

Boyles, a daughter of the Rev. Dr. Mather Boyles. He was a Justice of the Peace for Halifax, and Surgeon General of the militia. He acquired an extensive practice and enjoyed, to the fullest extent, the confidence of the community. In 1793 he addressed a letter to the Duke of Richmond pointing out the advantage of Halifax as depot for troops, and dwelling especially upon the healthy and invigorating characters of the climate.

Several years ago I had an opportunity of looking over some of his case-books. Some of the cases are admirably reported. He cultivated the habit of carefully recording everything which impressed him in daily practice and in reading. I should judge that he was gifted with good natural abilities, which were strengthened by culture, and that in his practice he was largely guided by the dictates of common sense. The following is extracted from one of his case books :

"It is very seldom that diseases are found pure and unmixed, as described by authors, and there is almost an endless variety of constitutions. The treatment must be adapted to this mixture and variety in order to be as successful as circumstances will permit, and this allows of a very wide field for the exercise of good common sense on the part of the physician."

He was very absent-minded, a characteristic that gave rise to many amusing anecdotes.

Readers of Marryat's "Newton Foster" will readily recall the awkward predicament in which the hero's uncle was placed when he discovered himself unexpectedly in a bedroom with a woman not his wife. The incident is based on a misadventure of Dr. Almon's, and was related to Marryat by the family when he was on this station. On another occasion, when paying a professional call on the Hon. Richard Bulkeley, he inadvertently slipped a gold watch and chain, which was lying near, into his pocket, where it was found that evening by his wife, but not before its loss was being proclaimed by the town crier.

Doctor Almon died at Bath, England, in 1817, being found dead in his bed. A diary, kept during his last illness, is very interesting. A report of the autopsy is given.

Notice of his well-known descendants does not come within the scope of this paper.

Hon. John Halliburton.

In the year 1750, the town of Newport, Rhode Island, was visited by a frigate, commanded by Lord Colville. On board, acting as surgeon of the ship, was Doctor John Halliburton. He was the son of a Presbyterian clergyman, of Haddington, Scotland. Whilst the ship rode at anchor in the harbor of Newport, Dr. Halliburton became acquainted with the family of the Hon. Jahleel Brenton, whose son was so well-known in the Navy as Admiral Sir J. Brenton, and to one of whose daughters he became attached. After complete