

Matthews Duncan, F.R.C.P.E., A.M., etc., etc., Lecturer on Midwifery ; James Spence, F.R.C.S., Lecturer on Surgery and on Clinical Surgery, Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary ; John Struthers, M.D., F.R.C.S., Lecturer on Anatomy ; D. R. Haldane, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., Lecturer on General Pathology, and Pathologist to the Royal Infirmary ; William R. Sanders, B.L., M.D., F.R.C.P.E., Lecturer on Physiology ; Stevenson Macadam, Ph.D., F.R.S.E., Lecturer on Chemistry ; Henry D. Littlejohn, M.D., F.R.C.S., Lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence ; Alexr. Keiller, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., Lecturer on Midwifery, Physician to the Royal Infirmary, etc. ; J. Warburton Begbie, M.D., F.R.C.P., Lecturer on Clinical Medicine, and on the History of Medicine, Physician to the Royal Infirmary ; Patrick Heron Watson, M.D., F.R.C.S., Lecturer on Systematic Surgery, and Surgeon to the Edinburgh Eye Infirmary ; W. T. Gairdner, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to Royal Infirmary, Lecturer on Practice of Medicine and on Clinical Medicine.

THE LATE MR ROBERT BROWN.

In the obituary of the *Times*, Saturday 12th June, occurs the name of one of those luminaries of science, whose modest and retiring worth was little known to the general public, but who was all the more highly appreciated in those scientific circles of which he was so distinguished an ornament. The late Robert Brown was the son of a Scottish Episcopalian clergyman, and was born at Montrose on the 21st December 1773. His academical education was acquired first at Marischal College, Aberdeen, and subsequently at the University of Edinburgh, where he completed his medical studies in 1795, and in the same year accompanied a Scotch Fencible Regiment, in the double capacity of Ensign and Assistant-Surgeon, to Ireland. His intense love and peculiar aptitude for botanical study had already developed itself, and recommended him to the notice of Sir Joseph Banks, who continued through life to be his sincere and ardent friend. On Sir Joseph's recommendation, and attracted by the more than golden promise which the then unexplored regions of New Holland held out to the botanical inquirer, he threw up his commissions, and in 1801 embarked as naturalist in the expedition under Captain Flinders for the survey of the Australian coasts. From this expedition he returned to England in 1805, bringing with him nearly 4000 species of plants, a large proportion of which were entirely new to science. His memoirs on "Asclepiadæ and Proteacæ," in the transactions of the Linnaean Society, his "Prodrromus Floræ Novæ Hollandiæ," vol. I., published in 1810, and his "General Remarks, Geographical and Systematical, on the Botany of Terra Australis," published in 1814, revealed to the scientific world how great a master in botanical science had arisen among us. It is not our purpose here to enter into anything like a detailed account of the numerous memoirs contained in the transactions of societies, and in the appendices to the most important books of travels or voyages of discovery in which he shed new and unexpected light on many of the most difficult problems in the reproduction, the anatomy, the distribution, the characters, and the affinities of plants. It is sufficient to say, that the universal consent of botanists recognised the title conferred upon him by his illustrious friend Alexander von Humboldt, of "Botanicorum facile Princeps ;" and that nearly every scientific society, both at home and abroad, considered itself honoured by the enrolment of his name in the list of its members. After the death of Dryander in 1810, he received the charge of the noble library and splendid collections of Sir Joseph Banks, who bequeathed to him their enjoyment for life. At a later period they were, with his assent, transferred to the British Museum, and for the last thirty years he has been Keeper of Botany in that national establishment. He received, also, during the Administration of Sir Robert Peel, a pension of L.200 per annum, in recognition of his distinguished merits.

In 1833, he was elected one of the eight foreign associates of the Academy of Sciences of the Institute of France, his competitors being Bessel, Von Buch, Faraday, Herschell, Jacobi, Meckel, Mitscherlich, Oersted, and Plana. In 1839, the Council of the Royal Society awarded the Copley medal, the highest honour at their disposal, "for his discoveries during a series of years on the subject of vegetable impregnation;" and in 1849, he became President of the Linnæan Society, of which he had been in earlier life for many years librarian. With his faculties unclouded to the last, he died on the 10th inst., surrounded by his collections, in the room which had formerly been the library of Sir Joseph Banks. His funeral took place on the 15th inst., at the cemetery at Kensal Green, to which it was attended by a numerous concourse of his scientific and personal friends.

DEATH OF SIR PHILIP CRAMPTON, BART.

Sir Philip Crampton died at his residence, Merrion Square, Dublin, on the 10th instant, in the 82d year of his age, having been born on the 7th of June, 1777. His family were originally English, and resided at South Cottingham, Notts; but leaving this county in the reign of King Charles the Second, they settled in Ireland, and remained permanently there, furnishing from that period to the present, many able members to the profession of medicine, the church, and the bar. Sir Philip, the subject of our present notice, was bred to the former of these, and at a very early age embraced the military branch, serving as an assistant-surgeon in the disturbed times prior to 1793, and being present with the force which repulsed the landing of the French on the west coast of Ireland. Towards the close of that year he was nominated surgeon to the Meath Hospital (one of the infirmaries of Dublin). This event determined him to relinquish the military for civil practice, and he accordingly settled in Dublin late in the autumn of 1790. He commenced business in a house in Dawson Street, where he established himself as a teacher of anatomy, having a dissecting-room and medical school fitted up in the rear of the premises. Here, in a loft over his stable, he first began to lecture, and his style of teaching, combined with his perfect knowledge of the subjects which he taught, soon obtained for him a large class of pupils, whilst his fame as a surgeon became equally established by his practice in the wards, and his skill as an operator in the theatre of the hospital. Combined with these professional qualifications, he was possessed of a pleasantness of manner and a winning way, which, in the sick room, were irresistible, and he soon became a general favourite with the public. It was not, however, in mere conversation, or in the relation of anecdote, that Sir Philip Crampton excelled; his intellectual capacity was equally conspicuous upon whatever subject came before him. To a powerful mind, well cultivated and well stored in early youth, he daily added up to the latest period of his existence. His bodily powers equalled his mental capabilities, and there were not many who, in athletic pursuits, or in the hunting field, could show the way to Philip Crampton. Handsome in person, gifted in mind, with an off-hand, open, and manly bearing, there were few who were his equals. Such was the man of whom we now speak.

As a surgeon he was ready in resources and original in idea, seldom meeting a difficulty that he did not surmount. As a physician he was peculiarly happy in the selection of remedial measures, not merely looking upon the malady in question as disease *per se*, but rather regarding the individual in his every relation to life, and often prescribing to an end far remote from the then predominating symptoms. As a man of science he was generally able; but to zoology and comparative anatomy he paid particular attention, regarding them as subservient to the one great end—the preservation of human life. He was a patron of everything that could promote this object. He assisted in the foundation of the Royal Zoological Society of Ireland, and by his influence obtained a grant of the ground in the Phœnix Park, on which the Zoological Gardens have been