

SOME LECTURES BY THE LATE SIR GEORGE E. PAGET,
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THE life of the late Sir George Paget, measured by any standard which the general public can apply, must be judged to have been singularly fortunate. He devoted himself in early life to the task of reviving the Medical School of Cambridge, and was fortunate enough to bring to his work the prestige of conspicuous success as a student of those subjects which alone could command the respect of those who were then the rulers of University affairs. Before maturity was passed he knew that the fulfilment of his hopes was assured, and in old age he was happily permitted to see their complete fruition. He was ably seconded. In Sir George Humphry he found a colleague loyal to the same ideal, and later, there grew up around these two pioneers a whole school of younger men worthy to continue the work. Medicine in England owes a deep debt of gratitude to Sir George Paget, and those who are given more particularly to the study of sanitary questions will not forget that the University of Cambridge early recognised the importance of their studies by instituting, during the time when his influence was strongest in Cambridge, the Diploma in Public Health.

This book is valuable, thus, as a memorial of a man who deserved well of Medicine and Sanitary Science, and its interest is increased by the brief biographical notice which Mr. Charles Paget has prefixed. It might have been fuller, but probably it is all that we are to expect, and as long as Sir George Paget's influence on medical education in Cambridge, and indirectly throughout the country, is remembered, perhaps no more elaborate biography is needed. The lectures, which form the bulk of the volume, are of no little intrinsic merit. They contain the opinions of a physician of ripe experience and of remarkable sobriety of judgment on several subjects which are still burning questions of the day. The two lectures on Alcohol as a Cause of Disease, which, together, fill nearly half the volume, are particularly well worthy of perusal. The physician will admire the accuracy of the clinical observation which enabled Sir George Paget to recognise and describe so well the effects of alcohol on the peripheral nerves at a time when this subject was little understood, while those readers who are unfamiliar with medical terminology, will find that the style is clear and free from anything approaching pedantry in the use of medical terms. The lectures, indeed, may all be read with interest and advantage by any intelligent layman, while they are at the same time not less suggestive and valuable subjects of study for medical readers. This is a rare quality in medical writings,

* Some Lectures by the late Sir George E. Paget, K.C.B., M.D., F.R.S. Edited from MSS., with a Memoir by Charles E. Paget, Medical Officer of Health for the County Borough of Salford. Cr. 8vo., 192 pp., price 5s. Macmillan and Bowes. Cambridge, 1893.

but a reperusal of the lectures confirms the impression of the justice of the opinion here expressed.

Mr. Charles Paget did well to publish this memorial of his father who wrote but little for publication during his life time, and the interest of the book to those who knew Sir George Paget, however slightly in life, will be increased by the characteristic portrait which faces the title-page.

DAWSON WILLIAMS.

NOTES ON BOOKS PRESENTED TO THE LIBRARY.

“Air, Water and Disinfectants,” by C. M. AIKMAN, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.E. 128 pp., 8vo. *Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.* Price 1/-

One of the Manuals of Health Series. Chapters dealing with Ventilation, Micro-organisms in Air and Water are included.

“Practical Guide to Sanitary Legislation, containing a synopsis of the Acts relating to Public Health and Local Government,” by JOHN A. ANGELL, Assoc.M.Inst.C.E., Engineer and Surveyor Beckenham Urban District Council, and JOHN G. MORLEY, Assoc.M.Inst.C.E., Chief Assistant Borough Engineer, West Ham. 638 pp., 8vo. *Knight & Co.* Price 12/-

The aim of the authors in compiling this volume is to place in the hands of Officers and Members of Local Authorities, Architects and Students, a ready reference to the Sanitary provisions of the various Acts dealing with Public Health. This volume is, however, limited to the requirements of the Boro' Engineer and Surveyor's Departments, a second volume for the use of Medical Officers of Health and Sanitary Inspectors, &c., being in contemplation.

By-Laws with respect to New Streets and Buildings, Cleansing of Footways, Removal of Refuse and Snow, and the subjects on which a Local Authority may make By-Laws, together with an Index of nearly 50 pages are included.

“The Construction of Carriageways and Footways,” by H. PERCY BOULNOIS, M.Inst.C.E., City Engineer, Liverpool. 143 pp., 8vo. *Biggs & Co.* Price 5/-

The various materials used and the different methods adopted in the construction of Carriageways and Footways are fully dealt with. Questions of cost, traffic, local conditions for obtaining suitable materials, rateable value of district and widths of street, together