

Obituaries

is so much in demand for tuberculosis of the larynx can be prepared in this country, though it may be under some other name, such as anesthone, benzocaine, or para-amido-ethyl-benzoate.

We have it on good authority that a very famous London physician always had this work at his side, and we are quite sure that he would have maintained this tradition and supplied himself with each fresh edition as it came out.

JAMES DUNDAS-GRANT.

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PROFESSOR GUSTAV KILLIAN

PROFESSOR GUSTAV KILLIAN, who passed away at the age of 61 on the 21st of February of the present year, was certainly one of the leading spirits, or, indeed, the leading spirit, in the world of Rhino-Laryngology during a great part of his active professional life. The progress effected as the direct result of his boldness of conception, his ingenuity, and his determined skill has been the establishment of an era in our specialty which will long and perhaps always be identified with his name and personality.

It is to the genius of Kirstein that we owe the first conception of obtaining a direct view of the larynx, by his so-called autoscropy, but the wider and bolder advances made by Killian reduced this to a very secondary position, and established bronchoscopy as the gigantic branch of laryngology, and with its extensions, œsophagoscopy and gastroscopy, as an indispensable factor in the practice of internal medicine.

Killian seemed never to have exhausted his resources, but was always ready with something new. Thus, almost before we had mastered his technique in regard to bronchoscopy, he surprised us by devising and perfecting the most unpromising-looking manœuvre of suspension laryngoscopy. The cumbrous apparatus was, at first sight, rather forbidding, and the further help it afforded may be admitted to be slight in proportion to its complexity, but the proceeding was a bold one, and it achieved what its inventor claimed for it. It certainly enables us to perform explorations and operations on the larynges of children under general anæsthetics which were not previously possible.

Killian's radical operation is almost the "last word" in the operative treatment of chronic suppuration of the frontal sinus. In spite of the disappointments and the distressing complications which occasionally follow this operation, or any operation on the sinus, or

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frontal sinus disease without operation, the results are so constantly gratifying that no other operation has actually displaced it from its unique position. Similarly, the variations on Killian's sub-mucous resection of the nasal septum are comparatively trivial, and whoever practises the operation as described by him need not depart from it in any significant degree. A writer on the subject said a number of years ago that every rhinologist *must* learn Killian's method of sub-mucous resection, and it is not too much to say that the same is true of the frontal sinus operation.

Among his minutiae may be mentioned a means of testing the swallowing capacity of the patient by means of food broken up to various standardised degrees of fineness. Another was an apparatus for testing the sensibility of the nasal mucous membrane by means of a fine thread of cotton projecting through a hollow tube to a greater or lesser length. He could study small things as well as great ones.

The incidents of his life were marked by steady simple progress. He was born in Mayence in 1860, and was the son of a schoolmaster. He studied medicine in Strassburg, Freiburg, Berlin, and Heidelberg, and then, at the instigation of "the other Killian," his elder brother, Johann August Killian (of Worms), he took up the study of the specialty in Berlin under Hartmann and Krause. Eventually he succeeded Hack (whose work on nasal reflexes is at present rather neglected) as Director of the Throat and Nose Department, and subsequently Professor in the University of Freiburg. Many were the pilgrimages made to his clinic to acquire invaluable information and instruction, and incidentally to taste the famous trout of the Black Forest in his beautiful and happy home in Freiburg. When the celebrated Professor B. Fränkel passed away, all eyes were turned on Killian as his successor, and after some unaccountable hesitation he was called to Berlin to become Professor in the Kaiser Wilhelm Academy and Director of the University Clinic for Diseases of the Nose and Throat, the Aural Clinic being already under the charge of his distinguished colleague, Professor Passow.

His interests were mainly in his special work rather than in general culture and affairs, but he showed his capacity for learning by the command of the English language he acquired in his later years, his capacity for speaking it being previously comparatively small.

Professor Killian always received here, as in America, the warmest recognition of his outstanding ability and achievements, and proud and jealous as we are of the initiative genius of the Anglo-Saxon, there is no English-speaking rhino-laryngologist who would withhold from the late Professor Gustav Killian the honour of having been in his time the foremost figure among the practitioners of the specialty. He was always bright and buoyant—almost boyish—in his pleasure in his

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technical triumphs, and if in his pleased smile there was a suggestion of the consciousness of his superiority, he was well entitled to it.

JAMES DUNDAS-GRANT.

DR WALTER JACKSON FREEMAN (PHILADELPHIA, U.S.A.).

At his home, in Spruce Street, Dr Walter J. Freeman died on 20th December 1920. He studied at Cornell and graduated in the University of Pennsylvania. Between 1886 and 1890 he was in Europe studying in London, Berlin, Munich, and Florence.

He was a well-known laryngologist, and belonged, since 1901, to the select body of the American Laryngological Association.—St C. T.

ARTHUR WASHINGTON DE ROALDES
(NEW ORLEANS, U.S.A.).

All who met De Roaldes at the various Congresses he frequented in Europe during the last decade of last century will hear with regret of his death. Of French descent, he combined the charm and vivacity of the Latin race with the sterling qualities of the Anglo-Saxon. Speaking fluent French, decorated with the Legion of Honour for his gallantry at the Battle of Sedan, he was as much at home in New York, Paris, and London as in his own state, Louisiana, where for many years he was the leading figure in laryngology.—St C. T.

WALTER FRANKLIN CHAPPELL (NEW YORK, U.S.A.).

The death of Walter Chappell robs New York of one of its most successful laryngologists, a man who was as popular with his colleagues as with his patients. For several reasons he was a close link between America, Canada, and Great Britain. His father was born in Gloucester and his mother in Ireland. He was born in Canada, studied in Toronto and then came to England, where he worked under Morell Mackenzie and Sir Frederick Treves, taking the Diploma of M.R.C.S. He practised for a time in the east end of London; he next joined the British Navy as a surgeon, and was on board H.M.S. *Condor* when she bombarded the forts of Alexandria under the command of the late Lord Charles Beresford. Dr Chappell was one of a landing party when a shell wrecked the boat and he had to swim for shore. He reached it safely but with several wounds on his head and shoulders and minus five teeth. He retired from the Navy, settled in New York, and became attached, in the year 1886, to the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital. He rose from Clinical Assistant to be President of the Board of Surgeons.

His professional success is described as "phenomenal."

To some, his reticence made him appear ungenial, but his many friends were devoted to him on account of his bright disposition and his unswerving loyalty.—St C. T.