

Tucker, commanding in Scotland, put the dogs through very severe tests, and as a result recommended their adoption, but the War Office has made no move. Major Richardson has been trying to arouse the sympathy and interest of the War Office for the past seven years, but he need not be discouraged—seven years counts as but one day in a conservative country like ours; if once, however, Great Britain is brought to feel quite sure that ambulance dogs do good work on the battlefield, every other dog in the country will be trained and equipped for the fray. We are slow to move, but we never do things by halves.

MEMORIAL TO SIR WILLIAM BANKS.

PROPOSED LECTURESHIP IN LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY.

On the afternoon of November 29th a large gathering, representative of many interests, was held in the Town Hall, under the Presidency of the LORD MAYOR, for the purpose of taking steps for the establishment of a fitting memorial to the late Sir William M. Banks.

A letter was received from Sir Dyce Duckworth, who wrote: "I think it is due to the labours, professional, academic, and civic, no less than to the fine character of the late Sir William Banks, that Liverpool citizens should heartily agree to institute some permanent memorial of him. As a son of the 'good old town,' and as one of the oldest friends of the man we lament and sadly miss, such a movement has my cordial sympathy. Hardly any one in our profession since the time of Dr. Currie, at the end of the eighteenth century, himself a vigorous and learned Scot, has done more to encourage the pursuit of higher culture and to project with success so many measures for its accomplishment in Liverpool. I am strongly of opinion that the city owes Sir William Banks' memory such a recognition which it well knows how to bestow."

The LORD MAYOR said he was pleased to give official recognition to the scheme. It was his good fortune to be on friendly terms with the late Sir W. Banks, one whose life was not spent simply in the interests of his noble profession, but was absolutely given up to the benefit of his fellow men. There was ever present the feeling with him, the feeling of doing something original, something better, not for personal aims, but in order to benefit the great masses of the people, and with the aid of scientific knowledge to do something for the benefit of posterity. He would be remembered not merely for his work at the Infirmary, but for his noble action for the University. He served the city also in other ways; he was a magistrate, and a dear friend to not a few present, and he had left his mark upon Liverpool, and Liverpool at large would like to mark its respect for the memory of so genial a friend, so wise a counsellor, and noble a worker in the cause of humanity. His example would be an incentive to many; the student of to-day would remember it as long as he lived, and the rich and poor of to-day would bear it in mind as long as life lasted. He moved:

That a memorial of a permanent character be established to commemorate the name and the services of Sir William Mitchell Banks.

The resolution was seconded by Vice-Chancellor DALE, who said that, on coming into contact with Sir William Banks, the kindness and warmth of his heart was felt at once. Beyond that there was his wisdom, and the gift, not always given to the wise, of knowing and seeing what other people, less wise, would feel and think about any subject of practical importance. He was infinitely proud of his great profession. Some men had done good and lasting work, and yet felt as if they might have done as good work elsewhere; but Sir William Banks was essentially a surgeon—he could not have been anything else, and he would not have been anything else if he could. He was proud, and rightly proud, of his skill for its own sake; he enjoyed the sense of being able to do his work well, and the sense of power which came from the consciousness of work well done; but beyond that he valued his skill for its results—for what it could do in alleviating suffering, in restoring strength, and prolonging life, and the happiness of life. Then there was his work in the Royal Infirmary and the invaluable service he rendered to the College and University which grew out of the infirmary. He recognized that medical knowledge which did not advance must recede; that as theory, when divorced from practice, became futile, so practice, when divorced from study, became barren. With that conviction, he laboured incessantly, giving his thought and time to the work of building up the University. The city owed him a great debt,

and if, in the memorial they were about to establish, they could link together these three great elements—the profession of medicine, the infirmary, and the University—they would create a memorial worthy of the man whom they had to commemorate.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Sir EDWARD RUSSELL moved:

That a committee be formed to consist of the persons present at this meeting, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of collecting subscriptions and determining the form that the memorial shall take; the Lord Mayor ex officio to be chairman; the Town Clerk and Professor Paterson to be honorary secretaries, with Mr. P. F. Corkhill, honorary assistant-secretary; Mr. James H. Simpson and Mr. A. G. Jeans to be honorary treasurers.

In the course of remarks, he said that Sir William Banks was a man remarkable for almost every quality which could endear him to his fellows, and his most beautiful quality was his winning manner, a pleasant ease and friendliness, and wit in conversation and intercourse which rendered him always a delightful companion, and induced every one to appreciate at the very highest all the services he rendered, and to co-operate with him. As to the nature of the memorial, he suggested that a lectureship should be established, permanently identified with Sir W. Banks's name, and associated with the objects of medical education which he had in view.

Dr. CARTER, in seconding, said that the medical profession wished to be identified with the movement. He spoke feelingly of his close personal association with Sir William Banks, whose friendship, geniality, and wit he greatly valued.

The subscription list already amounts to about £500 and includes a handsome donation from Sir Henry Irving.

THE PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

DEVONSHIRE.

A MEETING, under the chairmanship of Sir John Shelley, was held at Exeter on November 28th to discuss the advisability of Devonshire being declared a hospital district with a view to the erection of sanatoriums for the treatment of phthisis. It was attended by special representatives of various public bodies and by the chairmen, medical officers, and clerks of local sanitary authorities, and resulted in a request being formulated asking the county council to establish a consumption hospital, in view both of the cures which such an institution might obtain in early cases and of the effect that it would have in educating people in the subject and in getting rid of the idea that consumption was necessarily a fatal disease.

CANADA.

Montreal and the Spitting Nuisance.—The City Council of Montreal has decided to adopt a by-law prohibiting spitting on sidewalks and in public places, with the object of preventing the spread of consumption. The council, unlike many of our legal luminaries here, has no difficulty in defining a place for the purposes of the enactment. It is provided that "no person shall spit upon the floor of any railway-car, street-car, or other public conveyance, or upon the floor of any public building, theatre, church, opera-house, music-hall, or hall used for public meetings, railway or steamboat stations or waiting-rooms or other public hall, building, room, or place, or upon any platform surrounding, in front of, or in the immediate vicinity of any such place, or upon any sidewalk or covered way within the limits of the City of Montreal."

Ontario.—A few years ago the Legislature of the Province of Ontario passed an Act providing that when counties or municipalities or groups of counties or municipalities desired to erect and maintain hospitals for their consumptive poor the Government should furnish aid toward the erection and maintenance of these institutions. The first step in this direction was taken recently when representatives of five leading counties in Ontario met in conference at Galt. Dr. Radford, of Waterloo County, who presided, stated that there are about 40,000 consumptives in the Dominion, and about 15,000 in the Province of Ontario. The deaths average about 6,000 throughout Canada annually; in Ontario last year they numbered 2,694; in his own county of Waterloo they numbered 19. It was agreed that it was necessary that a sanatorium should be erected for the five counties of Brant, Oxford, Waterloo, Wellington, and Perth. The representatives undertook to bring the matter before the county councils without delay.