

only his occupation in looking after her every wish, but he had lost his bearings in a measure.

His home life was made as cheerful as possible by the continued presence in turn of one of his three daughters. He went about the streets of the beautiful old town when the weather permitted. A day or two before his death he went down town with his daughter, and shortly after returning home complained of feeling ill. When a physician was sent for he said it was unnecessary, as he knew what was the matter—it was the breaking down at the end, and so it proved to be. He retained his old jocular manner almost to the close. His medical adviser called in a consultant, and together they gave their patient a thorough physical examination. As they went from the sick room to confer he remarked, "They'll go down stairs and give my disorder a name, but that will not change the result." The end came rapidly, with fortunately little suffering, and on the afternoon of Thursday, January 17th, 1918, in his eighty-ninth year, "in the comfort of a reasonable religious and holy hope," he fell asleep.

Dr. Chapin's great force arose from his self-control and his careful preparation for the work before him, which led him to study every problem presented with a feeling, as he expressed it, that the knowledge obtained would become available "somewhere, at some time." He was a man of most straightforward character, with no suspicion of indirectness in his methods. Of deep religious convictions, he carried his religion into his daily life, and made it a religion of service to God and his fellow men. In this he exemplified Whittier's dictum, "He who blesses most is blest."

As a great administrator, as a far-seeing philanthropist who accomplished more for his fellow men than can now be estimated, as a conscientious and well-trained physician, he has set his mark upon the history of his country and his profession.

"Servant of God, well done; well hast thou fought
The better fight."

ALFRED HUME GRIFFITH, M.D.Edin., D.P.H.Camb.

Superintendent and Medical Officer of Lingfield Colony for Epileptics, Surrey.

ALTHOUGH Dr. Alfred Hume Griffith was but a comparatively recent member of our Association, his many activities and his manifest zeal for the welfare of others demand that his premature death—which occurred on September 24th, and by which the medical profession has lost a member of the type it can most ill spare—should receive something more than its record in our obituary list. The second son of the late Reverend Edward Moule Griffith (B.A.Cantab.), he was born in Worcestershire in 1875, and received his preliminary education at Persse School, Cambridge, and at Totnes and Bedford Grammar Schools. The spirit of altruism and of the missionary—in the best sense of that word—strongly characterised even the earlier years of his manhood, and it was in order to fit himself in what seemed to him the best possible manner to be of service to others, and not at all from its lucrative possibilities, that he decided to enter the medical profession. With this intent he matriculated at Edinburgh in 1893, and graduated in Medicine in 1899. In the following year he married Mary, daughter of George Welchman, of Cul-lompton, and immediately thereafter they went out to Persia in order that he might take temporary charge of the medical mission work at Ispahan. In 1901 he was appointed to undertake pioneer work in Kerman, and it was there—during a year of strenuous work, reluctantly relinquished on account of his wife's ill-health—that by his personal influence and by the magnetic force of his character, fortified with his medical training, he was so successful in breaking down much opposition and hostile fanaticism—dangers which, in similar circumstances, have all too often cost the lives of those determined to face them. During part of 1902 and of the following year he assumed charge of the medical mission work at Gaza, and finally left Persia in 1903. After a short furlough, largely spent in study at Edinburgh and during which time he took his M.D. degree, Griffith offered himself for work in Palestine; he was appointed to the C.M.S. hospital at Nablus, and while pro-

ceeding thither he obtained at Constantinople the Turkish certificate, enabling him to practise medicine throughout the Turkish empire. In 1904, after a year's residence at Nablus, he moved to Mosul in Mesopotamia, where for four years he lived a life of noble self-sacrifice and devotion to the needs of those about him. He founded a hospital, where, in the absence of the aid of any European doctor or nurse, and assisted only by native men whom he himself had trained, he performed an extensive amount of surgical work, including many major operations and numerous operations for cataract and lithotomies. His collection of calculi is in the museum at Cambridge. But his unflinching obedience to the ceaseless calls on his time and strength proved too great a strain on his health, and, to his deep disappointment, he had to submit in 1908 to being invalided home.

It was in October, 1910, after a period of further study, during which he obtained the Cambridge D.P.H., that Griffith was appointed Superintendent and Medical Officer of Lingfield Colony for Epileptics—one of the several homes established by the National Union for Christian Social Service, and an institution the deservedly high reputation of which he has done so much to enhance. If his impaired health compelled him to confine his energies within a comparatively restricted sphere, he none the less threw them heartily into his new work, and he was able to bring to it a rare union of qualities best suited for the successful handling and treatment in colony life of a malady and temperament admittedly presenting peculiar difficulties. Himself of athletic instincts—he was an Edinburgh "blue" in football, and when abroad never so happy as in the saddle—he saw to it that his patients as far as possible lived an open-air life, abundantly supplied with occupation, recreation, and hobbies. Nevertheless, he was an omnivorous reader, and kept himself well abreast with the results of medical research, especially those which he could use to his patients' advantage. His own powers of observation and research are displayed in the contributions he made to medical and other literature, among which mention may be made of "Hereditary Factors in Epilepsy" (*Review of Neurology and Psychiatry*, 1911), "Cerebellar Abscess" (*Scottish Medical and Surgical Journal*, 1904), "Lingfield Epileptic Colony" (*The Child*, 1911), "Mental Tests in Defective Children" (*The Child*, 1916), "The Epileptic" (a chapter in Kely-nack's *Human Develicts*), and some chapters on medical missions in his wife's book, *Behind the Veil in Persia and Turkish Arabia*.

On intimation being made that the Ministry of Pensions were in pressing need of further accommodation for the institutional treatment and training of discharged sailors and soldiers suffering from epilepsy, and that through the British Red Cross Society initial funds would be available to meet capital expenditure, Griffith, with the assent and co-operation of his Committee and despite his precarious health, readily agreed to meet these needs so far as the possibilities at Lingfield permitted. Experience has shown that the satisfactory treatment of these particular cases is a specially difficult problem: so many of the men fail to realise their disability, and are, not unnaturally, impatient of the necessarily prolonged treatment. But Griffith knew his men; he possessed the technical skill requisite to obtain insight into their individual peculiarities and often into the origin of the latter, and his sympathy with them and determination to restore them to a normal civilian life engendered, besides affection, a loyalty to *régime* that explains much of his success. He had many projects in view for the development of the Lingfield Colony's sphere of usefulness, and the carrying of these into effect will be the best tribute to his memory.

Besides his patients, staff, and many friends, he leaves to mourn his loss his widow and a young daughter, the former of whom has been his indefatigable companion and collaborator, and to whom, throughout the ten painful weeks of his fatal illness, he made no murmur of complaint. He was buried in Lingfield Churchyard.

C. H. B.

CAPT. ERNEST FRYER BALLARD, R.A.M.C.

IT is with very deep regret that we have to record the death of Capt. Ernest Fryer Ballard, R.A.M.C., at the early age of thirty-three, from influenza and pneumonia, which took place at Brighton on October 23rd last.