

the fragments was much more marked than what was inferred from the manual examination, and that a piece of the fibula, six and one-half centimetres long, was broken right out of the continuity of that bone, and lay at an angle of about thirty degrees with the long axis of the limb. The deformity of the fibula could not have been made out without the Röntgen rays.

The skiagrams are full of interest, and sustain the point brought out by Dr. Codman at a recent meeting of the Boston Society for Medical Improvement, and illustrated by a skiagram of a fracture of the forearm, that fractures which have been brought into a position that is apparently perfect by manipulation, will frequently show more or less dislocation of the fragments when tried by the Röntgen tests.

Is the time far distant when every fracture will be not merely examined, but reduced and dressed under the fluorescope? It is possible that in certain cases the reduction of the deformity revealed by the fluorescope will be impossible; but it would appear at least probable that, aided by the exact knowledge of their extent, and of the direction in which pressure must be applied to correct them, the deformities of fractured bones which will persist after surgical efforts at their correction will be considerably rarer than heretofore.

In case operative efforts are required to correct deformity, they can be more intelligently and effectively directed under the guidance of the fluorescope and skiagram than under the knowledge gained by the surgeon's unaided fingers, especially when he is dealing with bones deeply covered by muscle, fascia and fat.

Obituary.

FRANCIS HUNTINGTON RANKIN, M.D.

DR. FRANCIS HUNTINGTON RANKIN, was born at Fishkill-on-the-Hudson, N. Y., on September 25, 1845. His father, Robert Gosman Rankin, was a prominent lawyer in New York City. He was graduated from the medical department of the New York University in the spring of 1869. Shortly after he went abroad and spent a year in the hospitals of Vienna. At the breaking out of the Franco-Prussian war in 1870-71, he went to Berlin, and received an appointment as acting assistant-surgeon in the Prussian army. In a short time he became acting full surgeon, and after returning to America he received the "steel medal of thanks" from the Prussian government.

He began the practice of medicine in New York City in the summer of 1871, and during the first year held the position of assistant inspector of the New York Board of Health. He was subsequently connected with the New York Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital, the Demilt, Children's Northeast Dispensaries and several other institutions. He was also tutor and assistant to the chair of *materia medica* in the medical department of the University of New York.

In the summer of 1876, Dr. Rankin removed to Newport and entered into partnership with Dr. Austin L. Sands, who died in the following year, since which time he has continued alone in practice. He was a fellow of the Rhode Island State Medical Society, and was instrumental in forming the Newport Medical Society, of which for years he was president. He was a member of the Newport Sanitary Association, and the attending physician at the Newport Hospital. He has frequently contributed to the medical literature of the day through the pages of the leading journals and periodicals.

On the 11th of November, 1879, he married Grace, daughter of Jacob Voorhis, Jr., of New York.

Dr. Rankin, since his residence in Newport, had gained an extensive practice, but during the past three or four years he had suffered from ill health. He had intended to spend the winter in the South. By his death Newport lost a respected citizen and one of its leading professional men.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS.

At a special meeting of the Newport Medical Society, held at the residence of Dr. Horatio R. Storer, presided over by First Vice-President Dr. C. F. Barker, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, in His inscrutable wisdom Almighty God has seen fit to remove from the scene of his earthly labors, our beloved President; therefore

Resolved, That we bow in submission to His divine will.

Resolved, That in the death of Dr. Francis H. Rankin, the Medical Society, of which he was the founder, has met with an irretrievable loss.

Resolved, That the profession of medicine has parted with one of its brightest leaders, a man who was always working for the sanitary welfare of this city, for the good of the poor, and the benefit of the profession of which he was so bright an ornament.

Resolved, That no man could have led a purer or more useful and disinterested life and that the urbanity of his manners, the gentleness of his disposition, the truthfulness of his character and the manliness of his nature, served to bind with bonds of sincerest love the enduring friendship which he always inspired in all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Resolved, That we offer our sincere sympathy to his afflicted wife and relatives.

Resolved, That the Society attend his funeral in a body.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be published in the daily papers of this city and in a prominent medical publication in New York, Boston and Providence, and that a copy be presented to his family.

V. MOTT FRANCIS, M.D., 2d Vice Pres.,
HENRY E. TURNER, M.D.,
STEPHEN C. POWELL, M.D., } Committee.

DR. ANDREW MURRAY SMITH.

At the regular meeting of the Berkshire District Medical Society, held at Pittsfield, October 29, 1896, it was unanimously voted, that the following *minute* be entered upon the records of the Society, and copies sent to the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* and to the family of the late Dr. Smith.

The members of the Berkshire District Medical Society desire to express their sorrow for the death, on the 25th inst., of their fellow-member, Dr. Andrew Murray Smith, of Williamstown, Mass., and, at the same time to place on record their high appreciation of his many sterling qualities as a physician and as a man.

Dr. Smith was graduated from the Berkshire Medical College, in 1847, and had therefore been engaged in the practice of medicine for nearly fifty years. This whole period was spent in Williamstown, with the exception of a year and a half, during the war, when he served in the Army, as assistant-surgeon, and afterwards surgeon of the 40th Massachusetts Regiment. He inherited his profession, being the son of Dr. Samuel Smith, who also resided and practised in Williamstown.

He had been a member of this Society since 1855, and was one of the last of a notable group of medical men who practised in this county, and formed the bone and sinew of this Society, while the Berkshire Medical College was still flourishing.

Our Society is now composed of a younger generation of men, some of whom have had little or no acquaintance with Dr. Smith; but some of us have enjoyed the privilege of his friendship for many years; and we take pleasure in looking back upon the long period when he was a regular attendant at our monthly meetings.

We recall his unfailing courtesy and geniality, his special kindness to younger men, his readiness and felicity of speech, and the interest and value of his medical papers and reports.

In recent years he has been less frequently seen at our meetings; but he has always been gladly welcomed by his old friends who have rejoiced to see that advancing age could not impair the warmth of his heart or the clearness of his mind.

To his sorrowing family, we extend our heartfelt sympathy; and with them we find comfort in the thought that our late brother was one whose strong Christian faith robbed death of all its terrors.

L. C. SWIFT, Secretary,
Berkshire District Medical Society.