

Obituary.

THE LATE PROFESSOR HOPPE-SEYLER.

To the list of illustrious men who have recently joined the great majority must be added the name of Felix Hoppe-Seyler, Professor of Physiological Chemistry in the University of Strasburg, whose death on the 10th of August last, left a great blank in the scientific world, and sent a pang of regret through the hearts of scores of this great teacher's former pupils. The end was the more painful to them as it had been arranged to hold a jubilee in a few months, when the veteran investigator and beloved teacher would have completed his 70th year.

Hoppe-Seyler graduated after thorough studies under many distinguished teachers, including Johannes Müller, in 1850 as doctor of medicine, and in 1854 became prosector of anatomy at Griefswald.

In 1856 he became Virchow's assistant (chemist) in the Pathological Institute at Berlin. This was really a very important event for Hoppe-Seyler and the medical world, inasmuch as it probably determined the career of this young chemist and physician. It moreover does infinite credit to the foresight of the great pathologist, and stamps him as one of the prophets of medicine. A few years later the young chemist went to Tübingen as professor of chemistry, where he remained till he migrated in 1872, after the close of the Franco-Prussian war, to the recently founded University of Strasburg.

His new laboratory was a beautiful and admirably arranged building, and none probably appreciated its beauty and its facilities more than the distinguished worker himself, for when the present writer had the pleasure of spending a winter in this institute in 1883-84 the old laboratory was pointed out to him—a sort of dungeon in the basement of the Anatomical Institute. Nevertheless, from this miserable workshop teemed forth the results of research after research, and, in fact, in it were laid the very foundations of physiological and pathological chemistry, though much had been previously done in Tübingen. The researches there undertaken and carried to a successful issue by himself and his pupils were published, in collected form, under the title of *Medicinische Chemische Untersuchungen* in 1877. In 1881 his *Physiological Chemistry*, the most exhaustive text-book on this subject extant, appeared. The author is, however, best known,