

## OBITUARY.

JOHN WICKHAM BARNES, F.R.C.S., L.S.A.

MR. J. WICKHAM BARNES, whose death occurred on October 12th, was born at Bath in 1830, where his father was in general medical practice for many years. His paternal grandfather was also in the medical profession, but died young. Early in life the subject of this notice took to the study of medicine, a taste which seems to have run in his family, as his younger brother also followed it later on, and his own son is a Major in the Royal Army Medical Corps, and is now serving in South Africa. In 1849 J.W. Barnes came to London and entered at Charing Cross Hospital, where he applied himself steadily to work and gained numerous prizes during his studentship. He qualified as L.S.A., 1852, and M.R.C.S., 1853, becoming F.R.C.S. by examination in 1865. During his studentship he attended the practice of the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital in Guthrie's time, and was subsequently appointed House-Surgeon there for two half-yearly periods. Of this well-known surgeon Barnes always afterwards spoke with the greatest possible respect. Guthrie also seems to have appreciated Barnes's services to the institution, as by his influence Barnes was soon after made a life governor of the hospital, and was for a long time subsequently one of the Committee of Management.

Some time after qualifying Barnes commenced practice at Aylesford, and though he there met with considerable success, yet after three or four years he decided to return to London; this he did in the year 1857, when he was appointed District Medical Officer for the Parish of Islington. He was well known at a later period of life as a resident of No. 3, Bolt Court, Fleet Street, where, for upwards of twenty years, he, in conjunction with his friend, Dr. Joseph Rogers, championed the cause of the Poor Law Medical Service by his work and energy as honorary secretary to the Poor Law Medical Officers' Association. During all this time his desire was to establish by law a pension for all Poor Law officers who had seen prolonged service, and this he lived to see brought into operation by the passing of the Superannuation Act, 1896. He was throughout life always ready to make friends, sympathised with his medical brethren in general practice and was their champion whenever he felt that a wrong had been done. This kind of work latterly engaged much of his time, and we believe that his efforts are generally known and appreciated.

He was for twenty-five years one of the medical officers of the 2nd Middlesex Volunteer Artillery, and retired as V. D. Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel.

About three years ago his general health began to fail, and on this account he retired to Walton-on-the-Naze, but without any benefit accruing from the change. About two months previous to his death he moved again to London, where he died.

EIGHTEEN years ago death deprived the Anatomical Museum the University of Edinburgh of the services of Mr. Stirling, the inventor of one of the earliest forms of microtome, and now we regret to chronicle the death of his successor, Mr. JAMES SIMPSON, F.R.P.S.E. He had early manifested that love of science which was the distinguishing feature of his character, and which had led him, in the scanty leisure of a business life, to familiarise himself thoroughly with the leading principles of biology, geology, and practical microscopy. In the service of the university he showed the most whole-hearted loyalty to the interests of the Museum, and the greatest ingenuity in devising new methods of preparing, mounting, labelling, and displaying museum preparations. At the Edinburgh meeting of the British Medical Association in 1898 one of the features of the Annual Museum was an extensive exhibit of Mr. Simpson's methods. Both before and during his connection with the university he had a corresponding acquaintance with a large number of the most eminent biologists of Britain and of Europe, and he published interesting papers on a variety of scientific subjects such as the presence of the reindeer in Scotland, on the fungus of the salmon disease, and on grouse disease. He was the right hand man of Sir William Turner, the Curator of the Museum, and many old graduates, to whom he was a familiar figure, will realise what a blank his death causes in his special department.

WE regret to announce the death of Dr. ROBERT TORRANCE, F.R.C.S. Edin., on October 4th, at the house of his sister, in Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh. He was the eldest son of the late William Torrance, of Camps and Burnhouse, Midlothian, and early showed a love for the medical profession. He studied at the University and Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, and obtained the L.R.C.P. Edin. in 1870 and the F.R.C.S. in 1883. Twenty-three years ago he settled in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and soon built up a large practice, and won a name as a skilled surgeon. He became Surgeon to the Newcastle Throat and Ear Infirmary, and wrote some papers on subjects connected with that speciality. Unfortunately failing health three years since compelled him to undertake a voyage to the Cape, which benefited him. Pneumonia, however, supervened a year ago, and left him so invalided that he was unable again to take up work with his usual vigour. Five months ago he retired definitively from practice, suffering from serious heart disease. He went north to visit his sister, whilst making arrangements to seek a warmer climate, but succumbed before he could carry out his intention. He was much respected and esteemed, and though somewhat reserved and retiring in manner, was genial and social. In his professional capacity he was well known and greatly loved. He was ever the friend of the distressed or afflicted, his wide sympathies endearing him to many. The funeral took place at East Calder, Midlothian, the family burying ground. Dr. Torrance was unmarried.

By the death of Dr. JOHN MARSHALL LYNN, of Armagh, which took place on October 10th in his 94th year, probably the oldest medical man in Ireland has passed away. He was born in Glasslough in October, 1806, and qualified as L.R.C.S. Edin. in 1829 and M.D. Glasg. in 1834. In 1831 he was appointed to the Markethill Dispensary, and in 1854 was appointed Staff-Surgeon to the Armagh Militia and became Surgeon-Major in 1876. He was of a generous disposition, and being possessed of ample means he gave during the past thirty years upwards of £36,000 to religious and charitable objects. He had been a total abstainer for the past sixty years, and attributed his prolonged life and full mental powers to this mode of living. On his 93rd birthday he wrote a prescription for one of his servants who was suffering from neuralgia. He suffered for three days from cystitis, during which time he was attended by Dr. Ferrar, of Armagh, and his nephew, Dr. Kevin, of Belfast. His funeral was very numerously attended.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. THOMAS HAMMOND, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., L.S.A., Deputy Medical Officer H.M. Prison, Liverpool, after a short illness. Born in Whitehaven he studied medicine at Guy's Hospital, on leaving which he obtained a special honorary certificate for the satisfactory manner in which he discharged the duties attached to the various appointments held during his curriculum. After qualifying in 1877 he was appointed House-Surgeon to the Halifax Infirmary, a post he held nearly two years and a half. After a short stay as House-Physician at the Bradford Infirmary he became Clinical Assistant at the West Riding Asylum, Yorkshire. The experience gained in these appointments, and the knowledge of mental disease acquired in the West Riding Asylum, were most useful to him in his official career. Early in January, 1883, he was appointed Deputy Medical Officer to Walton, Liverpool, a post he filled until the end of his life. He was offered promotion by H.M.'s Commissioners, but declined it as he did not wish to leave Liverpool. He was a master of the special work which he had to do, and was quick in distinguishing the genuine from the false among prisoners; in this he was never known to make a mistake. He was Surgeon-Captain in the 1st Lancashire Volunteer Artillery, taking always a keen interest in all that appertained to his regimental duties. He married in 1805, and leaves a widow and two young children. He was cut off in the prime of life by an attack of apoplexy. The Prison Service mourns the loss of a good servant, the 1st Lancashire Volunteer Artillery a capable officer, and the widow and children a loving husband and father.