

warm friends, who deeply mourn the sad fate which thus cuts short at the outset a promising career.

DR. BRISTOWE.

The death of Dr. Bristowe removes a distinguished physician of the first rank, and one who had a close professional affiliation with Canadians. His text-book was a great favourite with students and practitioners, and for so many years St. Thomas's was the hospital in London chiefly frequented by graduates of our schools. In the thirty-two years which he served as full physician scores of our young men have been benefited by his instruction and inspired by his painstaking devotion to the routine of ward work. When my class-mate, Dick Zimmerman, became Dr. Bristowe's house physician in 1873 I had frequent opportunities of making rounds with him. Anxiety that a student should gather something from each case was a conspicuous feature in his teaching. There was no hasty snap diagnosis, but in a doubtful case judgment was deferred until further study had cleared obscurities. When he did not know he frankly said so. He was often slow in accepting the sharp "finds" of house physicians. No man was ever more ready to acknowledge his mistakes. I remember at a visit to St. Thomas's, in the eighties, I think, to have seen a remarkable case of hysterical peritonitis, in which when previously in the ward he had made an erroneous diagnosis. After one of my Goulstonian Lectures in 1885, in which I had described cases of endocarditis with protracted intermittent fever, which had been attributed to malaria, Dr. Bristows came up and said that he had fallen into this error in a remarkable case which he had reported. I mention these circumstances to show the attitude of his mind—open, frank, candid and honourable.

In no respect, perhaps, was his teaching of greater value than in therapeutics. He was one of those whose skepticism about the doubtful was only equalled by his faith in the assured. In the drugs which we all must use, the trusty friends, the faithful few, he had implicit confidence, but to the countless candidates for favour which the laboratories turn out his attitude was that of a Pyrrhonist—he suspended judgment and would not harbour unwarranted opinions.

W. Osler.

Dr. Brakenridge, the brother of Jas. W. Brakenridge, Esq., B.C.L., the acting secretary of McGill College, died recently at Edinburgh, Scotland. The deceased was a well-known practitioner there, an examiner in medicine for the united colleges and attending physician to the Royal Infirmary.