

## Obituary

ATWOOD THORNE, M.B., V.D., HON. COL., R.A.M.C.(T).

SENIOR members of the specialty will be grieved to hear that they will not see their cheery old friend Atwood Thorne again; he passed over at his home at Caerleon, Monmouthshire, on 6th October. Some of us remember him as one of the surgeons at the old London Throat Hospital, where he proved to be the best of colleagues, keen and arduous at his work in spite of fully adequate financial resources, and always ready to go out of his way to be helpful and accommodating, winning to an unusual degree the regard and affection of the staff.

He was elected President of the old British L.R.O. Association, and subsequently Honorary Secretary of the Laryngological Section and Member of Council of the Royal Society of Medicine, and Vice-President at the Birmingham Meeting of the British Medical Association, 1911.

His interests ranged far outside those of our specialty, and his jovial, generous personality marked him as one of the public men of our profession, and it is no surprise to learn from his record that he acted both as Treasurer and President of the Metropolitan Counties Branch of the British Medical Association.

Some of us will always remember him as one of the keenest of the Volunteer and Territorial Medical Officers. He served with distinction as Medical Officer to the C.I.V. throughout the South African War; subsequently, as a Territorial Colonel, he organised and commanded the 4th General Hospital. Unfortunately the opening of the Great War found him in ill-health, and he had to relinquish his command, but later on did invaluable work in training sanitary companies for the front, a piece of service in which his South African experience enabled him to impress his pupils with the true scope and limitations of sanitary duties in the field.

For a considerable period after the War he was actively engaged on pension duties. Some of us have to thank Atwood Thorne, acting as presiding officer on Special Boards, for the intelligent appreciation with which our reports on ear and throat pension cases were received.

Finally, he spent several happy years in retirement, writing books on ceramics, and assisting in the excavation of the Roman station of Caerleon, much of which lies within his demesne there.

So ends the valuable career of a very happy, contented man, furnished with a sufficiency of worldly goods, but always fully engaged either upon his surgical work, or upon public medical duties, both civil and military; consequently always cheerful, hospitable, and popular. May he rest in peace!

E. B. WAGGETT.