

Campbell, Carre, Clouston, Donald, Easterbrook, Graham, Gostwyck, Hotchkis, Ireland, Carlyle Johnstone, Yellowlees, Keay, Kerr, J. H. Macdonald, G. D. Macrae, Maclachlan, Marshall, Parker, Richard, Robertson, Rorie, Shaw, Skeen, Turnbull, and Marr (Divisional Secretary).

There were also present as guests Drs. Henry J. Watt, Ivy McKenzie, and Carl Browning.

Dr. Oswald was called to the chair.

Letters of apology were submitted from Principal Sir Donald MacAlister, K.C.B., Drs. Mercier, Watson, Urquhart, and Tuach Mackenzie.

Professor D. Noel Paton said he had been asked by Principal MacAlister to express his regret at not being able to be present at the Meeting, and to extend to the Members of the Division a hearty welcome to the University of Glasgow. Professor D. Noel Paton said he had the greatest pleasure in welcoming them to the Physiological Laboratory.

The minutes of the last Meeting were read and approved, and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

The Chairman, after making suitable reference to the death, since last meeting, of Drs. Alexander Robertson and David Brodie, two members of the Association, suggested that Dr. Ireland, who was perhaps more intimately acquainted with both than any other one present, might say a few words. Dr. Ireland made sympathetic reference to the death of the two members, and paid a high tribute to the manner in which they had distinguished themselves during their medical career. It was unanimously resolved, on the motion of the Chairman, "That it be recorded in the minutes that the Members of the Scottish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland desire to express their deep regret at the loss of Dr. Robertson and Dr. Brodie; their appreciation of the esteem in which they were held by the medical profession in Great Britain, especially in Scotland; and their sympathy with the two families in their bereavement, and that the Secretary be instructed to transmit an excerpt of the minutes to the relatives of Dr. Robertson and Dr. Brodie."

Drs. R. D. Hotchkis and R. B. Campbell were unanimously elected Representative Members of Council, and Dr. H. C. Marr Divisional Secretary.

Drs. W. D. Campbell, James Laurie, J. D. Maclachlan, Arthur Kellas, A. G. McIntyre, and D. G. Campbell were, after ballot, duly elected members of the Association.

Dr. Ivy McKenzie, M.A., B.Sc., of the Pathological Department of the Glasgow University, read a paper on "The Wassermann Reaction, and especially its Significance in Relation to General Paralysis." This paper is published in the current number of the *Journal of Mental Science* (see page 437). Unfortunately time did not allow a long discussion of the paper. After some remarks by Drs. Lewis Bruce, Marr, and the Chairman, the next business of the Meeting was proceeded with, viz. "A Short Account of recent Progress in the Analysis of Reactions," by Henry J. Watt, M.A., Ph.D., Lecturer on Psychology in the University of Glasgow. After the paper had been read Dr. Watt gave a very interesting demonstration of Reaction Time Apparatus.

Drs. McKenzie and Watt received the warm thanks of the Division for the great trouble they had taken in preparing the papers and giving the demonstrations.

The members afterwards dined together in the North British Station Hotel.

IRISH DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Division was held at Farnham House, Finglas, Dublin, on Thursday, April 29th, 1909, by invitation of Dr. Dawson, who showed the members over the institution and afterwards entertained them at luncheon.

At the subsequent meeting the chair was occupied by Dr. T. Drapes, and there were also present Drs. R. R. Leeper, A. D. O'C. Finegan, W. Graham, J. O'C. Donelan, J. A. Oakshott, James J. Fitzgerald, O. F. McCarthy, J. Mills, F. E. Rainsford, M. J. Nolan, and W. R. Dawson (Hon. Sec.). Dr. G. F. Shepherd also took part in the proceedings after his election. Apologies were received from

Drs. G. R. Lawless, H. R. C. Rutherford, E. Fleury, R. L. Donaldson, A. A. Burrell, A. Fitzgerald, P. O'Doherty, F. O'Mara, D. E. Allman, T. S. Adair, J. C. Martin, C. E. Hetherington, H. Cullinan, G. F. Revington, B. C. Harvey, and H. M. Eustace.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, confirmed and signed, and the Hon. Secretary reported on a matter arising out of them.

The Hon. Secretary also reported a letter from Dr. Finegan acknowledging the resolution passed at last meeting of the Division, and one conveying the President's sanction to the change of date of the meeting from April 22nd to April 29th.

The following were balloted for and declared unanimously elected ordinary members of the Association, *vis.*, Dr. Thomas Adrian Greene, Resident Medical Superintendent, District Asylum, Carlow (proposed by Drs. M. J. Nolan, J. Cotter, and W. R. Dawson); Dr. George Ferguson Shepherd, Assistant Medical Officer, St. Edmundsbury, Lucan (proposed by Drs. R. R. Leeper, H. R. C. Rutherford, and W. R. Dawson); and Dr. William Neilson Eustace (proposed by Drs. W. R. Dawson, J. O'C. Donelan, and P. J. Dwyer).

Dr. W. R. Dawson was elected Divisional Secretary, and Drs. W. Graham and James J. Fitzgerald Representative Members of Council for the ensuing year. Dr. M. J. Nolan was nominated as Examiner.

The following dates for the meetings of the Irish Division during the ensuing session were agreed on, *vis.*, Saturday, November 6th, 1909; Thursday, April 21st, 1910, and Thursday, July 7th, 1910.

It was decided that Dr. Harvey be asked to allow the Summer Meeting of the Division to take place at the District Asylum, Clonmel.

A discussion of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Bill, presented by Sir W. Collins, M.P., was introduced by Dr. Nolan, who said that the Irish Lunatic Asylums Superannuation Sub-Committee had declared in favour of the Bill, which had been shown as the result of a circular inquiry to command the support of about 70 per cent. of the Irish asylum officials. The Bill was desirable as tending to generalise the asylum service, as well as giving the officials a feeling of security. Where existing terms were better than those offered by the Bill they could be retained.

Dr. DONELAN objected to the Bill on the grounds that no actual grievances had arisen under the old system, whereas there had been cases of generosity on the part of Committees, who would only be taught to be penurious.

Dr. NOLAN, however, quoted the instance of a Committee which now exacted from their attendants a promise not to claim pension.

The CHAIRMAN, as well Drs. FINEGAN, GRAHAM, OAKSHOTT and FITZGERALD having all spoken in favour of the Bill, the following resolution was proposed by Dr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Dr. Graham, and carried with one dissentient:

"That this, the Irish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association, approve of the Asylums Superannuation Bill, at present before Parliament, and nominate Drs. O'Neill and Nolan to represent them before the Select Committee now considering same."

The Irish recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Care and Control of the Feeble-Minded were then considered. The HON. SECRETARY pointed out that these recommendations coincided in several particulars with those of a Memorandum drawn up by the Division a short time ago, though not with the suggestion that the asylum service might be made national. He took exception, however, to several of the provisions, notably the number of classes into which the defective are divided, some of which he thought unnecessary, and also the requirement of the signature of a judicial authority for the admission of paying patients, which he regarded as a relic of barbarism. He thought the value of mere registration and certification doubtful.

Dr. RAINSFORD expressed himself as disappointed with the Recommendations, but approved of that dealing with the question of settlement. He favoured a simple form for the certification of imbeciles. He thought Recommendations XLIV and XLVII presented practical difficulties; but in any case it would be difficult to support the proposals until it was known how far the Imperial Exchequer would uphold them.

Dr. LEEPER also expressed general disapproval.

Dr. NOLAN alluded to the work of the Irish medical investigators in appreciative

terms, and proposed the addition of Dr. Mills' name to the Committee of the Division formed to watch legislation in the interests of the insane. This was seconded by Dr. DONELAN, and carried unanimously.

Dr. GRAHAM expressed the view that the judicial authority was unnecessary in view of the constitution of a strong central authority. The debate was adjourned.

It was proposed by Dr. RAINSFORD, seconded by Dr. OAKSHOTT, and carried unanimously:

"That the Irish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association is of opinion that in the appointment of examiners for the Nursing Certificate of the Association, the claims of Ireland to have a representative should be favourably considered."

The report of the Committee of the Division appointed to consider the best method of increasing interest in the Association amongst Irish assistant medical officers was presented. It was recommended that collective reports should again be asked for, to be presented at the Autumn Meeting of the Division, and that the subjects for the present year be (1) "The Relations between Alcoholism and Insanity," and (2) "The Bacteriology of Acute Insanity." The report was adopted unanimously, and the name of Dr. W. Graham was added to the Committee.

Dr. M. J. NOLAN made a communication, entitled "Clinical and Pathological Notes, III," which was discussed by the Chairman and Dr. Leeper, and Dr. Nolan replied.

Dr. R. R. LEEPER read a paper "On Some Cases of Mania apparently due to Bacterial Infection." The Hon. Secretary, the Chairman, and Dr. Rainsford spoke, and Dr. Leeper replied.

Dr. W. R. DAWSON read the following:

HISTORICAL NOTE ON FARNHAM HOUSE.

(Revised.)

Farnham House is the oldest institution of its class in Ireland, being now in the ninety-fifth year of its existence as a mental hospital. It may therefore be of some interest to sketch briefly its history.

Farnham House was opened as an asylum in the year 1814. The village of Finglas, where the institution is situated, is a place of some historic note. It is on record that St. Canice presided as first Bishop and Abbot of Finglas over a monastery said to have been founded by St. Patrick (but more probably by himself), the last remains of which are to be found in the ruins of the old parish church. It is affirmed that St. Patrick preached here, and on one occasion gave utterance to the prophecy that Dublin would some day become a greater city than Finglas, a prophecy which, needless to say, has been duly fulfilled. Coming down to more recent times a curious sidelight is thrown on the methods of the Cromwellian troops by the fact that, when they were on the point of marching through to the tragedy of Drogheda, the village cross (the ancient cross of Nethercross) was buried to save it from being broken by them. The tradition of its place of burial survived, and after nearly two hundred years it was sought for, found, and re-erected by the vicar of the parish, not on the original site, which was perhaps the village green, but in the graveyard of the old church, where it now stands—a circumstance which proves the occasional accuracy of local tradition. A somewhat improbable story relates that James II slept on the night after the Battle of the Boyne at an ancient house named Finglas Wood, the walls of which still stand about half a mile away; and it is certain that a camp was formed here by the victorious army of William III a few days later, inasmuch as considerable remains of the defences exist. These consist of a small earthwork in the grounds of Fortwilliam, a neighbouring residence, this having been thrown up to command the Dublin road; and a much stronger rampart faced with stone, and containing a vaulted chamber in its interior, which now forms one wall of the Vicarage garden and yard. It is a curious commentary on the small amount of local importance which may attach to what are usually considered great events, that amid all this coming and going of kings and captains the records show that the meetings of the parish vestry were quietly held, and contain no suggestion that anything out of the common was taking place. Some years later the vicarage of the parish was held by Archdeacon Thomas Parnell, poet, and friend of Swift, an ancestor of Charles Stewart Parnell; and a relic of him still exists in the village school, in the form of

an oak table which he had made. The subsequent history of the village has been uneventful, and the only circumstances for which it acquired any note in more recent times were certain annual May-day festivities, which seem to have been celebrated on the village green during the first half of the nineteenth century.

Finglas and the district round, however, were somewhat sought after as places of residence by fashionable folk in the eighteenth century. Even earlier than this a certain Judge Cardiff had a castle here, which has completely disappeared, though remains exist of at least one other mansion of even greater age. Its eighteenth century vogue, however, is proved by the number of Georgian houses which remain, though some of them in a ruinous state. Amongst others the Marquis of Drogheda had a suburban residence, still known as Drogheda Lodge; and Farnham House was the property of the Farnham family, who also owned as a dower house the neighbouring mansion of St. Helena.⁽¹⁾ The wainscotted walls and the general design of that portion of the buildings forming the original Farnham House would seem to suggest that it must be about two hundred years old; and it is said to have counted amongst the guests entertained within its doors such celebrities as Addison, Swift, and the Delaneys. Its selection for the purpose of an institution was doubtless in part due to the immediate proximity of another mansion, Maryville, with which it is now structurally connected. This house is said to have been erected for the Head Cook to the last Irish House of Commons, who must, if so, have been a person of means and importance; but however this may be, the graceful Adam ceilings and other decorations, and the general style of the building, seem to point to the end of the eighteenth century as the probable date of its foundation. About this time the tide of fashion must have begun to set towards the south side of the city; and it is evident that the number of large houses left derelict from that cause furnishes the reason for the establishment of so many private asylums as at one time existed in the neighbourhood.

The two mansions, however, form merely the nucleus of the present institution, having been connected up, added to, and altered from time to time, while separate buildings were erected, and many changes made in the grounds. Thus the Superintendent's private house dates from about seventy years ago, and the chapel, most of the north wing of Farnham House, and the older part of the ladies' detached bungalow were erected in the later sixties, to which period also belong the present main avenue and entrance lodge. The farm-steward's house, the back-lodge, and various other out-offices are more recent; and the last additions are the bedroom wing, with hall and open-air loggia, added to the bungalow only last year.

The founders of Farnham House as an institution were Dr. Alexander Jackson, State Physician, and Rev. James Horner, a Presbyterian clergyman, and one of the Governors of the House of Industry, who was "to superintend the fiscal arrangements and undertake the general management of the concern." It is thought that Mr. Hunt, the State Apothecary, was also a partner, but this is uncertain. If so, his connection with the institution was short, and he was replaced in the following year by a young Scottish physician, Dr. James Duncan, who was the real founder of the institution, which became his sole property about nine years later, and remained in his possession until his death in 1868.

Dr. Duncan was born in Edinburgh in 1786, and when still very young was apprenticed to a surgeon in that city, at the same time attending lectures, so that he obtained the diploma of the Edinburgh College of Surgeons in 1805. In that year he came over on a visit to his friend Sir James Foulis, who then resided in County Meath. This gentleman, who had a great belief in the curative efficacy of electricity and galvanism, then recently discovered, induced Dr. Duncan to start in Dublin as a practitioner in this line, and, indeed, provided him with whatever apparatus was at that time considered necessary. Dr. Duncan seems to have been speedily successful in acquiring an independent position, and in the intervals of practice found time to attend lectures in the University Medical School, where he took the diploma in medicine, though, not being a graduate in arts, he was unable to proceed to the doctorate. He married a Miss Booker in 1810, and his two sons, James Foulis and Nugent, both of whom adopted the profession of medicine, subsequently became connected with Farnham House. His wife died in 1815, and it

⁽¹⁾ The signatures of the Marquis of Drogheda and Lord Farnham appear in the minutes of a meeting of the Vestry in 1757.

appears to have been after this that he decided to become a partner in this institution, though not at first with the intention of residing here. However, it was soon found necessary that some responsible person should live in the establishment, and Dr. Duncan decided to relinquish his practice and to become resident superintendent, which he did in 1816. He appears to have been a capable administrator and well suited in many respects for such a post, and under his direction the institution prospered and acquired a reputation, while he himself amassed a considerable fortune.

There is no record as to the number of patients who could be accommodated in the asylum at the start, but the register shows eighty-eight admissions in the first ten years of its existence, *i.e.*, to the end of 1823, so that it must have been of fair size. In 1842, when the Lunacy Act came into operation, it was licensed for thirty-six gentlemen and fourteen ladies, and was much the largest of the seven private asylums licensed in that year. (At the end of 1843 there were forty-one actually resident.) It is interesting to note that of these seven asylums only three now survive, and that no less than four were in the immediate neighbourhood of Finglas, *vis.*, besides Farnham House, Finglas House, the property of Dr. Harty, closed in 1851; Eagle Lodge, the property of Dr. J. T. Daffy, closed in 1862; and Bellevue (or Belleview), the property of Dr. W. Gregory, closed in 1875. A small asylum was also started at Jamestown House, Finglas, in 1855, but this was transferred to Rathfarnham two years later. Of the buildings occupied by these institutions Finglas House is now a convent, Bellevue is still derelict, and Eagle Lodge exists as a residence under a different name. It may be added that this institution was carried on under a single license up to 1849, in which year Maryville, the ladies' department, appears separately. The relative numbers for which the two institutions were licensed varied from time to time, and even the total seems to have been altered from year to year at one period. In the earlier years, however, the total licensed number was usually fifty, but has been as low as forty-four; while, on the other hand, about thirty years ago it mounted for several years to sixty-six. Since 1888 the combined institutions have been licensed for fifty-six patients.

About the year 1840 Dr. Duncan, while continuing to reside, when not away travelling, delegated the formal duties of resident medical superintendent to his son, Dr. Nugent Duncan, who held that office up to the year 1868, when ill-health obliged him to resign. The other son, Dr. James Foulis Duncan, successfully engaged in practice in Dublin, where he became Physician to the Adelaide Hospital and was President of the College of Physicians in 1873-4-5. He, however, also acquired a connection with Farnham House, first as visiting physician in 1861, then as co-licensee with his brother in 1864, and ultimately as proprietor in 1868, though he never regularly resided.

It was during Dr. Nugent Duncan's period of office, in the year 1843, that a well-known incident occurred of which O'Connell made some political capital, and which, indeed, is believed by some to have been a sort of practical joke arranged by him with the attendants. This is possible, as his lieutenant, Tom Steele, was for a short time a patient here in his younger days, and always retained a great friendship for Dr. Duncan. Speaking in May, 1843, O'Connell described the occurrence thus:—"The present Lord Chancellor,⁽¹⁾ in the interim of making out the Writs of Supersedeas for the repeal magistrates, is very fond of investigating into the management of lunatic asylums. He made an agreement to visit, without any previous intimation, a lunatic asylum kept by Dr. Duncan in this city. Some person sent word to the asylum that a patient was to be sent there in a carriage that day, who was a smart little man that thought himself one of the judges or some great person of that sort, and who was to be detained by them. Dr. Duncan was out when Sir Edward Sugden came in there in half an hour afterwards. On knocking at the door Sir Edward was admitted and received by the keeper. He appeared to be very talkative, but the attendants humoured him and answered all his questions. He asked if the Surgeon-General had arrived, and the keeper assured him that he was not yet come, but that he would be there immediately. "Well," said he, "I will inspect some of the rooms until he arrives." "Oh, no, sir," said the keeper, "we could not permit that at all." "Then I will walk for a

(1) Sir Edward Sugden.

while in the garden," said his lordship. "We cannot let you go there either, sir," said the keeper. "What!" said he, "don't you know that I am the Lord Chancellor?" "Sir," said the keeper, "we have four more Lord Chancellors here already." He got into a great fury, and they were beginning to think of the strait-waistcoat for him when fortunately the Surgeon-General arrived. "Has the Lord Chancellor arrived yet?" said he. The man burst out laughing at him, and said, "Yes, sir, we have him safe, but he is by far the most outrageous patient we have."

In 1857 Dr. Duncan gave evidence before the Commission of Inquiry into Irish Lunatic Asylums as to the condition of the institution, and his statements, while revealing a somewhat unsatisfactory state of affairs, certainly indicate a considerable grasp of modern ideas as regards restraint, and also the provision of amusements. With reference to the former, Dr. Duncan stated that the padded room was never used for purposes of restraint, and that in general he was for non-mechanical restraint, but he admitted that he used it in the form of the muff or strait-jacket to prevent the patients from tearing their clothes! The amusements, in addition to billiards and other indoor games, were said to include gardening, and also, strange to say, bird-catching, while allusion is made to spring-boards, which I presume were supposed to be a substitute for horse-exercise. As you may perhaps be aware, the findings of this Commission gave no very favourable account of the Irish asylums of the day, either public or private.

On becoming proprietor in 1868, Dr. James Foulis Duncan, not being able to reside in the institution, appointed as resident medical superintendent Dr. John Grant Wilson, who had been assistant to Skae at Morningside, and subsequently resident superintendent of Hoxton House, and of "Dr. Wood's private asylum at Kensington." Dr. Wilson's connection with the institution, however, was only a short one, as Dr. Duncan arranged to take into partnership Dr. Alexander Patton, of Tanderagee, who accordingly took up his residence here in 1872. It may be noted that about the beginning of the sixties Dr. J. F. Duncan, who wielded the pen of a ready writer, began issuing short annual reports, a practice which he kept up for ten years, and which has been recently revived. To some of these reports I am indebted for many of the foregoing facts.

Dr. Duncan retained the position of visiting physician up to the beginning of 1875, in which year he was elected President of the Medico-Psychological Association. In his excellent (if a trifle pedantic) opening address, delivered at the College of Physicians, Dublin, on August 11th, he gave a sort of general sketch of insanity in Ireland, and it is interesting to notice how many of the points on which he touched still demand attention (though not always so acutely, or in the same form), and how strongly he urges the importance of the medical aspect of the treatment of the insane, based on the view that insanity is a disease "to be viewed in the same light and treated on the same principles as those which regulate medical practice in other branches." The under-manning of the Irish asylums is alluded to; the defective protection afforded to the medical officers in the discharge of their duties; a point regarding their superannuation; the question as to whether insanity is on the increase or not (which he was inclined to decide in the affirmative), and, if so, as to the causes of such increase, which he believed to be much the same over thirty years ago as are commonly assigned to-day—*vis.*, the artificial conditions and high pressure of modern life, the employment and close association of the young of both sexes in factories, and the consequent "loosening of the family bond," extravagance in all classes, the spirit of speculation, and, above all, intemperance. It is curious to notice that though nearly all these influences have become far more accentuated than they were in 1875, the question of the increase of insanity is still under discussion.

Dr. Duncan's connection with Farnham House ceased on January 1st, 1875, when Dr. Patton became proprietor of the institution, which he retained for over twenty-five years. In his first year it received a considerable accession of numbers owing to the closure of the neighbouring establishment, Belleview, a number of the patients from which were transferred here—it may be added, in a very unsatisfactory condition. This increase in numbers, however, kept up, and in fact, during the earlier years of Dr. Patton's proprietorship, the institution reached high-water mark in this respect, being at one time, as has been seen, licensed for sixty-six patients—thirty-eight gentlemen and twenty-eight ladies. At the same

time the recovery-rate seems to have been very satisfactory. In 1893, owing to advancing years, Dr. Patton felt the need of assistance, and made proposals to the writer, then starting practice in Dublin, that he should become his assistant, with a view to succeeding him. The first part of this arrangement came into operation in the autumn of 1894, while at the beginning of April, 1899, just over ten years ago, the writer became proprietor and resident medical superintendent on the retirement of Dr. Patton.

During the past ten years the institution has been renovated, remodelled, and reorganised in every detail from end to end. To touch on only a few of the principal structural improvements, the entire drainage and sanitary system of the establishment have been relaid on modern lines, the kitchen and laundry refitted, and such changes in the internal arrangements carried out as most conduce to the comfort of the patients and to convenience in working, while additional accommodation has been provided by the new addition already referred to. Out of doors the old airing-courts at Maryville have been cleared away and the space turned into an open garden; and, what has proved, perhaps, the most useful improvement of all, a walk about three-quarters of a mile long has been constructed round the whole estate, and forms a real boon to the patients. Especial attention has been paid to the social side of the work of the institution. A dance is held weekly, except during the summer months; and in addition a larger entertainment—concert, lantern-lecture, theatricals, garden-party or such-like—is given about once a month, while all the ordinary games are provided, such as hockey and golf in winter, and croquet, tennis and badminton in the summer months. With all this, however, every effort has been made to keep the medical side of treatment the really important one, and the various methods introduced into practice from time to time have been tried in appropriate cases. Thyroid treatment has yielded good results in our hands; supra-renal treatment, which was introduced here, has been found useful in certain cases; and the atropin treatment of inebriety has proved sufficiently successful to induce us to continue its employment. Apart from drugs, rest and diet treatment and the hydropathic method of the wet-pack have all been of service; while the latest introductions, *vis.*, the open-air method, found so successful in America, and more recently in Scotland, and the administration of so-called Bulgarian milk, with a view to reducing the manufacture of toxins in the intestinal canal, are yielding encouraging results, though their introduction is too recent for positive assertions. Lastly, the staff has been increased so as to include at least two assistants (one unqualified), and an assistant matron in addition to the matron; while the nurses and attendants are carefully trained for the Nursing Diploma of the Medico-Psychological Association, which has been obtained by many of the former.

An attempt was made to ascertain the number of cases admitted to the institution since its foundation. There are over 1,200 names on the books, but as voluntary boarders were received, of whom no record was kept until comparatively recently, the number of admissions is probably considerably larger, perhaps between 1,500 and 2,000 in all.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to Dr. Dawson for his hospitality.

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM WOTHERSPOON IRELAND, M.D.

Dr. Ireland, who was so welcome and so familiar a figure at the meetings and congresses of the various medical societies, and so well known through his writings, died rather suddenly at his home in Musselburgh, on the 17th May, 1909, at the age of seventy-seven. He was the son of a publisher in Edinburgh, studied in the University there and in Paris, and entered the East India Company's service as assistant surgeon with the Bengal Horse Artillery shortly before the Mutiny broke out. During the Mutiny, at the siege of Delhi, he attended the wounded Lieutenant (now Lord) Roberts. After seven months service, when doing his duty like a hero, he was shot in the head; the bullet entered and destroyed the eye and passed out behind the ear; at the same time a bullet entered his shoulder and lodged in his back, this was afterwards extracted by the surgeons.