

**In memoriam : Henry Power, M.B. Lond., F.R.C.S. / W.H.H.J.**

**Publication/Creation**

[London?] : [publisher not identified], [1911?]

**Persistent URL**

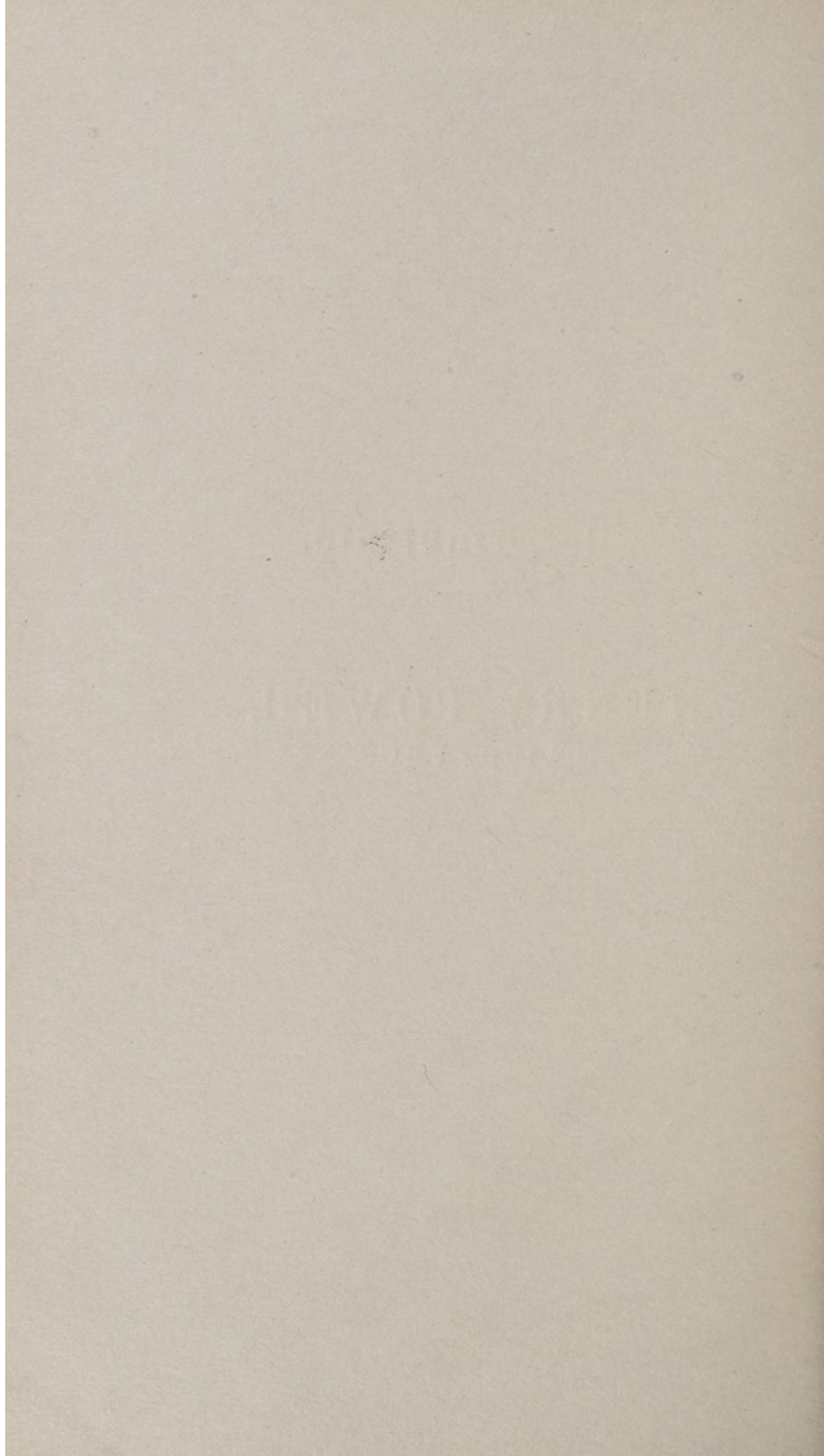
<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/p3rdvcx3>

**wellcome  
collection**

Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

In Memoriam.

HENRY POWER,  
M.B. LOND., F.R.C.S.







*Photo by* MARTIN JACOLETTE

HENRY POWER

## In Memoriam

HENRY POWER, M.B. LOND., F.R.C.S.

---

One by one the last links connecting us with the surgery of the early Victorian era are snapping, and this year we have to mourn the loss of our much esteemed and beloved colleague, Henry Power. The years had sat so lightly on his shoulders that few credited him with being an octogenarian, but the Roll of Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons places his name among the first eight Fellows.

Henry Power was born at Nantes in France on the 3rd of September 1829, being the only child of Captain John Francis Power by his second wife, Hannah, daughter of Mr. Henry Simpson of Meadowfield, Whitby, Yorkshire.

His father belonged to an Irish family of soldiers and received his first commission at the early age of fourteen years. He served through the Peninsular, Baltic and Waterloo campaigns, and as a cornet in the 3rd Dragoons, King's German Legion, received the Peninsular Medal (1793-1814) with clasp for Sohagun and Benevente, and the Waterloo Medal as a lieutenant in the 3rd Regiment of Hussars, K.G.L. He was afterwards captain and major in the 35th (Royal Sussex Regiment), "the old Orange Lilies," and, at the time of his death in 1858, he was lieutenant-colonel in command of the British Foreign Legion at Shorncliffe.

Shortly after his birth Henry Power was taken by his parents to Barbados, where his father was quartered, and the child narrowly escaped death in the hurricane which devastated the island on August 11, 1831. The barracks were blown down, killing the sergeant-major, a sergeant, and five privates, but leaving the baby unharmed in his cradle under a heap of ruins.

Major Power resigned his commission in 1833, and for many years wandered about from place to place. In consequence of this fact Henry Power was educated for short periods at schools

in Gloucester, Cheltenham, Leamington, Whitby, and never stayed long enough at one school to receive a thorough grounding in classics and mathematics. This fact had its bright side, as it made him rely on his own resources and opened his eyes to science, which was hardly taught in schools at that time.

At Cheltenham his name appears as a day boy, admitted at Easter term 1842, the college having only been opened in the previous autumn. He remained there for two years, and, besides the ordinary subjects, learnt a little German, and could manage to read simple stories in French. He was on the modern side, and was making good progress when he left. As his own description relates: "I, about as ignorant a lad as existed in Great Britain, was asked whether I should like to be apprenticed to a doctor. I was only fourteen years and a half old, and was, of course, delighted to escape the drudgery of lessons and see London again. It was a great mistake and has reacted badly on my whole life."

In 1844 he was apprenticed for five years to Mr. Thomas Lowe Wheeler, afterwards chairman of the Board of Examiners at the Apothecaries' Hall, who lived at 61 Gracechurch Street, E.C.

A few details of his apprenticeship in the hungry forties are interesting as showing the privations undergone then:—

"I was well fed, though some economy was practised. I remember when, after having had a bit of bacon, I took a little butter, the exclamation, 'Butter and bacon, that is extravagant, Henry!' I took it really for food, because I wanted some fat with my slice or two of bread. They liked salads, I did not, and to have cold, boiled, salted, or corned beef Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday without potatoes was insufficient for the needs of growth and development."

Living with Mr. Wheeler was his father, Thomas Wheeler, the botanist, who had been apothecary (resident medical officer) to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Though ninety years of age, Thomas Wheeler taught the young pupil botany and materia medica, and helped him with Celsus and Gregory's *Conspectus*. The apprentice attended the lectures and practice of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and for five years made up the medicines, and looked after the surgery of Mr. Wheeler.

"As an illustration of the practice of apothecaries in those days, I remember my master ordered for a gentleman a couple of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz. bottles of water with a drachm of syrup of roses and a few minims of dilute sulphuric acid, which suited him well. A few days after I was ordered to send him 8 oz. more. I

made it up in an 8 oz. bottle and got a wiggling for not sending separate bottles, which could be charged more for."

This apprenticeship period for him was purely wasted time and he practically learnt nothing from it. He attended the lectures at the Hospital, but was ordered to return home the moment they were over, and he says: "I ought, as Savory, Miles, and others of the same year did, to have gone straight to the surgery and made myself familiar with cuts, bruises, dislocations, and accidents of all kinds. When five years afterwards I was my own master, I was too old, or thought myself so, to mix with men much my juniors in standing though not in age." Commencing at the early age of fourteen and a half years, Power was in advance of men of his own age, and he tells us that in his waiting hours in Gracechurch Street he read many of the less well-known poets, as Churchill, Prior, Waller, and dipped into Lamarck's "Vestiges of Creation," and some books of that kind which the Wheelers had in their library.

He attended Paget's lectures from 1845 to 1847, two courses by the regulations of the Hall and College and the extra one for the pleasure of hearing the lectures. His own account of these lectures which follows is very interesting, especially as it might stand for a literal description of his own. Like Savory and the other great lecturers, he studied the art of oratory and never missed a chance of hearing a celebrated speaker.

"He (Paget) was indeed a very winning lecturer, taking him altogether, the best I have ever heard; perhaps Huxley equalled him in ease and lucidity in exposition. He had not the majestic, stately delivery of Lawrence, nor the colloquial style of Faraday, nor the measured diction of Savory, all of whom had, like him, charming voices, but it was perfectly easy and fluent, never having to pause for the choice of a word; the language he used was always appropriate and well considered. A few diagrams, often old and bad or at least effete, were hung up behind him, and were occasionally, but not often, referred to, and he had no adventitious aid from experiments. The lecture room, the old anatomical theatre, was always full to overcrowding, and he commanded the attention of all. He entered with a quick, rather sliding step, taking the pointer in his hand, or in the exact position Millais has painted him, and beginning immediately and uniformly with 'Gentlemen, in my last lecture I gave you an account of so and so,' which was always an excellent *résumé* of the previous lecture. An exceedingly good feature of his lectures was to close the last five minutes, always a difficult task, with an epitome in different language of the first part of the discourse."



One must remember that there were practically no textbooks in those days, and a student had to gain his knowledge from clinical work and lectures.

In 1849 he left the Wheelers to reside with his parents in Claremont Square, and felt himself a free man. "Meeting Savory in the Hospital Square one day, I asked him about the London University, where he had just got a gold medal and had taken his degree. He recommended me to go through the matriculation examination and I took it up with a will. Euclid, over which I had been caned at Cheltenham, seemed easy. Keightley's "History of England" was interesting to me. The twenty-second book of the Odyssey and the two first books of Virgil, with some arithmetic, algebra, and chemistry was all. I took the first prize in chemistry and was satisfied."

In 1851 he became Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries, and obtained the Galen silver medal and the Linnean silver medal for Botany, and in the same year took the Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

This year was celebrated as that of the great and first exhibition, and in its galleries he became engaged to his cousin, Miss Ann Simpson, "the most fortunate event of my life." In that year also Paget asked him whether he would like to go as Demonstrator of Anatomy at the Westminster Hospital, as Holthouse was establishing a school there. This he decided to do, and commenced with only six students; the dissecting room for the first year was a cock loft, a long narrow but tolerably lofty room with a skylight, the only other light being from two large openings on the west wall, through which one looked down on a store of hay. For his services he was to receive £20, and, though needing it badly, he had to wait some time for the payment of the salary.

He now became Lecturer on Comparative Anatomy, Human Anatomy, and Physiology at the Westminster Hospital, but the stipends attached to these offices amounted to very few pounds in inverse ratio to the hours of labour. However, he gained from them numerous private pupils and so managed to keep the wolf from the door.

All this time he was also working at his own examinations and making for himself a brilliant career at the London University.

In 1852, at the Intermediate Examination, he obtained the exhibition and gold medal in Anatomy and Physiology and the gold medal in Structural and Physiological Botany.

In December 1854 he became Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, and on the 21st of that month married his first

cousin and early playmate, Ann, daughter of Mr. Thomas Simpson of Meadowfield, Whitby, and settled at 3 Grosvenor Terrace, afterwards called 56 Belgrave Road, to harder work than ever. Although teaching nearly all day, he passed in 1855 the Final M.B. of the London University, taking the scholarship and gold medal in Surgery and the scholarship and gold medal in Physiology and Comparative Anatomy. These scholarships produced £100 for two years, and were "a godsend to us."

The expenses of the house proving too great, resident pupils were taken at £70 to £100 a year, and by this means the young couple managed to eke out a living.

From the beginning or commencement of his great success in examinations he became a very popular teacher, and, like many others, was obliged to teach not only Surgery and Medicine, but all the accessory sciences.

Private coaching then must have been very hard work to judge by the following account: "From most of them I got £12, 12s., but they took it out of me terribly, coming at 7 P.M. and going away at 10 or 11 P.M., and always having tea and sometimes dinner."

He accustomed himself to take little sleep, and for many years would rarely go to bed before two or three in the morning, and would rise again before six. He would then go to the public baths or walk in the park for an hour before breakfast. In later years his chief exercise was bicycling.

The hard work and strain pulled him down, and in December 1855 he had a severe attack of pleurisy at Shorncliffe Camp, where cholera was raging. He was attended by his lifelong friend William Savory and, on recovering, he went to Jersey and then home by Paris, with Mrs. Power and their infant son.

A six months' illness would have broken the spirit of many a struggler, but we find him back again at work with greater zest and energy than ever. In June 1855 he became Assistant Surgeon to the Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital, and began his ophthalmic work there under the ægis of Mr. Guthrie, who had persuaded him not to take the appointment of Assistant in the Anatomical Department to Professor Goodson of Edinburgh. He remained on the active staff of this Hospital for thirty-four years, retiring in 1889, when he was elected Consulting Surgeon.

In those days it was necessary for a man to be attached to a General Hospital if he wished to hold the appointments at the College of Surgeons. Henry Power, therefore, became Assistant

Surgeon to the Westminster Hospital in 1857. He held this post for ten years, resigning it on being appointed Ophthalmic Surgeon to St. George's Hospital in 1867, when he entirely gave up general surgical work.

He resigned the St. George's appointment in 1870 and returned to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Till 1870 Guys was the only general Hospital with a Special Ophthalmic Department, and owing to its success a similar department was formed at St. Bartholomew's. On July 27, 1870, Henry Power and Bowater J. Vernon were appointed Senior and Junior Ophthalmic Surgeons respectively, and this happy partnership continued for twenty-four years.

On the wards being opened Miss Mary Davies (Sister Eyes) was appointed Sister in charge, and fulfilled these duties till she resigned in 1907.

No Ophthalmic Department was ever better served than our own during those twenty-four years. Nothing could be more inspiring than to accompany the surgeons on their rounds. The courtesy and natural charm of each, coupled with the deference paid by the junior to the senior, the wide general learning and experience of the senior and the excellent memory of the junior for clinical and pathological facts, combined to make the visit a liberal education.

In the obituary notice of Mr. Vernon in vol. xxxvii. p. 1, 1901, of our Reports, Mr. Power admirably and shortly describes the department:—

“The wards were completed in 1870, and opened by the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandra in the summer of that year.

“Mr. Power and Mr. Vernon were appointed Senior and Junior Ophthalmic Surgeons, with twenty-six beds and one cot between them. This arrangement proved a fortunate one. The two surgeons worked together in the most harmonious way, often making their rounds together, sometimes one, sometimes the other monopolising the wards; whilst if a case of emergency presented itself a bed was always found through the address of Sister Alexandra, to whose intelligent and kindly offices, untiring assiduity in her attendance on the patients, and her admirable management of the wards, both felt that they were deeply indebted.”

Henry Power retired from the active staff of St. Bartholomew's Hospital on attaining the age limit (sixty-five) in 1896 with all his powers undimmed.

He was appointed Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon and also Governor of the Hospital. His old house surgeons presented

him with the excellent portrait of himself, executed by his daughter, Miss Lucy Power, which has been reproduced as a photogravure. He told us that nothing could have given him greater pleasure than this picture, and this possession was even more precious afterwards, as it is now the record of a talented artist too early lost to Art.

Till the last few years he would frequently come down on a Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon to the wards and operating theatre and help us with his opinion and advice. He also took an active part as Governor of the Hospital in visiting the wards.

Amongst other appointments he held for twelve years the post of Ophthalmic Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham, going down there every Wednesday afternoon by train. He was also Professor of Physiology at the Royal Veterinary College from 1881-1904.

His connection with the College of Surgeons was a very close one all his life, and the College conferred on him most of the appointments and honours in its gift. Examiner from 1875 onwards, he was on the Council from 1879 to 1890, and Vice-President in 1885. He also held most of the lectureships.

A fairly constant attendant at the meetings of societies, especially the Ophthalmological, he was office-bearer at several.

An original member of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom, he became Vice-President 1882-85 and President 1890-93.

In his excellent presidential address the following expresses his views, exemplified by himself, of the proper qualification for men desiring to become and succeed as oculists.

"They should at least have a sound mathematical education; they should be familiar with the science of optics; they should have made themselves masters of microscopical methods and proceedings; they should have good eyes, and should have cultivated lightness, and steadiness, and precision of hand. Finally, they should be sympathetic and gentle."

In 1887 he was Bowman Lecturer, and took for his subject "Relation of Ophthalmic Disease to Certain Normal and Pathological Conditions of the Sexual Organs."

He occupied the unique position of being two years in succession (1880-81) President of the Harveian Society; was Vice-President of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 1892-93. At the seventh International Medical Congress, held in London in 1881, he was one of the Vice-Presidents of the Section of Ophthalmology.

He had held offices at six of the annual meetings of the

British Medical Association, being President of the Section of Physiology at Cork (1879) and President of that of Ophthalmology at Cardiff (1885) and in London (1895).

An indefatigable worker for the New Sydenham Society, he became Treasurer after the death of Dr. Sedgwick Saunders.

An excellent all-round surgeon, his scientific knowledge decided him as early as 1867 to specialise in ophthalmology, and he soon became one of the pioneers in that branch of practice.

At that time, except at Guys and St. George's Hospital, there were no Ophthalmic Special Departments at the General Hospitals, and the posts at the Special Ophthalmic Hospitals were held by general surgeons.

He was a good and very successful operator, with a hand as steady as a rock. His training as a general surgeon greatly aided him, and no difficulty ever confronted him that he was not capable of overcoming. In an emergency case of severe hæmorrhage from traumatic aneurysm he tied the common carotid artery with great success. Nothing pleased him more than to try new operations, and he spent a great deal of time and thought in endeavouring to successfully accomplish transplantation of the cornea.

He remembered the pre-ophthalmoscope days, and would often speak of the revolution in diagnosis resulting from the invention of the ophthalmoscope in 1851 by Helmholtz.

He enjoyed for years a large private practice, and his advice was much sought after by his brother oculists.

As a lecturer he was fluent in diction, clear in exposition, and clever in illustrating his remarks on the blackboard. He rarely had notes and was never at a loss for words. This power of lecturing, coupled with a remarkable capability of quickly assimilating knowledge, made him able, as few men are, of lecturing on almost any subject, given a few hours' preparation. He thoroughly enjoyed it, and though before his lecture he might be looking perhaps fagged, he would emerge after the hour's work quite refreshed.

At the College of Surgeons he practically held all the lectureships, commencing with the Arris and Gale Lectures in 1882-1883. He was Hunterian Professor of Surgery and Pathology in 1885-86, lecturing on Diseases of the Lachrymal Apparatus. His Bradshaw Lecture in 1886 on "Bacteriology in its Relations to Surgery" was a very excellent *résumé* of the then new science of bacteriology compiled from English and Continental works.

His Hunterian oration was delivered without a note, and he

made the time-worn subject of interest by detailing new facts connected with Hunter's life. As showing his thoroughness, he went down to Hunter's birthplace so that he could feel and write a description of the country and its surroundings. The main portion of the lecture was devoted to the consideration of Hunter as a pioneer of experimental physiology. One paragraph I quote, as he himself had certainly inherited the traditional St. Bartholomew's oratory.

"It is a pleasure to every Bartholomew's man to think that some part at least of Hunter's surgical knowledge was gained in their Hospital and that he had the opportunity of seeing the sound practice and hearing the appropriate language which distinguished the practice and lectures of Percival Pott, and of thus profiting by that combination of skill and eloquence which seems to have been handed down like the mantle of the Prophet, through Abernethy, and Lawrence, and Paget till it rests with graceful ease upon William Savory."

Never was any one perhaps better fitted for the post of examiner, as his manner and voice directly placed the examinee at his ease, and, in consequence, extraction of knowledge and not abstraction of the candidate ensued.

At the College of Surgeons he was Examiner in Anatomy and Physiology from 1875 to 1880, and again from 1881 to 1884; in Physiology alone from 1884 to 1886. He was an examiner in the Honours School at Oxford (1875-77); in the Natural Science Tripos at Cambridge (1874-75); at the London University Examinations in Physiology for ten years, and also at Durham University.

If his published works are few, it must be remembered that he was constantly at work reviewing and translating, and this class of work shows best his extremely wide range of exact knowledge.

The first book he translated was for the New Sydenham Society in 1863, "The Aural Surgery of the Present Day," by Kramer of Berlin. His greatest work, however, was editing from 1864 to 1876 the sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth editions of Carpenter's "Principles of Human Physiology"—a perfect mine of information and knowledge. To do this he literally had to rewrite each edition, as physiology was then making such gigantic strides both here and on the Continent.

In 1867 he published an excellent text-book of ophthalmology, "Illustrations of some of the Principal Diseases of the Eye." The book was a concise account of the pathology and surgery of the eye, and was illustrated by chromo-lithographic reproductions of drawings done by himself. From the time he

was appointed to the Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital (four years after the invention of the ophthalmoscope) he had been at work collecting drawings of interesting ophthalmic cases, and some of these he used as illustrations. This book was one of the first English text-books containing coloured ophthalmoscopic representations, Hulk's Jacksonian prize essay, "On the Use of the Ophthalmoscope," being published in 1861. The illustrations by chromo-lithography did not well reproduce his excellent water-colour drawings, but they must at the time have been exceedingly useful. He gave a great many of his original drawings and paintings for the use of the Ophthalmic Department.

In 1870 we find him bringing out for the New Sydenham Society a very excellent translation of Stricker's "Manual of Human and Comparative Histology," and in 1876 for Ziemssen's "Cyclopædia of the Practice of Medicine Erb on Disease of the Peripheral Cerebro-spinal Nerves."

In 1879 the New Sydenham Society embarked upon their greatest undertaking, "The Lexicon of Medical Terms," which was to be based upon Mayne's "Lexicon." Henry Power and Leonard Sedgwick were persuaded to undertake this almost superhuman task. He worked at it *con amore* till 1899, and his contribution was most accurately and fully done; it is fair to say that the curtailed articles of the last volume are not by either of the original authors.

Amongst other books, he published in 1884 "Elements of Human Physiology," which had a large sale and enjoyed a widespread popularity, going through many editions. In 1873 "How shall we Employ and Amuse our Invalids," and in 1889 "The Management of the Eye" (book of health).

Many contributions to societies (chiefly the Ophthalmological) and the medical journals came from his pen, and special mention may be made of the following:—

"Selected Cases of Injury to the Eye," *St. Bart.'s Hosp. Rep.*, vol. xi. p. 181, 1875.

"On Transplantation of the Cornea," *Trans. IVth International Ophthal. Congress, London*, p. 172, 1872.

"Relations between Dental Lesions and Diseases of the Eye," *Trans. Odont. Soc.*, vol. xvi.

"Obituary Notice of Sir William Bowman," *Brit. Med. Journ.*, 1883.

He was a constant and valued reviewer on medicine and the allied sciences for the *Lancet*, and in the obituary notice of January 26, 1911, in that journal the following words testified the great appreciation felt for his work:—

When it is remembered that in addition to all his literary and official duties Mr. Power was for many years a leading London ophthalmic surgeon, whose wise advice and manual dexterity were daily in demand, it will be wondered what time ever he could have to place at the disposal of this Journal.

The fact is that he was an untiring as well as a methodical worker, and his industry and love of order enabled him not only to keep abreast of ophthalmological literature, but also to read widely in anatomy, physiology, and botany, and to record his candid views upon what he read with regularity. Week after week, year after year, in this manner he sat in general judgment upon medical writers, and so closely accurate were his appreciations, and so obviously fair and friendly his strictures, that we can hardly remember an occasion when an author was moved to protest against his criticisms.

Gradually, as different branches of science underwent development, Power advised us that it was time for us to seek the help of some one more in touch with special work in zoology, botany, and, lastly, physiology; but for many years in these subjects, as well as in his particular subject of ophthalmology, he was our general adviser. No member of the staff was ever more missed than he was when retirement from London broke his intimate association with us, and in this office his memory will always be cherished.

He took part in the compilation of the New Sydenham Society's Year Book (biennial retrospect of surgery and medicine) from the year 1865, writing the Report on Physiology.

Henry Power was certainly one of the most cultured, widely-read, and many-sided men in the medical profession. Nature had gifted him with a handsome and distinguished face and a splendid physique. The chivalry inherited from his paternal ancestry, in combination with the culture of his deeply religious mother, accounted for his single-heartedness and natural happiness of disposition. Generous to a fault, his simple, strenuous nature was ever ready to relieve mind or body.

He possessed great power in making friends, and this universal popularity was due largely to his sympathetic manner and frankness. No one ever heard him disparage or say an unkind word against any person. Quick wit, keen perception, and versatility derived from his Irish progenitors rendered him a very delightful companion.

An omnivorous reader and bibliophile, he was well known at all the principal London bookshops. His library was an extensive one, and he was very particular about the binding of his



books, laying down the law that good books should be well bound. Nothing delighted him more than spending half-an-hour or so at a second-hand bookshop, and he constantly returned home with a rare book or a first edition. His sound knowledge of French and German helped him greatly in his reviewing work and translations.

His father had considerable artistic talent, which he transmitted to his son, who was a good water-colour painter and excellent draughtsman. He had also a fair knowledge of music, and in early life played the violin.

His hospitality, like his charity, knew no bounds, and in both he was well supported by his wife.

All his natural ability would have been useless unless sustained and backed by his wonderful energy. To take up bicycling at sixty-eight years of age needs great pluck, and this exercise he delighted in till three years ago. Just before relinquishing his bicycle he became a constant follower of the otter hounds, and, as mentioned afterwards, his perennially youthful activity accelerated the end.

It has fallen to the lot of few men to have lived a happier long life than he, surrounded, as he was, to the end by his devoted wife, children, and grandchildren. To live so long the natural penalty is the loss of many friends, and the death of Savory and Vernon were severe blows, but incomparable to the tragedy of his life—the loss of a beloved daughter and granddaughter by drowning before his eyes. In 1898, when sitting with his daughter Lucy and a granddaughter by the sea at Whitby, a sudden high wave swept the two away, whilst he himself was nearly drowned in trying to save them.

The amount of work he could get through in a day was extraordinary, and yet he never seemed flurried or in a hurry. The following may be cited as a characteristic day. After looking over letters he would drive to the Royal Veterinary College to lecture on physiology at 9 A.M., and on his way back about 10.30 A.M. he would visit his nursing home and then see private patients at home till 1.30 P.M. or so. He would come to St. Bartholomew's Hospital at 2 P.M., go round his wards, and probably operate, then to the out-patients' department, and home for patients again at 5 P.M. Almost directly after dinner he would begin to work at his letters, reviewing, &c., till one o'clock or later.

The great secret of his success and power of doing so much work was good health, combined with an equable disposition; he was never worried by extraneous circumstances, and never heeded interruptions. When hard at work in his study at

night the door was ever open, and any one looking in received a cheery smile and a ready answer to any question. Perhaps the best and most characteristic portrait of him is one taken seated at his study-table writing, with his gold mounted spectacles low on the nose and looking up over the glasses with a smile.

As showing the extensive field of his work he held for years simultaneously the post of Senior Ophthalmic Surgeon and Lecturer on Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Surgeon to the Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital, Ophthalmic Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chatham, Examiner in Physiology at the Royal College of Surgeons, Lecturer on Physiology at the Royal Veterinary College, and Adviser on the Staff of the *Lancet*.

For many years he lived at 37A Great Cumberland Place, and, on leaving London, retired to Bagdale Hall, Whitby, a fifteenth-century house he had restored some years previously. In Whitby he interested himself in many useful works.

He lived to see his eldest son become full Surgeon to the Hospital he loved so well, and the last time he came amongst his old colleagues was when D'Arcy Power took the chair at the annual staff dinner in December 1908. That evening Henry Power was like a boy, and, on being called upon to speak, he upbraided the present generation as being and looking so dull. "In my time we should have been more jovial and enjoyed life more," and then he related tales of himself and Sir William Savory when they were living from hand to mouth.

His health was extraordinarily good for his age till November 1910, when he strained his heart one Sunday rushing up a steep flight of 199 steps to the Parish Church of Whitby. He was seized with signs of acute dilatation of the heart, and had many distressing attacks of dyspnoea. Notwithstanding this, his buoyant spirit kept him up till the end.

In a letter, written nine days before his death, to a friend appear the prophetic words: "I write a line to say good-bye to you, for I am soon going the way of all flesh, and time, too, you will say, at eighty-two. I am troubled with a dilated right heart, I have incipient cataract of the left eye, and I have become hard of hearing, so the machine is giving way at many points. Adieu!"

On the Sunday he was as happy as ever, gaily singing about the house, and on the Monday he was writing letters as usual to his children. The next morning several attacks of cardiac dyspnoea occurred, and in the evening he became unconscious,

and died peacefully on the morning of Wednesday, January 18, 1911.

The funeral took place on Saturday, January 21st, and showing the esteem he was held in by his fellow-townsmen, the shops were nearly all closed along the route, even though it was market day.

The funeral service was conducted by his friend Canon Austen, the rector of Whitby, and he was laid to rest amongst a wealth of flowers sent by friends and colleagues from all parts.

The grave is in the cemetery, beautifully situated between the sea and the high moors he loved so well.

“Vivit post funera virtus.”

W. H. H. J.

