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EDITORIAL

SIR JONATHAN HUTCHINSON.

The death of such a world-known person as Sir Jonathan Hutchinson calls for some notice. He was born in 1828 and died in 1913, having almost attained the age of 85 years. During these long years he was a most industrious and painstaking worker, and the legacy he left behind him of original research work is truly monumental.

He was apprenticed to a surgeon at York. He there studied at the York Hospital, and took lectures in the York Medical College, where the students were so few that he often formed the sole auditor to the lecturers. Here he came under the teaching of Professor Laycock, who made a great impression on young Hutchinson. Laycock was a staunch advocate of the importance of heredity.

In 1849, Hutchinson settled in London, where his great work was to be done in connection with several of the hospitals of that city, but especially in the wards of the London Hospital. In 1859 he was appointed assistant surgeon and gave lectures on surgery and ophthalmology. In 1863 he became full surgeon, and in 1873 senior surgeon.

In connection with the Royal College of Surgeons he had many positions of trust, such as Hunterian Professor, Bradshaw Lecturer, Hunterian Orator, Air Examiner, one of the Court of Examiners, Trustee, President. He served on the Smallpox Commission of 1881, and the Vaccination Commission of 1890. In 1892 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and in 1908 was knighted, an honor which he had on several occasions refused.

One of the subjects that early interested him was syphilis. This interest was aroused by a child he saw at York with marks of the inherited disease. He early pointed out the importance of the irregular incisors, the presence of iritis, and what was then called "strumous corneitis," as valuable indications of inherited syphilis, and that those conditions were always found associated. These observations were published in the Ophthalmic Hospital Reports, and afterwards printed in