

OBITUARY.

We feel deeply the sad obligation that now devolves on us of having to record the death of that able and much loved scientist, Edmund Alexander Parkes. He was born near Birmingham and received his education at the Bluecoat School, where Coleridge, Charles Lamb and many other famous men received theirs. He was a distinguished student at University College Hospital, and while a student he assisted his uncle, Dr. Anthony Todd Thompson in his laboratory. At a later period he lectured for him on *Materia Medica* and *Medical Jurisprudence*. Honors fell upon him at the London University when he passed his first M. B. examination in 1840; he was exhibitioner and medalist in *Anatomy and Physiology*, the same in *Chemistry*, medalist in *Materia Medica*; he was also medalist in *Physiology and Comparative Anatomy*, and took honors in medicine in 1841, when he took his M.B. degree.

Dr. Parkes entered the army in 1842, as assistant surgeon in the 34th Regt., but resigned in 1845; went to India and there made a series of *Pathological observation on dysentery*. At the time of the Crimean war he was selected by the Government to organize and conduct a hospital which he established at Renkioi on the Asiatic bank of the Dardanelles. Upon the founding of the present Army Medical School, he was appointed to the chair of *Hygiene*, and certainly, as results have shewn, there was no one so well fitted to fill it as Dr. Parkes. It would be impossible to describe this man's indomitable energy and conscientious character better than Dr. Reynolds did on Friday the 24th March, to his class at University. He summed up as follows:

"A man honest, earnest, and ingenious in his work; with love of truth, for its own sake and for the sake of man; untiring in his industry; unsurpassed in skill, whether in diving new, or in utilising and correcting old methods of inquiry; patient in research, and accurate in the statement of its results; with his eyes always open to new light, and a mind richly stored with all the knowledge of past labor in our own and in other lands; he served his profession and his country, and has left behind him works that will be referred to and employed for many years to come.

"But it would be to say little of Dr. Parkes to say but this. His character and conduct were such as to inspire those about him with a contagion of like activity; and though none may have been his equal, many have been stirred by his example to follow in his steps, and go on their ways with a vigour and honesty which carry with them their own reward.