

retained the office of Public Vaccinator for Chelsea to the end of his days. Though one of the old school—he was on the verge of 80 when he died—he kept an open mind to the advance of bacteriology and other sciences bearing upon public health; and it was mainly owing to his persevering insistence that, after a long struggle, the isolation hospital at Mogden was established by the Corporation of Richmond in conjunction with a neighbouring authority. In the wordy warfare incidental to Local Government Board inquiries the Medical Officer of Health was “always ready with a Roland for an Oliver,” and though in private life a peaceful, genial citizen, he knew how to hold his own in matters of public duty. The respect in which he was held in the district was evidenced by the large attendance at his funeral in Richmond Cemetery of representatives of the Corporation and of professional and official colleagues.

WE regret to have to record the death on January 25th of Mr. JOHN KNOWLES, Surgeon to the West Kent General Hospital. Mr. Knowles, who was in his 53rd year, had been in failing health for the last twelve months, and had been confined to bed by acute phthisis for six weeks. He was a native of Suffolk, and after an apprenticeship to Dr. Harris, became a student at King's College, and took the diplomas of M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. in 1869. His connection with Maidstone began in 1870, when he became an Assistant to Messrs. Joy and Hoar. In the following year he was appointed House-Surgeon to the West Kent General Hospital, a post which he retained for nine years. Soon after retiring he was appointed one of the Honorary Surgeons to the Hospital, and remained a member of its staff until his death. During twenty years he enjoyed an extensive private practice in Maidstone, and his opinion was much valued by his brother practitioners in the town and neighbourhood. He was a member of the South-Eastern Branch of the British Medical Association, and was Chairman of the West Kent District in 1899, when it met in Maidstone. He leaves a widow and a daughter, who have the sympathy of a large circle of friends in their bereavement. A friend writes: “John Knowles's name and fame were well known in the town and for miles around. His genial and kind-hearted nature endeared him to all who came in contact with him. He had for many years a large practice, and made many friends wherever he went. He was loved by his patients, rich and poor alike. He was possessed of a keen sense of humour, and his skill as a surgeon won him a great name in the district.”

WE regret to record the death of Dr. GEORGE MYLES, of Limerick, who succumbed to an attack of acute pneumonia after a few days' illness, on January 24th. Dr. Myles was Consulting Physician and previously Visiting Physician to the Limerick Lying-in Hospital, Visiting Physician to the Frederick Street Lying-in Hospital, Consulting Surgeon to the Barrington Hospital, Admiralty Surgeon and Certificated Factory Surgeon. Dr. Myles belonged to a very old-established Limerick family. He was a son of the late Alderman Zachary Myles, J.P., a brother to Dr. James Myles, of Birr; and cousin to the President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Mr. Thomas Myles. His demise is greatly regretted in his native city, where much sympathy is felt for his widow and grown-up family.

WE regret to observe the announcement of the death of Dr. EUGENE GODDARD, of Highbury New Park, a member of the Metropolitan Counties Branch of the British Medical Association. He was the son of the late Dr. L. M. Goddard, and received his early education at the City of London School. He was afterwards a student of St. Thomas's Hospital, and took the diplomas of M.R.C.S. Eng. and L.S.A. in 1862, and L.R.C.P. Lond. in 1871. He graduated M.D. Durham in 1882. Soon after obtaining his diplomas he was for a time House-Surgeon to the West Herts Infirmary; and subsequently settled in Highbury, where he practised continuously for upwards of thirty years. He was Public Vaccinator for Clerkenwell, and Surgeon to the New River Company.

WE regret to observe the announcement that Civil Surgeon W. LONGSTAFF WHITE WALKER, who was wounded in action at Modderfontein, died on January 31st. He was 26 years of age, and was the son of Dr. Allan Walker, of Seaton Burn, Dudley, Northumberland. He received his preliminary education at the Grammar School, Morpeth, and subsequently became a student of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne (University of Durham) College of Medicine. He was Goyder scholar in 1897, and had held the post of House Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, as well as that of Visiting Medical Officer of the Newcastle Dispensary. He graduated M.B., B.S. in 1897, and M.D. in 1899 in the University of Durham. He volunteered as a Civil Surgeon twelve months ago, and left for South Africa on February 13th, 1900. Great sympathy will be felt with Dr. Allan Walker, who has another son, Dr. A. M. G. Walker, serving in South Africa.

DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION ABROAD.—Among the members of the medical profession in foreign countries who have recently died are Professor A. Berne, some time senior surgeon to the Charité Hospital, Lyons, and author of a large work on surgical pathology, aged 70; Dr. Dubreuil, Honorary Professor of Clinical Surgery in the Medical Faculty of Montpellier; Sanitary Privy Councillor Dr. Kreuzler, of Brandenburg, author of the famous song “König Wilhelm sass ganz heiter,” which in 1870 stirred national sentiment in Germany to a fierce glow, aged 86; Dr. Alexander Spengler, the “creator” of Davos as a health resort, aged 74; Dr. Ephraim Ingals, Emeritus Professor of Materia Medica and Medical Jurisprudence in Rush Medical College, Chicago, of which he was a liberal benefactor, aged 77; Dr. M. Bernstein, a rising ophthalmologist of St. Petersburg, and author of several contributions to the literature of his speciality, aged 36; Dr. Julius Lehmann, of Copenhagen, well known as a hygienist, especially in relation to tuberculosis; Dr. G. A. Chatin, a former President of the Paris Académie de Médecine, of which he was at the time of his death the oldest member, and Professor of Botany in the Ecole de Pharmacie, of which he was for many years director, aged 87; and Dr. Robert Moericke, for many years Professor of Gynæcology in the University of Santiago de Chile, and author of a recently published monograph on extrauterine pregnancy, aged 50.

## ROYAL NAVY AND ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES.

### THE SOUTH AFRICAN HOSPITALS CONTROVERSY.

THE publication of a recapitulation of the charges originally made against the Army Medical Service by Mr. W. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., in a book entitled *The Sick and Wounded in South Africa*, together with the issue of the *Report and Minutes of Evidence of the Royal Hospitals Commission*,<sup>1</sup> now enables us to review the controversy as a whole. The book preceded the *Report* in order, as stated in the preface, to give a summary of the charges, as well, doubtless, as to anticipate some possible findings of the Commission. Both volumes are much too discursive to admit of detailed criticism, save on the broader issues of the controversy.

The *Minutes of Evidence* is a large foolscap volume containing over 600 pages, and the minutes are preceded by a regional list of witnesses and an alphabetical index of names. The *Appendix* contains reprints of those letters written by Mr. Burdett-Coutts and published in the *Times*, to which he referred in his evidence before the Royal Commission, and also the text of Mr. Burdett-Coutts's speech in the House of Commons on June 20th, 1900. There is also a table of the embarkation of the field force for South Africa, showing the dates of embarkation and those of arrival at Capetown, which occupies over 130 pages; a statement of the dates of requisition by the Army Medical Department for shipment of stores; memoranda by Professor Dunlop and others; a note on the composition of the South African Field Force and the embarkation of the Army Medical Service, and details of units and detachments of that service sent out to South

<sup>1</sup> *Royal Commission on South African Hospitals: Minutes of Evidence*, price 5s. 2d.; *Appendix*, price 3s.; to be obtained from Eyre and Spottiswoode, London; John Menzies and Co., Edinburgh; and Glasgow; and Hodges, Figgis, and Co., Dublin.