

R. HINGSTON FOX, M.D., F.R.C.P.

DR. RICHARD HINGSTON FOX, who died at his country home at Jordans, near Beaconsfield, on April 20th, aged 71, was the third of six surviving sons of Joseph John Fox, surgeon of Stoke Newington, who all followed the family tradition and entered the medical profession. After studying at the London Hospital, Hingston Fox obtained the M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. diplomas in 1874, and began general practice at Finsbury Park; a few years later he took up work at Finsbury Square, in the City of London. In 1885 he obtained the degree of M.D. Brux. and the M.R.C.P. diploma, and in 1923 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians.

During his years of active practice in London, Hingston Fox made a close study of life assurance in its medical aspects, and for more than forty years he acted as medical officer in London to the Friends' Provident Institution. His statistical bent and philosophic outlook well fitted him for this class of work. He was one of the original members and a past president of the Assurance Medical Society, and contributed many papers to its proceedings. He was also an active member of the Hunterian Society, in which he had held all the chief offices; his Hunterian Oration on the life of William Hunter, anatomist, was published in 1901. This historical monograph was followed eighteen years later by *Dr. John Fothergill and His Friends*, a well arranged study of eighteenth century medical life and character. In writing it Dr. Fox made full use of his great knowledge of the period; moreover, by inheritance and conviction he was well equipped to describe the life and times of the most prominent member of the Society of Friends in the eighteenth century. At the time of his death he had almost completed another work on historical medicine—the history of the Hunterian Society—a volume compiled in commemoration of the recent centenary of that society.

In 1902 Dr. Fox quitted general practice in the City and North London for consulting work in what is still sometimes called the West End. He was medical examiner for the United Kingdom Provident Institution, honorary physician to the St. Luke's Provident Dispensary, and physician to various assurance companies. During the war he acted as assistant physician to the Mount Vernon Hospital for Consumption. As a youth he had worked during the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71 for the War Victims' Fund, and more than half a century later he visited Germany on behalf of the Friends' Council of International Service.

As may be judged from his historical writings, Hingston Fox had the instincts and methodical habits of a scholar. An early hour or two of each morning was spent with the Greek Testament or the Hebrew Psalms, and his daily life was so arranged as to allow of regular periods for walking, study, rest, and conversation. Among his hobbies were antiquities, the study of trees and birds, and, above all, books, with which in his home and consulting room he was everywhere surrounded. His character and attitude towards life were reflected in the quiet and correct style of his writings.

Dr. Fox married in 1879 Elizabeth, daughter of the late Charles Tylor; he had seven children, all of whom survive him. His only son, Dr. J. Tylor Fox, is medical superintendent of the Lingfield Epileptic Colony.

GEORGE HENRY OLIVER, M.R.C.S.,

Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon, Bradford Royal Eye and Ear Hospital.

MR. GEORGE HENRY OLIVER of Bradford died on April 14th, aged 63. He was the eldest son of the late Mr. Thomas Oliver of New Holland, Lincolnshire, and was educated at the Leeds Medical School and Vienna. He obtained the M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. in 1885, and L.R.C.P. Lond. in 1888, and was one of the earliest to take the Diploma in Ophthalmology of the University of Oxford. He had been in practice in Bradford for about thirty years, and for a long period was associated with the Bradford Royal Eye and Ear Hospital, first as assistant surgeon and finally as consulting ophthalmic surgeon. He was also ophthalmic surgeon to the Health Committee of the Bradford Corporation and to the St. Luke's Municipal Hospital.

Mr. Oliver had been lecturer in ophthalmology at the University of Oxford, surgeon to the Bradford War Hospital, and officer in charge of No. 84 Ophthalmic Centre, War Hospital, Bradford. He was an ex-president of the Bradford Medico-Chirurgical Society, ex-president of the North of England Ophthalmological Society, and an ex-chairman of the Bradford Division of the British Medical Association; he had also been appointed a vice-president of the Section of Ophthalmology at the forthcoming Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association to be held in Bradford in July next.

Mr. T. JASON WOOD, surgeon to the Bradford Royal Infirmary, writes: Mr. Oliver was an enthusiast in regard to his own subject of ophthalmology, but was by no means one-sided in his interests: he was a cultured musician, and a performer on the pianoforte of no little merit. He was a great lover of animals and had a good practical knowledge of natural history: he took a delight in keeping under observation all sorts of likely and unlikely animals, and an interesting half-hour was assured to the sympathetic visitor by the inspection of his numerous pets. Mr. Oliver took no active part in political or municipal affairs, except in so far as they touched the interests of the profession. The last two years of his life were marred by much personal suffering, against which he struggled bravely, though it greatly limited his physical activities. The end came somewhat suddenly after a long period of complete disablement from work.

Another colleague (J. P.) writes: Stevenson has somewhere eulogized a friend for her "frank interest in things for their own sake and enduring astonishment at the most common." "You will not find," he asserts, "many more shrewd, trenchant, and humorous." George Oliver was a man of many interests and one able to make his friends understand and share his enthusiasms. Ophthalmology was, of course, his chief love, and his knowledge of the literature of the subject, both in English and in German, was exceptional. However rare or unusual a case might be he could be relied upon to know where just such a condition had previously been described. He was diffident of rushing into print, but his two presidential addresses—on the history of the invention and discovery of spectacles, for the Bradford Division of the British Medical Association, and on visual memories and their disturbances, for the Medico-Chirurgical Society—were epitomes of the results of wide reading, and showed his skill in extracting the essentials of a subject and making it interesting to all and sundry. He had many interests outside his profession. He was an accomplished pianist, Chopin being his favourite composer; he was also delighted to entertain the audience at a smoking concert with songs from the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. His interest in natural history dated back to boyhood. He was a medallist in botany at Leeds and he knew the name and history of every flower in his cottage garden at Addingham. His pets included not only dogs but squirrels and insects; he was indeed something of an authority on insect life, his opinions being quoted in a recent textbook on spiders.

At the memorial service held in Bradford Cathedral on April 17th, Archdeacon Stanton Jones, Vicar of Bradford, who conducted the service, paid a tribute to the generosity of the late Mr. Oliver, and said that his work at the Royal Eye and Ear Hospital had made him greatly respected and beloved by all with whom he came in contact.

F. W. CRAGG, M.D. EDIN.,

Major I.M.S.; Assistant Director, Central Research Institute, India.

MAJOR FRANCIS WILLIAM CRAGG, Indian Medical Service, died on April 23rd, aged 41, at Lahore, of typhus fever contracted while conducting researches into the epidemiology and prevention of the disease in that city. His untimely death is a severe loss, not only to the Government of India's Bacteriological Department which he served so faithfully and well, but to a wide circle of scientists in Europe who were familiar with the specialist lines of entomological research which he had made his own. He was educated at Edinburgh, where he graduated M.B.,