

OBITUARY.

THE late Dr. F. N. Burgess was born at Newport, Hants County, in 1841. After completing his preliminary education at the Horton Academy, Wolfville, he entered upon the study of medicine under the preceptorship of the late Dr. Parker. After graduating from Harvard University in 1865, Dr. Burgess served as assistant-surgeon with the Federal army during the American war. At the close of the war, he returned to Nova Scotia and entered upon the practice of his profession in Hants County. Here he enjoyed a large practice until 1901, when, owing to ill health, he was obliged to retire from active work. He then settled at Hantsport, where

he devoted himself to office and consultation practice. He was connected with several medical societies, and always took an active interest in their meetings.

As a man, he was genial and affable in his disposition, and he possessed the esteem of a large circle of friends. ❖ ❖ ❖

Dr. Alexander M. Sommerville died at Rothesay, New Brunswick, on March 10th. He was fifty-eight years of age, and had been ill for some time.

For the last fifteen years he had been practising medicine at Hatfield's point and through the surrounding country where he was greatly esteemed.

ROENTGEN RAY IN EPITHELIOMA.

(W. A. PUSEY, Chicago, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, January 11, 1908.)

Pusey gives his personal experience with the X-ray in patients treated more than three years ago. Excluding a few cases which at the time of beginning treatment were complicated with demonstrable carcinoma of neighboring glands the total number of epitheliomas treated is 119. He has been able to follow up the record of all but 8 of these, leaving 111 to be considered. Of this number, 80 patients are either well to-day or have died from other causes without recurrence of the epithelioma. Eight are well over five years, 22 over four years, 32 over three years, and 6 were living more than three years, but have since been lost trace of. Two patients are counted as practically cured. One of these died of pneumonia fifteen months after treatment with a minute suspi-

ciousspot remaining unhealed. In the other there is small non-progressing ulcer resembling an X-ray burn. In both cases the original disease was very extensive. Seventeen patients are classed as only distinctly benefited; that is, the disease was checked and life prolonged with comfort for at least a year, except in one case in which the patient, a man over 80, died within the year. All of these cases were recurrences after surgical removal of the growth and hopeless as regards other treatment than the X-ray. Brief reports are given of several of these cases. In only 12 of the whole number was the treatment counted as a failure, though in several there was some benefit afforded. Counting all the 31, however, which are classed as not entirely successful or as failures, there remain 80 cures out of the 111, or 72 per cent., a showing which Pusey thinks will equal that afforded by any other method of treatment.