

News, Notes and Queries

a doctor in 1831. In 1846 he was called to the University in Christiania and in 1851 he became professor of dermatology there. He spent some years in England, Italy and Greece, studying the occurrence and manifestations of leprosy. After his return to Norway he joined Danielssen and wrote the general part of their joint work on leprosy.

Boeck also took great interest in the study of syphilis. There is no doubt that his original ideas were of importance for the development of research in this field, but his special kind of therapy, the so-called syphilization, caused much opposition. However, his book *Recherches sur la Syphilis*, which appeared in 1862, is a work of the greatest significance.

The third name to be recalled is that of Gerhard Henrik Armauer Hansen (1841–1912). Like Danielssen, he was born in Bergen and spent most of his life there. He qualified in 1866 and joined the staff of the leprosy hospital in 1868. The following year he received the university award for a study of the normal and pathological anatomy of the lymph glands. After spending two years abroad he went back to his hospital and took part in a study of leprosy affections of the eye, in collaboration with the Bergen ophthalmologist Ole Bull (1842–1916). Their publication, and a study of the same subject carried out by the Trondhjem ophthalmologist Lyder Borthen (1849–1924), are outstanding examples of Norwegian contributions to the solution of problems connected with leprosy.

The final proof that leprosy is caused by a microbe was given in 1873 when Armauer Hansen discovered the leprosy bacillus. For several reasons many years passed before this important discovery was widely known. In the beginning of this century Hansen was proposed as a candidate for the Nobel prize, but after serious consideration the committee stated that his discovery was too old to qualify him for this award.

In 1875 Hansen became head of the Norwegian organization for the care of lepers. After many trials he finally succeeded in staining the leprosy bacillus in 1879, and in 1881 he had the opportunity of demonstrating his method to Pasteur. When in 1885 a new law concerning the care of lepers was introduced, he took great interest in its preparation. Together with his Bergen colleague Carl Looft (1863–1943) he published a well-known work on leprosy in 1897.

When Armauer Hansen succeeded in staining the *Bacillus leprae* he employed one of Koch's staining methods, and it was with the help of Koch that he brought about the first international leprosy congress in Berlin in 1897. In 1909 he acted as president of the second congress which was held in Bergen. Like Danielssen he was an able zoologist, and he also followed his father-in-law as the head of the Bergen Museum in 1894, a chair which he filled until his death in 1912.

BERNHARD GETZ

DIROM GREY CRAWFORD, 1857–1942

COLONEL CRAWFORD, the historian of the Indian Medical Service, was born in India a hundred years ago and died in London during the last war at the age of eighty-five. He recorded his own career in brief in his *Roll of the Indian Medical Service 1615–1930*, varying it not at all from the form of entry used for the thousands of his predecessors and successors. At the centenary of his birth he deserves a less laconic appreciation.

His father was serving in the Bengal Civil Service at Chinsura when Dirom Grey

News, Notes and Queries

Crawford was born there on 21 July 1857. He qualified at Edinburgh in 1881, and immediately entered Netley and passed into the Indian Medical Service. In twenty years' time he was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel, and at the end of thirty years' service he retired 'with extra pension' in 1911. He rejoined early in the war of 1914-18, served in hospital ships for four and a half years, and was mentioned in despatches. His younger brother, too, had a distinguished career in the same service.

Crawford made several contributions to the history of British India, but his name will live through his two large books, the *Roll* already mentioned, and the *History of the Indian Medical Service 1600-1913*, published in 1915. This *History* 'grew out of a projected preface to a list of I.M.S. officers', until, as Crawford says, it seemed to deal *de omnibus rebus et quibusdam aliis*. Although he disclaimed all originality and called himself a mere compiler, his book is a most learned and very interesting account of the evolution of a service intimately bound up with the military and the civil life of the British in India, throughout the three and a half centuries of their presence there. Crawford records many passages of heroism and self-sacrifice, as well as the invaluable but unspectacular work of the ordinary serving officers. It is much more than a mere chronicle: he covers in special chapters such general topics as Rank, Pay, Furlough, Pensions, Examinations, and Administration. He also described the contributions made by I.M.S. officers to the exploration and the philology of their adopted land, as well as to science and literature. He does not hide the failures, recording courts martial as well as honours. Hospitals and medical education are surveyed, and he records the medical societies and the medical journals which sprang up in India to flourish or fade. It is no wonder that this wealth of well-arranged material fills two fat volumes. The title-page is adorned with a quotation from the Psalms, properly referenced by chapter and verse, a witness to his Scottish upbringing in 'true religion and sound learning'.

When the *Roll* came to publication fifteen years later, he gave it also a Biblical motto: I Samuel iv, 21—the one sardonic word, Ichabod. The *Roll* is of course a book of reference 711 pages long, not a book to be read. It is even more clearly a monument to Crawford's accurate industry than was the *History*. The careers of 6,156 men, not to mention the 'supplementary' and 'special' lists, are fully recorded in summary form. The wealth of detail he digested goes far beyond what can have been available in the official records.

Particularly in the notes of military service something of the departed glory is 'enshrined to a life beyond life', through the loving care of one retired officer for his old service. It was a privilege and a lesson in application to know this modest Scottish gentleman in the evening of his life.

W. R. LE FANU

THE CENTENARY OF A FALSE PROPHECY

A WARNING TO REVIEWERS

IN 1858 the first edition of Gray's *Anatomy* was published. It is a rare thing for a medical book to live for more than twenty years. Gray's *Anatomy* is still with us, now in its thirty-first edition.

This is what *The Medical Times and Gazette* (1859, N.S., xviii, 241) said of its first