

Obituary.

WILLIAM TUSTING COCKING, M.D.,

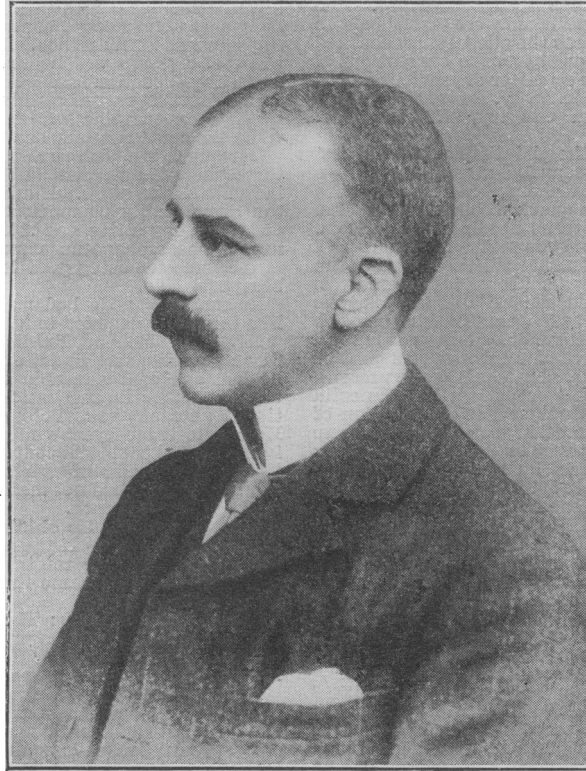
HONORARY PHYSICIAN TO THE SHEFFIELD ROYAL INFIRMARY; EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS, SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY.

It is with profound regret we record the death of Dr. William Tusting Cocking, on October 17th, after a long and distressing illness which he endured with rare fortitude. The cause of his death was pulmonary tuberculosis, and there can hardly be a doubt that he contracted the disease in the out-patient department of the Sheffield Royal Infirmary, where for many years he made a special study of phthisis.

He was the son of the late Mr. Tusting Johnson Cocking, of Sheffield, and was born in 1862. He was educated at Wesley College, Sheffield, and at University College, London, where he greatly distinguished himself; he became M.R.C.S. in 1884, and in 1885 took the degree of M.B.Lond. with honours in medicine and obstetric medicine. Two years later he proceeded to the M.D. Lond., qualifying for the gold medal. After holding the usual resident appointments at University College Hospital he returned to his native city, and was appointed assistant physician to the Sheffield Royal Infirmary, and thus began a connexion with that institution which ended

only with his death. In due course he was promoted to be full physician to the Royal Infirmary, and for upwards of twenty years he worked impressantly for the sick poor of Sheffield, earning the gratitude of a multitude of patients.

He took a very large share in the management of and the teaching in the medical faculty of the Sheffield University. He was the first Dean of the Faculty, and for many years held the Chair of Pharmacology and Therapeutics. On resigning the latter, owing to his illness, he was appointed Emeritus Professor. His clinical



WILLIAM TUSTING COCKING.
[Photograph by] [R. S. Henderson, Sheffield.]

THOMAS McCLURE, M.D. ET UX., F.R.C.S.I., who died at Luton on October 1st, aged 85 years, entered the medical profession in 1868, and joined the Bath and Bristol Branch of the British Medical Association early in the Seventies. He spent forty-four years in hard general practice, mostly in the country, and wherever he practised he soon attracted by his kind, sympathetic, and genial manner a large number of patients. He was at times misunderstood by his professional brethren, but those who were best acquainted with him knew how, with a real heroism for the sake of those around him, he bore silently and with an extraordinary cheerfulness strokes of misfortune, and, during his last months, the agony and distress of a disease that he must from the first have known to be fatal. He leaves a widow and eight children. Two of his sons joined the profession; the oldest, Charles, died of enteric fever at Koffyfontein, South Africa, only five weeks before his father. The other, Walter, is now assistant medical officer of health for Manchester.

We had with regret to announce last week the death of Mr. JOHN MARLE, who had been attached since 1865 to the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Working as assistant articulator under Mr. James Flower,

teaching in the wards of the Royal Infirmary attracted at all times a large class of students, with whom he was always on excellent terms.

He was the first representative of the university on the General Medical Council, and held this office as long as the state of his health permitted.

For several years he acted as Secretary to the Sheffield Medico-Chirurgical Society, resigning this post on his election to be President in 1906. He was a member of the

British Medical Association, and was Secretary of the Section of Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the Annual Meeting at Portsmouth, 1899. When the Association met in Sheffield in 1908 his health was already too precarious to justify him in accepting any office.

He took an active part in the editing of the *Quarterly Medical Journal*, and contributed many articles to it.

A good observer, a man of keen insight and sound judgement, thoroughly interested in his work, and doing with all his might whatever he undertook, he made an ideal hospital physician. Singularly modest, perhaps even to a fault, and self-sacrificing to an unusual degree, he delighted to advance the interests of others rather than his own. His reward was the universal esteem of all with whom he came in contact. While tolerant of the weaknesses of the weak, he could, when the necessity arose, be a severe critic of those in high places, but his keen wit was

reserved for the few who were privileged to belong to his inner circle of friends. The views he held of mankind are well summarized in R. L. Stevenson's aphorism: "There is so much bad in the best of us, and so much good in the worst of us, that it ill behoves any of us to find fault with the rest of us." Dr. Cocking married Miss Alice Mary Birks, the daughter of the late Mr. Edward Birks, of Sheffield, who with one son and daughter survive him. He was buried in Fulwood Churchyard on October 21st.

he succeeded to the senior appointment in 1876. He was well known to anatomists as an expert in identifying fossil bones, and his merits were recognized and appreciated by the three conservators under whom he worked—Sir William Flower, Professor G. Stewart, and Professor Keith. He was yet more widely known to a whole generation of students as an assistant at the College examinations, his voice as he ushered in the candidates being very familiar to the Court. He died in University College Hospital of pneumonia and empyema, at the age of 67.

DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION ABROAD.—Among the members of the medical profession in foreign countries who have recently died are: Professor Otto Soltmann, director of the Clinic of Children's Diseases of the University of Leipzig, aged 67; Dr. Danlos, physician to the Hôpital Saint Louis, Paris, and a recognized authority on diseases of the skin and syphilis, aged 68; Dr. Joseph Schmitt, professor of clinical medicine in the University of Nancy, and author of works on microbes and disease, the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases, and other contributions to medical literature, aged 57; and Professor Hermann Munk, the famous physiologist of Berlin, aged 73.