures on the “Principles and Practice of Medicine,” given for so many years at King’s College, gained him great distinction, amply fulfilling, as Sir Thomas Watson declared in 1871, the prophecy which that still greater teacher had made concerning him on his appointment in 1840. His important services at King’s College secured to him the respect and gratitude of his colleagues, contemporaries, and pupils, from the last of whom he carried with him, on his retirement to his native county, a substantial testimonial.

Some of us, at least, can remember his tall and spare frame, his academic style, his keen glance, and intellectual physiognomy. As a lecturer, he was eloquent and learned; as a bedside teacher, earnest, emphatic, and practical. In his social relations he was much esteemed. He was one of the most distinguished members of a remarkable medical family, and, together with his brother Dr. Wm. Budd, will leave durable traces in the history of British Medicine, and a name of which his little Devonshire birthplace may long continue to be proud.

*Sir James Alderson*, who died on the 13th of September last, at the great age of eighty-seven, had ceased for many years to be a Fellow of this Society, and, perhaps, in strict accordance with custom, his name should not be mentioned in this obituary record. But he was associated with the Society for forty-six years (1826 to 1872), first as a resident Fellow for three years, then as a non-

resident Fellow for sixteen years (whilst he was practising in his native town, Hull), and then again, on his return to London, as a resident Fellow for nearly twenty-seven additional years. He was Secretary (1829), on the Council (1848), Treasurer (1849), Vice-President (1852-3) and President (1855-6). Moreover, three contributions from his hand appear in our 'Transactions,' viz. "On the Pathology of Whooping Cough," vol. xvi; "A Notice of the Effects of Lead upon the System," vol. xxii; and "A Case of Skin Disease, with Partial Hypertrophy of the Mammary Gland," vol. xxxvii. It would, therefore, seem unjust to omit the name of one who had done such service to the Society, and discourteous to his memory to shut out from review the chief incidents in his career.

The son of an able physician in Hull, and the brother of Baron Alderson, the well-known judge, James Alderson, who was born in the last century, entered at Pembroke College, Cambridge, came out as sixth Wrangler in 1822, and was made Fellow of his College. From 1826 to 1829 he was in London, and then he took his M.D. degree at Oxford. He next practised at Hull, whence (1845) he once more returned to metropolitan work. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society. For many years associated with the Royal College of Physicians of London, as Fellow (1830), Censor, and Councillor, he was elected President of the College in 1867, and retained that office until 1870. It was during his presidency that he received the honour of Knighthood; he also became Physician Extraordinary to the Queen, and was made a D.C.L. of the University of Oxford.

For about twenty years Sir James Alderson was Senior Physician to St. Mary's Hospital, to which institution he had been attached from its commencement. Besides his contributions to our 'Transactions,' he published a very early paper, "On the Motion of the Heart" (1825); "A History of the Cholera at Hull" (1832); "Observations on Diseases of the Stomach and Alimentary Canal" (1847); "The Lumleian Lectures on the Effects

of Lead" (1853); a paper "On Acute Rheumatism;" a pamphlet on 'Medical Reform;' the 'Harveian Oration' (1867); and 'Some Observations on Sea Sickness' (1872).

Having retired from all professional engagements, and almost from professional society, for the last ten years, Sir James Alderson, though still residing in London, must have been little known to most of those present here to-night; but, as a member of the Council of this Society when he was its President, I can speak of his gentlemanly appearance and bearing, of his polished manner, and of his cultivated style of address and conversation. No office lost honour or dignity in his keeping. He was a highly cultured physician, acute and reliable in diagnosis, careful and minute in treatment, and earnest and strict in the discharge of his duty, both to his patients and to his professional brethren.

*Robert Wishart Lyell* is the first and youngest of those deceased *resident* Fellows, to whose character, accomplishments, and labours I have now to advert, and whose loss to many of us is embittered by the rupture of the bonds of acquaintance, or the deeper ties of friendship. Born in London, he died, after a brief and unexpected illness, on the 2nd of last October, at the early age of thirty-three, having been a Fellow of the Society a short three years, but still having, in association with Dr. R. D. Powell, furnished a paper to our 'Transactions' "On Basic Cavity of the Lung treated by Paracentesis," vol. lxiii, 1880.

His early display of intellectual force at St. Olave's School, Southwark, where he was usually at the head of his classes, and subsequently at King's College, where, amongst other distinctions, he gained the Warneford Scholarship (1861), was fully maintained by his taking honours in nearly every subject at the M.B. Examination of the University of London in 1871, and by his graduating M.D. in the following year, also with honours. Thus equipped, he passed rapidly through the offices of



house Physician to the Seamen's Hospital at Greenwich, and of house Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary at Manchester, to reach the post of Surgical Registrar and tutor at the Middlesex Hospital (1874). Having already joined the Royal College of Surgeons of England as a Member in 1871, he became a Fellow of that College in 1875. Henceforth directing his energies to surgery, and especially to ophthalmic surgery, he was appointed, in quick succession, Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital, assistant Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital, and also assistant Surgeon at the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital in Moorfields.

Dr. Lyell did not live long enough to mature his observations and reflections sufficiently to enable him to publish much ; but his reports as a surgical registrar are said to have been clear and full, and the assistance which he rendered to the Clinical Society as secretary to the Committee on Excision of the Hip, was very valuable : both instances of his ability afforded promise of good scientific and literary work. He was becoming known as a sound practitioner, and had already proved himself to be a painstaking and trustworthy teacher, always mastering the subject on which he was working, or which he was preparing for his lectures. The circumstances attending his sudden illness and death, intensified the regrets experienced by his colleagues, his pupils, and his friends. Whilst engaged in preparing the introductory lecture to be delivered at the commencement of the winter session at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, and whilst studying the chemical affinities of bacteria, he was seized with acute pneumonia, and his speedy death on the very day on which the lecture was to have been given, threw a gloom over the opening ceremony, and deepened the sorrow felt by all at the premature close of so promising a career.

*Alexander Silver*, at the time of his death, on the 16th of July last, at the age of 41, had been eleven years a Fellow of the Society. Born in Forfarshire, his father

being, it would seem, a farmer of moderate pecuniary resources, he exhibited from his early youth the ambition, force, and perseverance, which so often characterise the sons of Scotland. Sufficiently successful at his parish school to obtain a bursary at Aberdeen, he coupled the pursuit of his medical studies at that University with the duties of a tutor; whilst in the summer months he worked on the family farm. Nevertheless, he took his degrees of M.A., M.D., and C.M., before he had reached the age of twenty-three. By assisting some of the Professors by giving private tuition, and by the compilation of a student's "Outlines of Elementary Botany" (which was his favourite science), he occupied the next few years at Aberdeen; when, at the age of twenty six, he was transferred to London, being appointed Lecturer on Botany at the London Hospital Medical School. In due time, Dr. Silver was chosen assistant Physician, Lecturer on Clinical Medicine, and then Physician to the Charing Cross Hospital, posts which he held up to the time of his un-anticipated death.

Besides the 'Outlines of Botany,' his literary exercises comprised the editing of the fourth edition of Mead's 'Manual of Practical Medicine' (1874), and the production of papers on the trial of *G. Stephen*, "On the use of *Veratrum viride* in Rheumatism," and, in conjunction with Mr. Barwell, on 'A Case of Left Lumbar Colotomy.' For the last sixteen years he had also been engaged on the staff of the 'Medical Times and Gazette,' having latterly been the Sub-editor of that Journal, in the pages of which a warm tribute of regard appeared from the pen of the Editor, with a kindly acknowledgment of the valuable services and personal qualities of Dr. Silver, as an able and industrious colleague and coadjutor.

*Joseph Thomas Clover*, for many years the foremost administrator of anæsthetics, and therefore the foremost minister of relief of human suffering and human dread of suffering, in metropolitan practice, died at the age of fifty-seven, from the effects of long-existing pulmonary disease.

He was a Fellow of the Society for twenty-nine years, and served on its Council in 1873.

A native of Aylsham, in Norfolk, he received his early education at Grey Friars School, in Norwich, and then became a pupil at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospitals, serving for two years as a dresser to the late Mr. Gibson. At University College, London, when yet a student in the medical classes, he was soon distinguished amongst his companions for his ability, diligence, and zeal, although, owing to his even then delicate health, he never competed for class honours. In the University College Hospital, he acquitted himself so satisfactorily in the various junior offices, from dresser and clerk to house surgeon and physician's assistant, that he was regarded as a most promising aspirant for the responsible position of Resident Medical Officer, to which he was elected when only twenty-three years of age. Mr. Syme, whose house surgeon Clover had been, would have gladly taken him to Edinburgh, but he declined that offer.

It was from this date that my personal knowledge of Clover began, and, I need hardly say, it continued until his death. In the hospital work he was indefatigable, often to the detriment of his frail constitution. Did affairs pursue their ordinary course, his management was such as to ensure the confidence of all concerned alike, namely, of the committee, the staff, and the pupils, of the nurses, patients, and domestics. Did any emergency arise, such as might be due to a cholera or other epidemic, or to a great railway accident, his powers of endurance rose to the occasion; for although he evidently felt the strain, his rule of conduct was *constancy to duty*. In his office, it fell to his share to administer anæsthetics, chloroform being at first the one employed; he also had to instruct others in their administration; and thus he acquired a large and full experience of the action of these potent agents, of the dangers associated with their use, and of the cautions to be observed in administering them. After five years of steady hospital work, and after having obtained

the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons (1853), Clover entered upon surgical practice, fully resolved to pursue it generally, and already making good progress in it. But circumstances proved too strong for him, and his uncertain health combined to make him adopt the career of a special administrator of anæsthetics, in which capacity he so excelled, that his aid was sought on all hands, to suspend the consciousness of both bodily and mental pain of those who had to undergo the often prolonged operations of modern surgery.

In the *study* of anæsthetics, Clover was open-minded, and at once scientific and practical. He tested all and neglected none, being in this respect a worthy successor of Dr. Snow. He early perceived the importance of diluting chloroform vapour with air, in order to render it less dangerous; and he not only laid down a rule as to the proportion in which they should be mixed (a subject recently thought worthy of special experimental research by M. Paul Bert), but he invented first his bag and inflator, and afterwards his more portable and now generally used inhalers. He was selected as a delegate of this Society on the Committee appointed to study and report on the effects and mode of administering chloroform; and for his practical and valuable assistance he received the Society's thanks. The article on "Anæsthetics," published since his death in Dr. Quain's 'Dictionary of Medicine,' is of the highest order of merit. It discusses the properties and actions of all the known agents employed for producing anæsthesia, and it embodies the results of an altogether unrivalled experience, combined with the impartial conclusions of an unprejudiced mind.

In the *administration* of anæsthetics, Clover was rapid and certain, and so far safe that operators felt unusually relieved from anxiety whenever he was engaged. His manner was quiet, cheerful, and encouraging to the patient, and he was frequently very helpful to the surgeon. In the discharge of his duties as Anæsthetist to

the Dental Hospital and to the Westminster Hospital, and as Lecturer on Anæsthetics at University College Hospital, he was always delighted to explain his methods and views.

Clover's ingenuity was not limited to the invention of contrivances adapted to the administration of anæsthetics ; but he had true surgical instincts, and devised several other instruments, especially a double-current catheter, and the elastic-ball and glass-bottle apparatus for washing the *débris* of crushed calculi from the bladder, an apparatus which has been adopted, though with various modifications, by others.

Clover was, as a man, modest, unselfish, and true in all his social relations. Though an invalid almost all his life, and latterly a victim to the wearisome and wearing effects of chronic pulmonary disease, he was always patient, resigned, and even cheerful. It is said of him by his friend and last medical adviser, Dr. Sidney Ringer, that "He was gentle, amiable, uncomplaining, and grateful to the last," and he adds, "The world wants one true man since he was taken away."

For myself, I can conscientiously state that, through a friendship lasting for more than thirty years, I never observed one single trait of character, nor one single action, which laid him open to censure ; whilst, on the contrary, I can now recall numerous instances of his perfect sincerity, his invariable kindness, and of the pleasure which he felt in going about doing good in his vocation.

*Robert Taylor*, who died, in Portman Square, so recently as the 26th January in this year, entered the Society in 1852, and therefore enjoyed its Fellowship for more than thirty years. The son of a Dumfries-shire gentleman, he graduated at Edinburgh in 1841, became a member of the College of Surgeons of England in 1842, and a Fellow of that College in 1858.

He was formerly Surgeon to the Cripples' Home in Hill Street, Marylebone, and also to the Central London

Ophthalmic Hospital. Several papers by him, appeared in Journals or in Transactions. To the 'Medical Times,' he contributed papers on "Sympathetic Inflammation of the Eyeball," and "On Anæmic Protrusion of the Eyeball;" to the 'Pathological Transactions' communications "On the Corpora Amyloidea in the Lens," and on "Cataracts;" and to 'Beale's Archives' a joint paper with Mr. E. C. Hulme, "On Cases illustrating the use of the Ophthalmoscope."

Dr. Taylor was of singularly retired habits, and apparently much isolated from his professional brethren; but up to the last few weeks of his life he was an habitual frequenter of the Society's reading room, thus keeping alive his evident interest in the affairs of the profession itself.

*George Critchett*, the well-known ophthalmic Surgeon, whose death after a short illness, on the 1st November last, took all but his most intimate friends by surprise, was a Fellow of this Society for thirty-five years, having joined it in 1847, served on its Council in 1865, acted as a Referee between 1867 and 1871, and been a Vice-President in 1872. He contributed to the 'Transactions,' an interesting paper on an "Operation for Congenital Cataract in an Adult, followed by Division of the Recti Muscles, for the purpose of controlling the Oscillation of the Globes" (1835).

A native of Highgate (1817), he commenced and completed his professional studies at the London Hospital Medical School, having been a pupil of Mr. Scott. He became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1839, and a Fellow by examination in 1844. He was very early chosen as Demonstrator of anatomy in his School and assistant Surgeon to the Hospital, in which he was subsequently promoted to be full Surgeon. During the fifteen years in which he held these hospital appointments, he proved his capacity as a sound surgeon and a most dexterous operator. But he already began to show a leaning towards ophthalmic surgery, by giving lectures on that subject at his own school; after a time he was appointed

in succession assistant Surgeon, Surgeon, and Consulting Surgeon to the Royal Ophthalmic Hospital in Moorfields, and also Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital. By a series of publications of lectures and other essays, he showed his strong attachment to his chosen speciality ; and he suggested several new operative proceedings. He published a course of lectures on " Diseases of the Eye " in the columns of the ' Lancet ; ' also a paper entitled " Practical Remarks on Strabismus ; " the description of a " Mode of forming Artificial Pupil by Iridesis, or Ligature of the Iris " (a method, however, which he afterwards abandoned) ; an account of the " Operation for Strabismus by the Subconjunctival method, with hook and scissors ; " a paper on " Linear Extraction of Cataract, " read at Heidelberg ; another on " A mode of Enuclating the Eyeball ; " and another on " Superficial Affections of the Eye, " read at a meeting of the British Medical Association. His views on the pathology and treatment of eye diseases and injury were based on a large experience, of which he was always able to avail himself.

As a lecturer and clinical teacher, his voice and manner, as well as his matter, at once arrested attention ; whilst by his acknowledged dexterity—which could hardly be surpassed—he may be said to have initiated a style of manipulation which has left its mark on the practice of his pupils and successors.

The eminence which he had attained in the profession, and the regard in which he was held, were evidenced by the various honorary offices and titles which were conferred upon him. He was for seven years a diligent member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons ; he was also President of the Hunterian Society, President of the International Congress of Ophthalmologists, held in London in 1872, Vice-President of the Ophthalmological Section of the International Medical Congress of 1881 ; and, up to the time of his death, Vice-President of the recently formed Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom. He was also a member of the Medical Society of Louvain,

an honorary member of the Academy of Medicine in Brussels, and member of the Imperial Academy at Rio.

In consultation he was prompt, yet taking infinite pains, —decided, but never off his guard. To his patients he was most considerate, and he invariably inspired them with confidence. To his friends, and he had many, he was cordial and hospitable. His unexpected death came to most of them as a shock, and they will long remember his kindly grasp and greeting.

*Thomas Bevill Peacock*, to whom a special fate brought death in a ward of the hospital with which he had long been connected, was for no less than thirty-seven years a Fellow of this Society, in the service of which he had acted as a Member of the Council, on the Library Committee (1855), as Secretary (1855-6), as Referee (1857-65), and as Vice-President (1867). To the 'Transactions' he very early contributed two excellent papers, on "A Case of Malformation of the Heart" (1847), thus early indicating a choice of subject for research, to which he ever after remained faithful.

Born at York in 1812, of Quaker parentage, his father being a merchant in that city, he was destined to submit to many changes of residence, and to be occupied in many fields of labour. Thus, he was apprenticed to a member of the Fothergill family in practice at Darlington, and his London education took place partly at University College and partly at St. George's Hospital. He first joined the ranks of our profession as a member of the College of Surgeons of England (1835). He then went two voyages to Ceylon (1835-36); next he became house Surgeon to the Chester Infirmary, a post which he held for four years; and then he appeared in Edinburgh, where, turning his attention henceforth to Medicine, he acted as house Physician to the Infirmary, and devoted himself specially to the study of morbid anatomy. He took his degree of M.D. Ed. in 1842. Somewhere about this period he also visited the Paris Schools, in which doubtless his predisposition for pathological investigations was still further confirmed. In



1844, he attached himself to the College of Physicians of London as a Member, and in 1850 he became a Fellow. It was in the interval between these two dates, that he first began to display the amount and character of the materials he had collected, and the special exactitude of his work, for he published in quick succession, besides his two preliminary essays in our 'Transactions' already mentioned, the four following papers in them:—"On the Co-existence of Granular Disease of the Kidneys with Pulmonary Consumption" (1845); "Tables of Weights of some of the Organs of the Body" (1846), a much consulted and often-quoted paper; "On the Influenza or Epidemic Catarrhal Fever of 1847-8" (1848); and "On Aneurism of the Coronary Artery" (1849).

Though now and henceforth settled in London, his destiny to wander still pursued him; for we find him proceeding from one institution to another, each change, however, advancing him in professional status, and giving him greater prominence and reputation. Thus, he was at the same or at different times Physician to the Royal Free Hospital, and then Physician and afterwards Consulting Physician to the Victoria Park Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, an institution which sprang out of a Dispensary, and both of which Charities were supported by himself and by his friends. But his chief appointments were at St. Thomas's Hospital and Medical School, with which he was actively connected, as assistant Physician and Physician for twenty-eight years, from 1849 to 1877, since which latter date and up to the time of his death, he ranked as Consulting Physician. In the School, he was at first Lecturer on *Materia Medica*, and afterwards Lecturer on Medicine. During this long period, his additions to medical literature, and it should be added to medical knowledge, were again constant and substantial.

Thus, he published an elaborate paper on "The Weight and Dimensions of the Heart in Health and Disease" (1854), "Lecture on the Varieties of Continued Fever," (1856), his chief and most important work on "Malformation of the

Human Heart," of which two editions were published (1858 and 1866), a paper "On the Diseases of Metalliferous Workers," his Croonian lecture "On some of the Causes and Effects of Valvular Disease of the Heart" (1865), and comparatively recently an essay "On Prognosis in Valvular Disease of the Heart" (1877). Besides these, he contributed several papers on the "Pathology of the Heart" to the Edinburgh Monthly Journal, articles on the "Weight of the Heart," and on "Aneurism of the Heart," to 'Reynolds' System of Medicine,' Statistic or Anthropological papers to the 'St. Thomas's Hospital Reports,' and lastly, upwards of 150 specimens with descriptions, to the meetings and 'Transactions of the Pathological Society,' of which, indeed, he was one of the most zealous members, serving in turn as Secretary, member of Council, and President.

The amount of time and labour which Dr. Peacock expended in accumulating and arranging his facts, must have been prodigious, involving the collecting, weighing, measuring, dissecting, and preserving so many separate specimens. It is probable that he made with his own hands as many pathological preparations as any one of his contemporaries, even any one museum curator. Possessed of the true Hunterian spirit, and no doubt solicitous for the permanent safety of his collection, it was not a matter of surprise that, turning to the College of Surgeons, whence he had obtained his first diploma, and in which he had officiated as the first Examiner in Medicine (1868), he should have presented his numerous and unrivalled examples of Cardiac diseases and malformations to the Hunterian Museum in that institution, a donation for which he received not only the thanks of the Council, but the Honorary Gold Medal, which is rarely conferred by the College, as its highest mark of distinction, in recognition of special services rendered to it or to science.

It was but a few hours after he had listened at that College in February, 1877, to Sir James Paget's Hunterian

Oration—at which I sat next to and afterwards conversed with him—that Dr. Peacock had his first warning of paralysis, which occasioned his enforced retirement from hospital work, and, indeed, from active private practice likewise; and although he continued to appear at the meetings of a few societies, and superintended some publishing work he was obviously enfeebled, and lost his characteristic power of sustained effort. On the last day of May, 1882, he was escorting some friends through the pavilions of St. Thomas's Hospital, when he was again seized with paralysis, and this time fatally; for having become unconscious he was carried into one of his own former private wards, and expired at an early hour of the first June morning, in the seventieth year of his continuously laborious life.

I venture to use this latter phrase, because I think that whoever contemplated his strongly marked individuality both of person and of character, could scarcely help feeling that, from his earliest youth, he must have been in all respects very similar to what he was in after years. Slight in figure, serious or even grave in expression, quiet and undemonstrative in manner, he was, one would imagine, as painstaking and laborious as a boy, a scholar, and an apprentice, as he subsequently became as a student, an investigator, a teacher, and a Physician. The extent of his anatomical collections showed his love of facts, whilst his addiction to numerical estimates proved his love of accuracy in the appreciation of them. Even in his pleasures he was precise and methodical; for in his recreative incursions into the field of Ethnology, his observations and inferences were accepted with confidence; and in his frequent journeys abroad he is said to have devoted himself with success to the acquisition of a sound judgment and cultivated taste in the domain of art.

He has left behind him the reputation of a simple, conscientious, and kindly man; of an eminent pathological anatomist; of a serious and accurate teacher; of a learned Physician; and of a sound practitioner.

*Sir Thomas Watson, Bart.*, the last and, as all will freely admit, the most distinguished of our deceased resident Fellows, the veteran Physician, the Nestor of English Medicine, died at his son's residence near Reigate, on the 11th of last December, at the patriarchal age of ninety years and nine months.

The descendant of a Northumbrian family, he was born at Montrath, near Cullompton, in Devonshire; his birth is duly registered at the neighbouring parish of Kentisbeare, as having taken place on the 7th March, 1792. He received his grammar-school education at Bury St. Edmund's, and afterwards proceeded as a pensioner to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he came out tenth in the Wrangler's list for 1815. He was made a Fellow of his College in 1816, and took his degree of Master of Arts in 1818. Owing to a rule which enabled one Fellow to study Medicine away from the College, he retained his Fellowship, and during the eight or nine years of its continuance he was partly working at St. Bartholomew's Hospital under Abernethy (1819), and afterwards attended the medical classes for one session in Edinburgh. He then returned to Cambridge, and even took his share of duty as a junior proctor; at length he graduated as M.D. in 1825, when he was already thirty-three, at which time he married and gave up his Fellowship.

Proceeding next to London he became, in 1826, a Fellow of the London College of Physicians, and in the following year was chosen Physician to the Middlesex Hospital on the resignation of Dr. Southey. This post he held until the year 1843; and it was during those sixteen years that he developed the qualities which immediately and for long afterwards brought him increasing distinction. Thus, from 1828 to 1831, he was Professor of Clinical Medicine in the newly-founded University of London, now University College, delivering his lectures, however, at the Middlesex Hospital. In 1831 he resigned that office to take the Professorship of Forensic Medicine

at King's College, from which Chair he was moved to that of Medicine in the same institution, as the successor to Dr. Francis Hawkins. After holding this appointment for four years, he resigned it in 1840, in preference to severing his connection with the Middlesex Hospital as one of its Physicians. At a later period he was nominated consulting Physician to King's College Hospital. Finally, in 1843, owing to his increasing practice, which at first gathering slowly, had then become very large and onerous, he also resigned his post as Physician at the Middlesex Hospital.

It was after Dr. Watson's retirement from the Medical Professorship at King's College, that his course of lectures on "The Principles and Practice of Medicine" appeared in the 'Medical Times and Gazette,' a Journal to which he had contributed several previous essays and discourses. These lectures occupied two years in publication (1840-2), appearing weekly in four volumes of the journal, xxviii to xxx. Their reception was so favorable that they were published separately in 1843; since that date four other editions have been called for, viz. in 1845, 1848, 1857, and 1871, the later ones having been carefully revised, and the last one being especially noticeable for containing evidence of their author's candour in his abandonment of views which he thought no longer tenable. The estimation in which these celebrated lectures, Watson's "Magnum opus" have always been held, is quite remarkable, and, in our time, unique. They possess all the advantages of having emanated from one wise, observant, and evenly balanced mind; whilst the extensive and profound knowledge of disease, as it had been actually observed and carefully noted by the author himself, not only secured them from error, but imparted to them a rare combination of originality, accuracy, and force. His descriptions are so full and clear that, in this respect, Watson has been compared with Sydenham; and his style is so scholarly, that it has gained for him the appellation of the Cicero of English Medical Literature; whilst his apt illustrations, his special

touches, now sad, now humourous, lend a peculiar quality to his writings, many a chapter of which, when once commenced, is sure to hold the attention of the reader to its end.

In connection with the Royal College of Physicians, which, as just mentioned, he had joined as a Fellow in 1826, Dr. Watson was Gulstonian Lecturer in 1827; he delivered the Lumleian Lectures in 1830-31; and was Lecturer on *Materia Medica* from 1833 to 1835. He was Censor in 1828, 1837, and 1838; on the Council of the College from 1836 to 1868; its representative on the General Medical Council from 1858 to 1860; and, finally, at the age of seventy, and after forty-one years of association with it, he became its President. This latter high office he held for five years, from 1862 to 1867. In this distinguished position his conduct of affairs was perfect, being ever characterised by a quiet and sedulous attention to business, great common sense, carefully considered and powerful addresses, invariable courtesy to others, and constant solicitude for the welfare of the College, in the Censor's room of which his admirable portrait by George Richmond, preserves the remembrance of his intelligent, kind, and manly face.

The unquestioned confidence placed in Sir Thomas Watson by the profession and the public, was testified by his very large practice; by his appointment in 1859 as Physician Extraordinary to Her Majesty; by his being called, in 1861, to share the grave responsibilities involved in the fatal illness of the late Prince Consort; by his receiving, during the latter part of his Presidentship of the College of Physicians, a Baronetcy from the Crown (1866); and by his being made Physician in Ordinary to the Queen (1870).

Numerous other honours and other duties also fell to his lot. He became a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1859; Honorary Fellow of his old college at St. John's, Cambridge, to which he was elected together with Sir John Herschel in 1862; Doctor of Laws, Cambridge, in

1864; and Honorary Fellow of the King's and Queen's College of Physicians, Ireland.

In our own Society he was a Fellow of forty-five years' standing, and during his connection with it had been on the Council for three years (1840-1 and 1852), had acted as Referee during four years (1842-3, 1847-9), was a Vice-President for two years (1845-6), and would undoubtedly have been President, had his numerous avocations permitted him to undertake the office. As a proof of his continued interest in any new movement, he consented to act as President of the Pathological Society (1868), and subsequently of the Clinical Society also.

But all his titles must yield in significance to that of being termed "the greatest English Physician of the present century," a designation which he fairly earned by his professional eminence, his moral worth, his sagacity, his integrity, his undeviating regard for the feelings and interests of his brethren, and by his steady adhesion to those high principles of duty, which he so eloquently expounded in his well-known and often-quoted "Introductory Lecture," and which made him so fit an adviser on ethical questions relating to our profession.

To some men it happens that extreme old age brings opportunities for the display of petulance, or for the commission of error, or, it may be, for the opposite alternatives of senile inability, inaction, and lapse into oblivion; but it was not thus with Sir Thomas Watson. At three score years and ten he was unanimously welcomed as President of his college, at four score years he was allowed, unwillingly, to withdraw from the absorbing work of our profession, and even then, during the next decade of his long and honoured career, he emerged occasionally from his retirement to show his interest on some special occasions, at some Society, Association or Congress, or at an assembly of the Fellows of his own College. It is recorded that even as late as last March, when he had completed his ninetieth year, he took a leading part in the ceremony of re-electing the President of that College, amidst mani-

festations of respect from the assembled Fellows, all of whom rose as he advanced in the absence of the senior Censor to hand over the insignia of the presidential office to Sir William Jenner. The crises and trials of his last illness were watched with anxiety and sorrow, and his death was followed by notices which seemed to exhaust the language of eulogy; for whilst time had not dimmed his fame, it had served to change respect into affection, and admiration into reverence.

An old friend of Sir Thomas Watson, and a former warm-hearted president of this Society, in a communication from Nice, says, "I have thought how best in one short sentence to write his epitaph. I can find no fitter words than those written well nigh 3000 years ago. 'Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace.'" \*

It now only remains for me to mention two deceased Honorary Fellows, the one a physicist, chemist, and physiologist, the other a great naturalist. They were labourers in fields situated on the borders of the domain of Medicine and Surgery proper. They were eminent representatives of a class, which both gives and receives honour by being enrolled amongst us; and although the death of such men may not affect us so profoundly as that of our more intimately known professional brethren, yet it leaves a sense of vacancy and loss which it is our duty to acknowledge, with some accompanying homage to their worth.

*James William Draper*, of New York, though justly

\* I once, whilst yet a student, consulted Sir Thomas Watson, then Dr. Watson, as to a persistent, dull pain through the upper part of the right chest, from front to back. Looking very grave the while, he took infinite pains in examining me, and entered the details in one of his little, fat, red-covered case books. When he had finished, he laid his hand on my right shoulder and said kindly, "If you don't trouble yourself about that, it will never trouble you; if it should, come back to me." "But," he added, "you will outlive me." I afterwards found that the pain was due to, and kept up by, the use of the lesser pectoral muscle in the frequent mounting of omnibuses, to which I was somewhat addicted in those days.



held to be an American philosopher, for he was early naturalised in the United States, was an Englishman by birth, and remained in this his native country until he was twenty-two years of age. He was born at St. Helen's, in Lancashire, in 1811, his father, the Rev. J. C. Draper, being a Nonconformist Minister. His early training took place at a neighbouring Wesleyan school at Woodham Green, in which institution he is said to have acquired his first taste for science. His higher education was continued and indeed nearly completed at the London University, now University College, where I find, on searching the records for 1829-30, when his father had apparently moved to Sheerness, his name is entered as a student in the classes of Jurisprudence and English law; and, where, in 1830-31, he is indicated as having joined the class of Chemistry, then under the charge of Professor Turner—this time his residence being given at No. 9, Old Jewry. It is more than probable that it was to the teaching and example of his distinguished master, that Dr. Draper owed his subsequent preference for chemical physics, and the chemical and physical aspects of physiology; for it is well known that Turner, in his lectures and writings, paid unusual attention to those subjects.

Just half a century ago and, as already said, at the age of twenty-two, young Draper followed his family to America, which henceforth became his adopted country. In 1836, he graduated M.D. at the University of Pennsylvania, his thesis on that occasion "On the Crystallisation of Camphor under the Influence of Light and Radiant Energy," being selected for publication. Doubtless owing to the merit exhibited in this, his first essay in scientific research, he was, in the same year, when only twenty-five years of age, appointed Professor of Chemistry and Physiology in Hampden-Sidney College, Virginia; and from thence, in consequence of his further display of scientific ability, he was promoted three years later to the Chair of Anatomy and Physiology in the University of New York, which appointment he held through the remainder of his

active career. He assisted in establishing the University Medical College in that City, and for a long time presided over the Medical faculty of the University, from which sphere of activity he retired in 1876. He was elected an Honorary Fellow of this Society about seven years since.

Dr. Draper's original investigations, extending over a period of forty years, embraced many problems in chemical physics and physiological chemistry. The papers on these subjects appeared originally in American Journals or in the 'London Philosophical Magazine,' and were collated and published by him in 1878, in a volume of scientific Memoirs, containing thirty separate essays. His larger work on 'Human Physiology,' published originally in 1836, and of which a second edition appeared in 1858, exhibits his tendency to regard the phenomena of life from a statical and dynamical point of view, as, indeed, was natural in one devoted to his special lines of inquiry. It clearly establishes his claim to an advanced position amongst the original physiologists of his day.

From a physicist he became a philosopher, and directing his attention to the great problems concerning human progress, he put forth two well-known works, in one of which he traced "The History of the Intellectual Development of Europe," and in the other "The History of the Conflict of Religion and Science." In alluding to the transference of his own thoughts from physical to philosophical questions, he says: "That he recognised how they have been interwoven, each preparing the way for its successor." "Is it not true," he characteristically asks, "that for every person the course of life is along the line of least resistance, and that in this the movement of humanity is like the movement of material bodies?" a question which, it may be remarked, will be regarded as involving a mere truism, a valuable axiom, or a dangerous dogma, by different persons, according to the views they may hold in reference to the notion of free will. In Dr. Draper's bold and unflinching exposure of past and present antagonisms between religion and science, in which he

shows no indifference to the former, may be traced perhaps the outcome of his early Nonconformist training, mingled with the effects of his subsequent ardent devotion to severe scientific work.

After his retirement from his position at the University of New York, Dr. Draper resided on the banks of the Hudson, a few miles from that city. Here he enjoyed a well-earned repose in the Society of his distinguished sons, gratified by the fact of his more important works having been translated into many European and Asiatic languages. He died on January 4th, 1882, and was buried in Long Island amidst marked demonstrations of respect and regard from numerous friends, colleagues, and delegates from distant scientific societies.

*Charles Darwin*, THE Naturalist, as he may with emphasis be entitled, occupied so lofty and conspicuous a position in the Pantheon of science, and the Theory to which his name will ever be attached, has been so engrafted into the stock of knowledge and the intellectual training of the day, that it is unnecessary, and would be unseemly, if I were to enter into many minute details concerning the well-known life and labours of our illustrious countryman. But, as one of our most distinguished Honorary Fellows, silence concerning him would even be more culpable.

Born at Shrewsbury on the 12th February, 1809, the son of a Physician in that town, we may suppose him to have inherited, from both parental lines, powers of observation, reflection, and imagination of no ordinary strength, together with a love of nature so deep as to command his life-long attachment to the contemplation of her ways; for his mother was the daughter of Josiah Wedgwood, and his grandfather was Erasmus Darwin, the author of the 'Botanic Garden,' 'Phytologia,' and 'Zoonomia.' From the Grammar School at Shrewsbury, he repaired to the University of Edinburgh to study Medicine, and here, as a mere tyro, he showed his love of natural history and biology by some observations "On the Ova of *Flustra*." After

two years' training in the fundamental sciences required for a medical degree, years which we may be sure were well spent, he left Edinburgh and the pursuit of Medicine. Proceeding then to Cambridge he graduated in 1831, and immediately after, when only twenty-two years of age, through the intervention of his friend and teacher, Professor Henslow, he accepted the office of Naturalist in the celebrated expedition of the "Beagle," under Captain Fitzroy. This occupied him five consecutive years (from 1831 to 1836), during which period he suffered much from sea-sickness and from other inconveniences and trials to his health. The extraordinarily prolific results of his botanical, zoological, and geological observations made during this voyage, only gradually became known. An immense collection of specimens of plants, of living and extinct animals, and also of minerals, furnished new materials for Monographs or papers by Owen, Bell, Gould, Jenyns, and Waterhouse, as well as for an exhaustive Monograph by himself on the 'Cirripeds and Allied Animals;' whilst an equally remarkable accumulation of recorded observations of natural phenomena of the most varied kind, gave a special value and interest to his own 'Account of the Natural History and Geology of the Voyage of the Beagle,' and to his charming exposition of the 'Structure and Distribution of Coral Reefs and Volcanic Islands.'

It appears certain that already Charles Darwin's thoughts were brooding over the great problems of the origin and succession of life upon the earth, problems the attempt to solve which occupied the next twenty years of his life. Familiar with the poetic imaginings of his grandfather, the striking fancies of Lucretius, and the speculations of Lamarck, Buffon, and others, it is certain that he very early caught glimpses of the possible modes of action of natural causes in the production and perpetuation of variations of form and structure in plants and animals during the lapse of ages. But for twenty years he waited, accumulating facts, from authorities old and recent, from the

experiences of the breeders of animals, and from the results of his own ingeniously devised experiments,—all which facts he co-ordinated in his own masterly manner, and finally deduced from them the several principles which underlie his great Theory. It was only when it was announced that Mr. Wallace had arrived at similar general conclusions, that Darwin consented to expound his views publicly, and the papers of both Naturalists were read at the Linnæan Society on the same evening, 1st July, 1858. There is, it seems to me, a grandeur in this enforced silence, this prolonged self-restraint. But all the more decisive was the stroke which, thus deliberately delivered by the fact-laden hammer and logical force of this scientific Thor, finally shattered the old notion of the independent creation of species (hundreds of thousands in number), a notion, however, by that time rather tolerated than accepted, difficult to conceive as true, and leaving unexplained the multitude of likenesses and differences of development and structure, with which the organic world both past and present abounds.

That greatest biological work of our age, 'The Origin of Species,' appeared in 1859; it ran through many editions, it appeared in many languages, and it was hotly criticised; but its triumphant "coming of age" was celebrated in 1880, by an admiring and ardent supporter, Professor Huxley, in an eloquent and well-remembered discourse delivered at the Royal Institution.

It is needless here to mention Darwin's subsequent publications. They are chiefly devoted to further explanations of his views, and to a fuller exposition of his rich accumulation of experiments and observations. All of them exhibit his marvellous knowledge of, and insight into, the operations of nature, and disclose incidents of plant and animal life so wonderful as to be read of with delight. One work only, 'The Descent of Man,' raised a storm of opposition, both metaphysical and theological. But, in the meantime, the evolutionary hypothesis, previously vague and unsubstantiated, had become conditioned

and workable as a Theory, which proved to be fruitful beyond measure. Resting on those brilliant and incontrovertible generalisations, the inherent "tendency of organisms to vary," the perpetual "struggle for existence," the "survival of the fittest," "modification by descent," "natural selection," "sexual selection," co-relation of parts and organs, "inheritance," "atavism," and "reversion"—each supported by hosts of facts—the Darwinian philosophy came to be accepted by some, tacitly admitted by many, adopted, with reservations, by others, and rejected only by a few. The doctrine of evolution has gained many disciples amongst the foremost men of the age; and these have, by its suggestiveness, made many discoveries, and solved various intricate questions as to structural affinities, modifications, adaptations, and mimics of form and colour, noticeable in plants and animals. But its application has not been limited to botany, zoology, and comparative anatomy, for its influence has permeated almost every branch of science and nearly every sort of inquiry. It has acted, as it were, like a ferment, stimulating simultaneous or subsequent investigation in new directions, breaking up old, and creating new combinations of thought, in history, sociology, moral and intellectual philosophy, and philology, in short, in almost every department of human knowledge and research.

Perhaps no one man has ever exercised greater influence over his contemporaries than Charles Darwin, and no one has ever been more freely granted a sort of scientific sovereignty. He was made a Fellow or Member of every leading Academy or Society in Europe and America. The dread which his views once inspired has subsided. It has been recognised that what is true in them must stand; and the bitterness of the controversy concerning them was felt to be assuaged when, after his death, which occurred on the 19th April last, at his home at Down, in Kent, his remains were deposited in Westminster Abbey, amidst the ceremonials of religion and the reverence of a vast crowd of representative men of all classes and callings.

As members of the Medical profession we may indulge in the flattery of a belief that Charles Darwin, the neophyte Medical student at Edinburgh, acquired there such a knowledge of anatomy and physiology as helped materially in the work of his life; we must also acknowledge that not only in anatomy and physiology, but in pathology also, the great principle of evolution has already found a place. As members of this Society, we may be glad to remember that it was so far back as 1868, when disputations concerning his opinions were still rife, that he was elected an Honorary Fellow; and we may be proud to reflect that so illustrious a man has belonged to us for fourteen years, during the height of his world-wide fame.

I have now, gentlemen, completed these brief and imperfect valedictory notices, which, of course, do not lay claim to the exhaustive and critical characters of biographies. In regretfully bidding adieu to those who are no more numbered amongst us, what consolation, what lesson, may we derive from the history of their careers?

The thought has often occurred to me, and, no doubt, to many besides—"what an amount of accumulated experience and wisdom is blotted out at the death of each Master of the crafts of Medicine and Surgery—and if we reflect on the number of gifted, learned, and industrious men who have passed from our ranks during the last twelve months, we may well feel dismay that so much slowly acquired individual knowledge has been here extinguished, and so much personal power has thus died out. But fortunately for mankind, owing to the liberal intercommunication of ideas which distinguishes the true from the false disciples of *Æsculapius*, amongst the instruments of which intercourse are Societies or brotherhoods like ours, such knowledge and power are handed on from period to period, and the examples of one generation are emulated by its successors.

If we study the record of the lives of our deceased Fellows which I have put before you, we find that they possess one common characteristic, viz. *devotion to work*. Whether they were born to affluence, or entered upon life supported by moderate or scanty resources ; whether their early education was of the highest order, or of humbler pretensions—provided for them, or secured with difficulty ; at whatever medical school they were trained, whatever professional titles they acquired, whatever the branch of practice to which they had recourse, and, whether in London, in the provinces, or abroad ; whether they had the early support of powerful friends, or struggled upward by themselves ; whether they were shaped by circumstances, or compelled circumstances to bend to them ; whether they aimed solely at professional eminence, or sought relief to their redundant energy in the duties of citizens besides ; whether they were rewarded by the rich or the poor, by the public, the profession, the Government, or the Crown ; and lastly, whether their lives were so prolonged as to secure the full fruition of their aims, or were cut so short that they saw but visions of future success ;—it is apparent, I say, that all were devoted to their work.

Of the *character* of that work, burdened as it must have been with all the responsibilities of our anxious profession, perhaps with the troubles and vexations, the trials and failings of private life, from which no human being can escape, and associated with the strictest demand for integrity of character and regard for the interests of patients and of professional brethren,—I need not speak to you ; and as to its *amount*, I may appeal to the sum of effort, which it has fallen to me to describe to night.

In reference to the special interests of this Society, which, however, are of minor importance in comparison with those of the public and of the profession at large, it may yet be well to add that, setting aside our deceased non-resident Fellows, who were ineligible for office in the Society, there remain eleven resident or once resident Fellows ; and that of these, six have served on the Council,



four have acted as Referees, one has done good service on a Special Committee, two have been members of the Library Committee, two have been Secretaries, one has been a Treasurer, five have been Vice-Presidents, and one has been President, whilst five of the resident Fellows have contributed twelve papers to our 'Transactions.'

It has frequently been remarked, both in prose and verse, that the occasional contemplation of the lives and work of great and good men may help to encourage us to corresponding efforts; and perhaps I may venture to hope that the picture which I have endeavoured to present to you in this passing hour, of the weighty deeds of our recently deceased associates, may serve to deepen our convictions of the value and needs of our noble profession, may nerve such of us as are able to fresh exertions, and concurrently aid in advancing the interests and increasing the prosperity of this Society.





