

extraordinary meeting of the Council on Thursday, June 25th, admitted a Member of the College, namely:—
Brown, F. J., L.S.A., Bradford Street, Bolton.

OBITUARY.

SIR PRESCOTT G. HEWETT, BART., F.R.S., F.R.C.S.,
Sergeant-Surgeon to Her Majesty: Surgeon-in-Ordinary to the
Prince of Wales.

THE death of the great surgeon who was borne to his rest last Thursday leaves a gap in the ranks of the profession which cannot soon be filled up. It is true that he died full of years and honours, true that he had retired from the active pursuits of the profession, yet he had preserved his vitality so thoroughly, and when he did come amongst us worked, spoke, and moved so like his old self, that his friends till a few months ago used to quote him among the examples of vigorous old age in which the present time is so rich, and prophesied for him many more years of vigour.

Sir P. Hewett was a member of a good old family, and was in all respects—by education, habits and disposition—a gentleman of the old school. His connection with St. George's Hospital was no recent one, for an older member of the same family, Dr. Cornwallis Hewett, Downing Professor of Medicine at Cambridge, held the office of physician to that hospital from 1825 to 1833. The subject of this notice was born in 1812, and received a good education, which was completed at Paris, where he studied art, and acquired that exquisite talent, especially in water-colour drawing, which was afterwards to be a source of such refreshment to himself in the intervals of severe labour, and of so much delight to his friends. He soon, however, turned to the study of medicine, and was zealous in his attendance in the dissecting room, so that when he returned to London, though a junior student, he was a far more expert dissector and a far more competent anatomist than most of his teachers. He was originally destined for the Indian service, for his family had several members in the East and had influence there; and he was on the point of accepting an appointment in India, when overtures were made to him to connect himself, as demonstrator of anatomy, with the school of St. George's Hospital.

At this period the great prosperity which that school had attained under the personal superintendence of Sir B. Brodie, and by the help of his immense reputation, was dying out in the hands of less vigorous and capable successors, and also in consequence of the opposition of the school of medicine founded by Dr. J. A. Wilson and Mr. Samuel Lane, a school which carried on a rivalry with the one which Sir B. Brodie founded in Kinnerton Street until the foundation of St. Mary's Hospital provided the officers and students of "Lane's school" with a hospital to which they could attach themselves. The effects, however, of the rivalry between these two schools, and of the contests which took place between their respective officers for posts on the hospital staff, continued long to trouble the quiet of St. George's Hospital, and in these troubles Mr. Hewett, as a favourite pupil and an intimate friend of Sir B. Brodie, of course had to take his share, though the frankness of his nature and his innate kindness and moderation preserved him from the bitterness to which such antagonism led in men not endowed with the same inward spiritual grace. Nevertheless, it must be admitted that the board room of St. George's in those days was not a school of good manners, and that the officers of the hospital were far from exhibiting towards each other those offices of friendship and mutual esteem which colleagues should always display. It is a pleasant proof of the advance of our times in humanity and kindness that not at that hospital only, but at others where division and mutual exasperation were far more violent and more scandalous, all such scenes are now not only unknown, but would be regarded as intolerable, and only fit for an age of duelling and prizefighting. Through all these scenes, as we have said, Mr. Hewett bore himself like a gentleman who has indeed been forced to take part in a friend's quarrel, but who takes care so to act and speak as to earn the respect of both sides.

Meanwhile, his services to the school founded on his intimate knowledge of anatomy, and his clear and graphic exposition of its details to his pupils, were daily strengthening his hold on the support of his colleagues and the estimation of the governing body of the hospital. When Mr. H. C. Johnson and Mr. Tatum retired from the teaching of anatomy, Mr. Hewett undertook the lectureship, and his superintendence of the school was the occasion and the main cause of the revival of its popularity and efficiency. He also presided over the pathological museum and *post-mortem* room, and in his capacity of curator he organised a system of preserving the *post-mortem* records of the hospital which has remained in force during the whole of the intervening period (now more than forty-five years), and which has made that hospital a model for others to follow, and has endowed it with a collection of pathological experience perhaps unrivalled in the medical world.

As assistant-surgeon he worked with the same vigour which he brought into all that he undertook, and his talent for organisation was further displayed in the admirable arrangements which he devised for the hospital register—a department in which he was aided by the late Dr. Barclay—and which he further developed in after years by introducing tables for the preservation of the continuous experience of the hospital in amputations, operations for strangulated hernia, and compound fractures. The first set of tables especially have been found of the greatest value both in reference to hospital hygiene and surgical practice. Two papers dealing with 500 cases were published by Mr. Holmes in the *St. George's Hospital Reports*, and a third by Mr. Dent and Mr. Bull, carrying on the series to 900 cases, in the last (73rd) volume of the *Med.-Chir. Trans.*, resumes the whole subject.

Mr. Hewett was now on the high road to professional fame and success, but he did not find it an easy one. He had many years to wait for promotion to the full staff of the hospital, and had to exercise equal patience before his merits, distinguished as they were, were rewarded by an extensive private practice. Still his success, though slow, was evidently sure. He had many influential friends, for his admirable qualities as a surgeon were accompanied by a kindness of heart and an unwearied energy in the service of those under his charge which endeared him to all his patients, gentle or simple.

On the retirement of Mr. Caesar Hawkins from hospital practice, in the year 1867, Mr. Hewett became full surgeon, but before this time he had won for himself a position in leading London practice only a little inferior to that of his friend Sir J. Paget, and henceforward his progress was rapid. He was introduced to the Royal family, and was appointed Surgeon-in-Ordinary to the Prince of Wales, then to the Queen, and on Sir W. Fergusson's death, Sergeant-Surgeon-Extraordinary, and finally Sergeant-Surgeon, in the place of Mr. Caesar Hawkins.

In 1882 he was made a baronet, and retired from London practice to Horsham, in Sussex, where, though he was still at the service of his old patients on emergencies and paid periodical visits to London for professional purposes, he gave up most of his time to country pursuits, which he loved, and to painting, which he loved still more. His life here was an eminently happy one. Few men of his age could match him in activity and vigour, nor would any one who met him then for the first time have suspected that he had already passed the limit of three score years and ten.

He delighted in the society of his family and of his old friends, and had everything about him that should attend an honoured and beloved old age. Shortly before his death, however, troubles came thick upon him. The illness of his only son was a grievous trial to him, and soon afterwards it became evident to those about him that his own end was approaching. He bore his sorrows, however, with the patience and the unflinching courage which he had displayed in all the former trials of his life, and endured uncomplainingly the terrible agonies of a disease which he must have known to be mortal, though for the comfort of his family he professed to make light of them, and to refer them to a temporary cause.

We have sketched at some length the public career of Sir Prescott Hewett, since it conveys substantial encouragement

to other men struggling as he did, with want of means and lack of friends, but buoyed up by the consciousness of energy, talent, and singleness of purpose. Of his private character it is hardly necessary to speak. The writer of these lines was a pupil and an intimate friend of his, bound to him by all the kindly recollections which surround an old teacher, and by the memory of many acts of generous kindness, and many occasions in which he gave his time and his matured wisdom to help one who was then trying to follow in the upward path which he himself had trod so bravely. It would be impossible therefore for him to speak critically or dispassionately of the character of his old friend and master; but fortunately it is not necessary. Few men were better known in the professional or social world than Hewett, and none more widely respected and liked. The reason is that he was emphatically a gentleman—a man who would not merely scorn a base action, but with whom anything base would be inconceivable. He was a great surgeon, and knew his art as thoroughly as he knew his anatomy; but he was much more than that. He was one of the most ardent and generous of friends, one of the truest and most reliable of colleagues, a man of whom his school, his hospital, and his profession were justly proud.

It may be necessary to add a few words about his professional works. These were too few, for he shrunk with horror from anything in the nature of self-advertisement, and his taste was fastidious, especially in his own case. His intimate knowledge of the French language and his old connection with Paris naturally brought him a thorough acquaintance with French surgical literature; and, like so many of the great French surgeons, he was particularly drawn to the study of injuries and surgical affections of the head. His lectures as Professor at the College of Surgeons on this subject were unfortunately never published in their entirety, though portions of them formed the base of some valuable articles on encephalocele and kindred affections in the *St. George's Hospital Reports*. His article on Injuries of the Head in the *System of Surgery* edited by Holmes is also one of the standard authorities on that subject; and a valuable paper on Extravasations of Blood in the Sac of the Arachnoid, and another entitled "An Analysis of the Cases of Injuries of the Head examined after Death in St. George's Hospital, 1841-51" are to be found in the *Med.-Chir. Trans.* Another paper of his in the same *Transactions*, of great value and acumen, describes the "omental sacs" sometimes found in strangulated herniæ. Aneurysm, again, was a very favourite subject with him, and he took the keenest interest in the treatment by compression when this was comparatively novel. In pathology the work he did was most valuable and extensive. He was an original member of the Pathological Society, and deeply interested in its success. Amongst the numerous distinguished men who have presided over that Society few had done more service to it than Hewett, and to its younger sister—the Clinical—he also gave his great services as President, and inaugurated that remarkable discussion on "Pyæmia in Private Practice" which did so much to refute the exaggerated representations then in vogue as to the insalubrity of our hospitals.

This is no meagre catalogue of good and solid work. Still we must confess that his extensive experience and his admirable knowledge both of literature and practice might have given us more; and now that his living voice is silent we can only mourn that he has not left us still larger treasures of his ripe wisdom.

Another old pupil of Sir Prescott Hewett sends the following annotation:

"Prescott Hewett, after a thorough training in Paris, came to London seeking election on the staff of St. George's. He had to wait; but he could not be idle. Like other ambitious young men of the time, he found opportunity for work in what was called a private school. He became demonstrator of anatomy with Gregory Smith at the School of Anatomy in Little Windmill Street. He was a charming teacher. His remarkable skill as a draughtsman enabled him to illustrate his lectures in the most attractive manner. Few men could equal him as an expert dissector. But beyond these qualifications there was an earnestness of manner combined with unflagging kindness which made it impossible for a student to be idle. Whatever he did, he did thoroughly and cheerfully, so that his example was irresistibly catching. Whilst waiting for his opportunity at St. George's, he still worked zealously as a

student. He even acted as clinical clerk; and his old associates will remember his carrying the long case-book of Dr. Seymour round the wards. He worked *con amore* in the dead-house, and the unsurpassed neatness and precision with which he performed a necropsy made a deep impression upon the writer. To see him there was a lesson never to be forgotten. Some of this skill he had no doubt brought from Paris; but more was the fruit of that spirit of thoroughness which characterised all he did. The skill so exercised was conspicuous in his operations on the living.

"On Wednesday the Duke of Westminster presided over a large assembly of governors at St. George's, comprising most of the staff. A vote of condolence with his family was moved by Dr. Dickinson, and seconded by Mr. Charles Hawkins. Eloquent words, inspired by affection and conviction, expressed the thoughts of all present. His portrait will never cease to recall the presence of the most amiable and most worthy of the friends and teachers of the hospital for which he did so much."

GEORGE HOGGAN, M.B., C.M. EDIN.

DR. GEORGE HOGGAN, whose name was at one time pretty prominently before the public in connection with the antivivisection agitation, was born at Edinburgh in 1837 and died at Nice on May 18th. His body was cremated at Père-la-Chaise on his 54th birthday.

Dr. Hoggan was entirely a self-made man, and few members of the medical profession can have fought so hard a battle of life. He was taken from school at the age of 12, and, after being put to several different trades, he was, in his 16th year, apprenticed to an engineer. The hardships he underwent at this period of his career were very great. When he had served his apprenticeship he received an appointment as engineer in the Indian navy. He went out to India at the time of the Mutiny, and took part in the China war of 1860, and the Abyssinian campaign of 1868. He met Livingstone in 1865, when the great traveller was making preparations for his last expedition, from which he never returned, and volunteered to accompany him. Livingstone applied for leave to take Hoggan with him, but it was refused. In 1868 Hoggan left the navy on a small pension and, in the same year, entered the University of Edinburgh as a student of medicine. He graduated in 1872, and at once threw himself, with all the ardour of his nature, into the movement for the admission of women to the medical profession. He married in 1874 a lady who had taken a degree in medicine, and the next eleven years were spent in London in active professional life and in the prosecution of scientific research in conjunction with his wife. His health broke down, and in 1885 he was obliged to leave London. Since then he has lived in retirement on the Riviera. He had a severe fall from his tricycle on the day after Good Friday, but the actual cause of death was a cerebral tumour, which had led to deposits in various other parts.

Dr. Hoggan was a man of unflinching courage and devotion to what he believed to be the truth, and his many sterling and lovable qualities endeared him to a large circle of friends.

RICHARD GUNDRY, M.D.

DR. RICHARD GUNDRY was born at Hampstead Heath on October 14th, 1830, and when 13 years of age accompanied his father, a Baptist minister, to Canada. He began the study of medicine at Simcoe, Ontario, having previously pursued and discarded the study of law. He graduated at Harvard Medical School in 1851, bearing off the first prize. He practised in Rochester, N.Y., for a short time; but, becoming the recipient of a legacy on the condition that he would travel, he passed some time in Europe. He returned in 1853, during the cholera epidemic, and settled at Columbus, Ohio. In 1855 he was appointed second assistant physician in the Central Insane Asylum, now the Columbus Hospital for the Insane. At the same time he was Professor of *Materia Medica* and *Mental Diseases* in the Starling Medical College of Columbus.

In 1858 he was transferred to the Southern Ohio Insane Asylum, at Dayton, Ohio, as assistant physician, and in 1861 he was promoted to the superintendency, remaining there until 1872, when he was placed in charge of the completion and organisation of the insane asylum at Athens, Ohio. This