

HENRY CECIL MOORE, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, CITY OF HEREFORD.

THE death of Mr. Henry Cecil Moore, at the age of 72, at Hereford, on June 21st, is recorded with much regret. The son of Brigadier-General Moore, Colonel of the 59th Regiment, Bengal army, he was born in Lucknow, and as a lad came home to be educated at Wem, passing to Leamington College, and after private tuition to Addiscombe College, where he studied from 1853 to 1855 in view of entering the army, which he did as a lieutenant in the Royal Engineers, proceeding to India in 1857. On landing he was forthwith attached to Sir Hugh Rose's field force for the suppression of the Indian mutiny.

His abilities as an engineer and officer soon singled him out for other important posts of high responsibility. He arrived at Aden on March 17th, 1858, and the next day was present at the capture of the fortified village of Shaikh Othman. From 1858 to 1859, as Assistant Engineer, he supervised the tunnel and military works at Aden, and the construction of the several reservoirs needed to supply water in times of drought in that arid region. His success secured him the appointment of

Commanding Engineer and Governor of Perim Island, at the entrance of the Red Sea, which he retained until 1861, completing within that period several important defensive military works, including the defensible light-house on the summit of the rock. His energy, resourcefulness, and complete devotion to duty twice received the thanks of the Government. He was a man who never spared himself, and the trying climate and general exposure he had to undergo within the limits of his short foreign service told on his health, and he was invalided to England in that year. The sea voyage and brief rest improved his health, and he was gazetted Commanding Engineer at Alderney, which appointment he held until 1863. After serving for a year at Chatham on the Military Pontoon Commission he was transferred to Ireland, with his headquarters at Templemore, co. Tipperary. Here he was entrusted with the reconnaissance and supervision of the proposed military defences of the district, which he carried through in such a form as to merit the high compliment of receiving the thanks of Sir Hugh Rose, then Commander of the Forces in Ireland. It was apparent, however, that the health of Lieutenant Moore had been severely tried by his sojourn in tropical climates, and although the will and determination were never lost, the recurrence of the symptoms of malaria finally determined the Medical Board to advise his retirement from the service, and he was invalided from the army on half-pay in 1866.

It was a severe blow and a disappointment to young Moore to have to give up a profession he loved, and at the very threshold of what promised a successful career, but he was not dismayed, and, looking about for a new opening, turned to medicine as a career with many possibilities. He studied at Sydenham and Queen's College, Birmingham, commencing his formal work as a medical undergraduate in 1866. He took the M.R.C.S. Eng., 1871, and the L.S.A. in 1872. After serving as Assistant House-Physician and Assistant House-Surgeon to the General Hospital, Birmingham, he was in 1872 appointed House-Surgeon at the General Hospital, Hereford. Seven years later he began general practice in the city of Hereford. A man of broad views, wide sympathy, and with lofty ideals, combining the

elements of the soldier and the physician, he brought into all his undertakings a certain sturdy earnestness of purpose, a knowledge of affairs, and a geniality of manner which gained the confidence, esteem, and goodwill of those with whom he was brought into contact, in private or official intercourse. His first friends were the suffering poor, and to these he was the most accessible of men. He was Honorary Surgeon to the Hereford Dispensary from 1893 to 1900, and for some years was Surgeon to the Hearts of Oak Benefit Society, and in 1898 accepted the offer of Medical Officer of Health to the City of Hereford, and five rural districts comprising nearly two-thirds of the county of Hereford. He relinquished the latter office in 1900, but retained the former till the day of his death. No one but those familiar with the enthusiasm and energy he threw into his work during these years can have any adequate idea of the degree of efficiency he secured in the public health department of the municipal work of the city. He initiated or fostered many useful improvements and reforms. Infantile mortality, sanitary houses for the working classes, a pure milk supply, the abolition of private slaughterhouses, are among the special subjects to which he devoted his attention. His annual reports came

to be looked upon as the textbook for the education of the public in matters of hygiene and health. The strain and anxiety thrown on Mr. Moore during a comparatively recent epidemic of diphtheria in the city was in some measure accountable for his last failure of health.

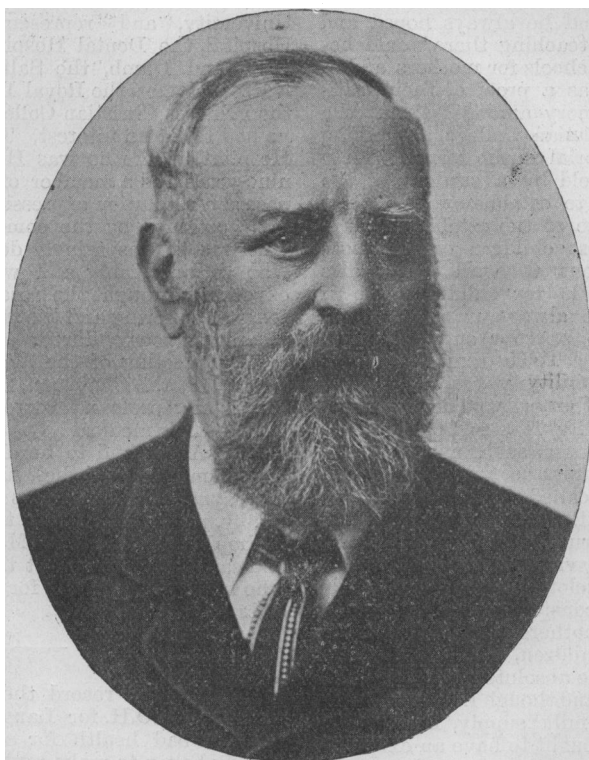
Among his many-sided professional and non-professional activities may be enumerated the following: (1) For many years Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Branch of the British Medical Association previous to the formation of Divisions. (2) Local Honorary Secretary for many years of the Epsom College Benevolent Fund. (3) Honorary Secretary from 1886 of the Hereford Free Library and Museum. (4) Member of the now defunct Hereford Philharmonic Society. (5) Member and on the Committee of the Hereford Choral Society, and until recently forming one of the choir selected for the Three Choir Festivals

held alternately at Hereford, Worcester, and Gloucester. (6) Honorary Secretary of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club from 1886, and President in 1896, 1897, and the current year; Editor of the *Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club* since 1887; and his familiar figure at the field meetings, most of which during the past thirty years he attended, will long be missed.

It was fitting that a man who had lived, both in the highways and the by-paths, a singularly simple and unaffected life, prodigal of time, bearing a heart which never harboured a malicious thought, should have passed away loved, honoured, and respected.

The funeral, which was largely attended by all classes, testified to the universal esteem in which he was held.

THE late Mr. Thomas Gibbins, of Edgbaston, has bequeathed £1,000 each to the General Hospital and the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, £200 each to the Orthopaedic and Spinal Hospital, the Birmingham and Midland Counties Eye Hospital, the Birmingham and Midland Hospital for Women, the Homoeopathic Hospital, the Birmingham and Midland Ear and Throat Hospital, and the Birmingham and Midland Sanatorium.



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