

Echoes from the Past.

SOME ECHOES OF THE PAST.

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THIS record of the military services of medical officers in India who lost their lives in the N.-W. P. and Oudh Provinces (now U.P. and Oudh) from 1788 to 1860, is full of transcendent interest. Of thirty-seven names recorded, no less than fifteen were killed, and the majority, with many others, under circumstances of peculiar brutality. It has not been a very easy task to find out all these names, and I shall be glad to hear of any I may unintentionally have missed. The labour has been a pleasure, and a duty to my brother officers of so long ago, and I wish the description of these brave and splendid services could have been written by a more capable pen than mine. Many a lesson can be learned from their lives in these times of increasing luxury and diminished danger.

DR. THOMAS HAMILTON.—By the *kacheri* office of the Collector of Farrakabad lies the tomb of this medical officer, who must have been an officer of considerable rank in the Honourable East India Company's service. The tomb is very large and substantial, and bears the following inscription :—

*Sacred to the memory of THOMAS HAMILTON, Esquire,
Head Surgeon, who died 12th August, A.D. 1788, aged
60 years. This monument was erected by Major A.
Farmer, Executor.*

Farrakabad was, and now is, a large flourishing city in the Agra Division near the Cantonment of Fatehgarh, and came into the possession of the English about 1774, when they supported the Rohilla-Nawab, and defeated the Rohillas conquering Rohilkund. In 1801 the whole was ceded to the Honourable East India Company, and with one more successful battle Lord Lake drove Holkar with the rebel Rohillas away and utterly routed them. It has since belonged to the British. This account would seem to place Dr. Hamilton as a P.M.O. or an S.M.O. with the John Company's Troops.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON I. WILKINS.—In the old cemetery at Chunar is still preserved the tomb of Assistant-Surgeon I. Wilkins, with the following inscription:—

*A tribute of friendship to the memory of I. WILKINS,
Assistant-Surgeon, who departed this life on the 21th
March, A.D. 1792, aged 37 years.*

Chunar forms one of the landmarks of Indian history. In 1530 it was the residence of Shere Khan, the Afghan, and forty-five years later was besieged after an investment of six months, and taken by Akbar. In 1763 it fell into the hands of the English under General Carnac, and a few years later was visited by Warren Hastings, who was so pleased with the position and appearance of this place that he wished to make it his principal residence.

Dr. Wilkins might be justly placed as one of earliest civil surgeons of India, or a medical officer who, still retaining his rank in the Army, performed duties among the native population, and largely contributed by his personal skill and operative powers to the progress of civilization.

SURGEON JAMES HENRY LAW.—All that can be acquired with regard to this officer is the simple inscription over his grave, in the cemetery by the *kacheri* at Cawnpore.

*JAMES HENRY LAW, Surgeon, H.M. 27th Light
Dragoons, who died June 12th, 1801, aged 26 years.*

ASSISTANT-SURGEON HOOPER.—In the Kunch cemetery, Jalaun District, there is a memorial pillar erected to those officers and men of 18th Regiment who fell fighting against the Pindari outlaws. The inscription includes Assistant-Surgeon Hooper, 1st Battalion, 18th Regiment, with "other brave men" who fell in action with Mir Khan, Pindari, near Kunch, May 22, 1804.

The Pindarees were freebooters, whose ravages were allowed through the supineness of the British Government to be the scourge of Central India and the Deccan from 1804 to 1814. These banditti, who had their homes in Central India under the protection of Scindhia and Holkar, inherited the customs and traditions of the early Mahrattas under Sivaji. Mounted on hardy ponies they used to sweep through the land in large bands, harrying the defenceless husbandmen at the spear's point and carrying back stores of booty to their distant camps. Their audacity was so great that they paid no regard to the armies of the native powers, and were scarcely to be deterred by the presence of the British force.

SURGEON WILLIAMS lies in the cemetery near the *kacheri* at Cawnpore, and on his tomb is inscribed:—

Surgeon WILLIAMS of Artillery who died 20th June, 1808, aged 65 years.

Surgeon Williams belonged to the East India Company's Artillery, and the remarkable feature is the age of this officer.

ADAM MITCHELL.—Is buried in the Cemetery near the fort at Chunar. The inscription on his tomb runs:—

Sacred to the memory of ADAM MITCHELL, Esquire, Surgeon, who died at Chunar, January 23rd, 1809.

MRS. ELIZA EVANS.—At Cawnpore, wife of Mr. Evans, Civil Surgeon of the Station, who died November 18, 1810.

SURGEON HENRY O'HARA.—At Cawnpore, Surgeon Henry O'Hara, 19th Regiment, who died December 23, 1816.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON A. SHANNON.—At Cawnpore, A. Shannon, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon H.M. 14th Foot, who died June 19, 1817.

SURGEON GEORGE REDDIE.—In the Cemetery at Cawnpore.

GEORGE REDDIE, Superintending Surgeon, who died September 22nd, 1827, aged 58 years.

SURGEON J. HECTOR MACKENZIE.—Cemetery at Kaitha in Tehsil Rath.

Sacred to the memory of JAMES HECTOR MACKENZIE, Surgeon to the 3rd Native Cavalry H.C.S., who departed this life 23rd May, 1828, aged 40 years and 5 months, in the full hope of the promise made to all who believe in our Saviour Jesus Christ. He was a dutiful son, an affectionate husband, and brother. This small tribute is erected by his disconsolate widow.

SURGEON J. O'MALLEY.—At Cawnpore, James O'Malley, Esq., Surgeon, 11th Dragoons, who died July 27, 1820, aged 42.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON J. THOMSON.—At Cawnpore, James Thomson, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon, H.M. 38th Regiment, who died June 6, 1828.

SURGEON PATRICK MATHEW.—Cemetery near *kacheri*, Cawnpore, Patrick Mathew, Esq., Staff Surgeon, who died August 15, 1830, aged 45.

SURGEON THOMAS C. HUNTER.—Mirpur Cemetery, Cawnpore.—Thomas C. Hunter, Surgeon, Bengal Army, aged 44, and died March 25, 1838.

SURGEON WILLIAM McL. ROSE.—Cemetery near *kacheri*, Cawnpore. William McL. Rose, Surgeon, 11th N.I., who died September 25, 1843.

SURGEON A. McQUEEN.—At Gwalior. Included on a monument: "To the Memory of the Officers, H.M. 3rd or Buffs Regiment," is the name of this officer.

Surgeon ALEXANDER McQUEEN, M.D., *died in Camp at Gwalior on 24th January, 1844, aged 50 years.*

ASSISTANT-SURGEON W. SCOTT.—Kydgunj Cemetery, Allahabad.

Sacred to the Memory of WALTER SCOTT, Esquire, Assistant-Surgeon E. I. Company's Service, second son of Walter Scott, Esquire, of Wauchpol, Roxburghshire, who died at Allahabad 17th August, 1844, aged 27 years.

SURGEON W. HARVEY.—Cemetery near *kacheri*, Cawnpore. William Harvey, Esq., Surgeon, 70th Regiment, who died August 18, 1851, aged 23.

DR. HEATHCOTE.—This officer, with his wife and two children, were killed at or near Fatehgarh by the rebels, on July 10, 1858, and their names are inscribed, with many others, on a cross erected as a memorial over the well in the Fatehgarh Churchyard, and into which many bodies were thrown. The exact work Dr. Heathcote performed I cannot discover, but I feel sure he was in the Company's employ.

The story of Fatehgarh is a short but sad one. At the time of the Mutiny and to a few years ago, it was a gun-carriage factory. Three weeks before actual hostilities commenced, the garrison heard of the revolt in Bareilly and Shahjehanpur, distant about 80 miles.

The news of the outbreak at Cawnpore had not reached Fatehgarh, when as the result of a council under Colonel Smith it was decided to despatch the women and children to Cawnpore, which was the nearest garrison. On June 4, 170 non-combatants started in boats, of whom 126 went to Cawnpore and were murdered by the Nana, and the remainder returned to Fatehgarh, as they had heard rumours of the events taking place at Cawnpore.

From June 25 to some date in July the Fort, in which the factory was placed, was the scene of a desperate resistance, till finally the whole garrison, having spiked the guns, evacuated the place in three boats. All—with the exception of Mr. Gavin Jones, who practically was so wounded and in such pain that he could be of no use, and so took his chance in a native village—were

murdered. Mr. Jones escaped, and I saw him a year ago at the age of 75 looking fit and well. Before he was wounded and in the siege, this gentleman performed heroic service. Dr. Heathcote and his family must have been murdered on one of these fatal journeys.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON S. MOORE, 6th Dragoon Guards, died at Meerut, on June 2, 1857. His tomb lies near the west gate of the Meerut Cemetery, and bears the following inscription :—

*Sacred to the memory of STEWART MOORE, Esquire,
Assistant-Surgeon, H.M. 6th Dragoon Guards (Carbineers),
who died at Meerut, on the 2nd June, 1857, of wounds
received in action with mutineers at Ghazi-ud-din Nagar,
on 31st May, 1857, aged 26 years.*

This tomb was erected by his brother officers as a token of their sincere regard.

SURGEON H. H. DOWLING, 56th N.I.

This officer was killed at Shahjehanpur, and his name appears on the monument to those who suffered with him.

I.H.S.

*This monument is erected by the friends and relatives
of these honored and beloved ones whose names are here
inscribed, who yielded up their lives unto death, through
the violence of a lawless and fanatical insurrection at this
station on the 31st May, A.D. 1857.*

*To the care of two poor natives, residents of this city,
they owe a grave on this spot, and in God their Saviour
we hope they have found a place.*

ASSISTANT-SURGEON R. NELSON, 90th Light Infantry, died at Lucknow of fever on August 18, 1857, during the siege, and his name appears on a monument erected by the officers of H.M. 90th Light Infantry in memory of their comrades who fell during the Indian Rebellion of 1857 and 1858.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON D. MCAULEY, M.D., Royal Artillery, was killed on June 30, 1857, in Wheeler's entrenchment at Cawnpore. He was in medical charge of the picquet at the barracks on the eastern aspect of the entrenchment. His name appears on Tablet No. 2 in the Memorial Church. His hospital steward W. Heffernan, and his assistant apothecary W. Slane lost their lives, the former being killed and the latter dying of disease. Both names are included on this tablet, with Assistant Apothecary J. Thomson and

Hospital Apprentice W. A. Conor and his wife, who were killed in the entrenchment.

SURGEON W. R. BOYES, 2nd Light Cavalry.

This officer with his wife survived the terrible experiences of the besieged entrenchment and the massacre at the Suttee Chaura ghat. They escaped in a boat, but were caught at Shiurajpore and brought back prisoners to that infamous fiend the Nana of Bithoor, and their names appear on No. 3 Tablet in the Memorial Church. Three days later they were shot with the survivors of sixty men, twenty-five ladies, and four children. I extract the following from an old book issued by the Catholic Orphan Press and called "The Key to the Tablets in the Memorial Church."

Having escaped from the ghat, "the boat was carried by the current to Najafgarh. At sunset they were overtaken by a pursuing boat with sixty men, and grounded on the same sand bank. Exhausted, famished, sick and wounded as they were, they attacked their pursuers, very few of whom returned to tell the story. On the 29th the boat having drifted in a creek, the enemy poured a shower of musket balls upon the miserable inmates. Then Vibart,¹ who lay helpless with both his arms shot through, issued his last orders. The forlorn hope under Mowbray Thomson and Delafosse, eighteen men of H.M. 32nd Regt. and 84th landed and attacked their assailants. The fierce energy of desperation drove them forward. Sepoys and villagers surged round those whom they attacked. On their return they found the boat had gone, and after one more stand in a temple but four survived, and were sheltered by Drigbejay Singh, the loyal Taluqdar of Morarmow." The remainder in the boat were caught later, and were ordered to be shot. This sad story is completed with the following incident: "Captain Seppings though shot through the arm sued for a few minutes' respite to pray. This was allowed, and they all knelt down and prayed the last prayer their mortal lips would utter. A volley of musketry now opened upon them, killing a few, and wounding many, who were then slain with the sword." Mrs. Seppings and probably all the ladies who survived with their children were taken to the slaughter house and killed on July 15; but Mrs. Boyes refused to be separated from her husband and was killed with him.

¹ Major R. Vibart, 2nd Light Cavalry, not Captain E. C. Vibart, who was killed with the Fatehgarh fugitives at Cawnpore, on June 10, 1857.

SURGEON N. W. K. NEWENHAM.—This medical officer was surgeon to the 1st Native Infantry, and was killed during the siege with his wife and children, and their names are inscribed on No. 3 Tablet in the Memorial Church.

SURGEON N. COLLYER.—Surgeon Collyer belonged to the 53rd Native Infantry and died of wounds during the siege.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON I. P. BOWLING.—Surgeon Bowling was medical officer of the 63rd Native Infantry and was killed during the siege. His wife and children were murdered at the ghat.—Their names appear on No. 5 Tablet in the Memorial Church.

SURGEON C. GARBETT (Tablet No. 5).—This officer was the superintending surgeon of the siege and died from fever in the entrenchment. He was S.M.O.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON H. P. HARRIS (Tablet No. 5).—This officer was civil surgeon of station. He escaped slaughter at the ghat, but was caught on the 28th and murdered on the 30th. His wife and child were killed at the ghat.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON R. D. D. ALLAN (Tablet No. 5).—This officer was in military employ, and had served at Moodki, Ferozshah, and Aliwal in the Punjab Campaign, but I cannot trace his regiment. He was killed with his wife during the siege.

MRS. DARBY.—This lady was the wife of Surgeon Darby of H.M. 32nd Regiment, who was left at Cawnpore when her husband was ordered to Lucknow where he was killed. A child was born to her in the entrenchment, but she only survived this to be murdered with her child at the ghat on June 27, 1857.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON S. MALTBY.—This officer was Civil Surgeon at Fatehgarh, and with his wife was among those who escaped from that station only to be killed on July 15, at Cawnpore by the Nana. Their names appear among the list of Fatehgarh fugitives on Tablet No. 13, Memorial Church.

DR. AND MRS. McEGAN were murdered at Jhansi, but I am unable to trace his connection with the service. He may have been in civil employment, or a medical missionary. These martyrs' names are included in a list on a monument erected by Government and placed in the Memorial Garden at Jhansi to the memory of sixty-six persons murdered during the mutiny at the place.

DR. STACK.—On the Lalitpur road, near Jhansi, there is a monument erected to this officer. The inscription runs as follows :—

*Sacred to the memory of Dr. STACK, Her Majesty's
86th Regiment, who was shot at the storming of Jhansi
on the 3rd April, whilst attending on a wounded soldier.
Aged 39 years.*

*Erected by his brother officers in testimony of their
esteem.*

W. E. LYNCH.—Assistant-Surgeon W. E. Lynch, 7th Hussars, died at Lucknow, January 24, 1859.

“ QUÆ CECIDERE, RESURGUNT.”

Review.

A TEXT-BOOK OF MEDICAL ENTOMOLOGY. By W. S. Patton, M.B., I.M.S., and F. W. Cragg, M.D., I.M.S. London, Madras, and Calcutta: Christian Literature Society for India. 1913. Pp. xxxiii and 764.

The ordinary medical man who wishes to take up the study of those diseases in the transmission of which insects play a part meets with an almost overwhelming obstacle in the fact that entomology is a subject of very great dimensions, and that its literature is scattered throughout many publications in many languages. Even when a well equipped library is at his disposal, he is faced with the problem that in order to fully understand the work of many observers he must, at the outset, study general entomology and familiarize himself with the very technical phraseology used before he can even begin the study of the particular subject he may wish to investigate. Furthermore, on commencing experimental research, he is beset with difficulties owing to the lack of detailed information on the necessary laboratory technique. The authors have endeavoured to make this preliminary task an easy one by presenting, in the form of a volume of moderate size, a work dealing with entomology in its medical aspects, which may serve as a guide to the study of the relation between arthropods and disease.

We congratulate the writers on the success with which they have attained their object. As the Director-General, I.M.S., in a “foreword” says, they have covered an immense and in many places untrodden field, and have still kept their book thoroughly practical. In arranging the matter, they have observed, as far as possible, a regular sequence, the general features of the group, its relation to disease and its natural parasites, external anatomy, classification and description of species, bionomics, and breeding habits, methods of breeding and manipulation in the laboratory, internal anatomy and methods of dissection being